

Ethical, Legal, Forensics, and Societal Issues Specialty Section

ANNUAL REPORT: 2024–2025
May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025

I. Officers:

<u>2024–2025</u>	<u>2025–2026</u>
President: Lyle Burgoon Vice President: Michael Dourson Vice President-Elect: Christopher Borgert Secretary-Treasurer: Jaleh Abedini Past President, Councilor: Michael McCabe Councilor: Nancy Beck Councilor: Marusia Popovech	President: Michael Dourson Vice President: Christopher Borgert Vice President-Elect: Anne Loccisano Past President, Councilor: Lyle Burgoon Secretary-Treasurer: Jaleh Abedini Councilor: Nancy Beck Councilor: Patricia Ceger

II. 2025 Membership total: 70

III. Key Outcomes and Accomplishments in 2024–2025:

The Ethical, Legal, Forensics, and Societal Issues Specialty Section accomplished the following activities throughout the year.

- In-person meeting/mixer
- Endorsed session(s) at the Annual Meeting
- Business meeting (communicated operations/finances to members)

IV. Collaborative Partnerships with Other SOT Organizations:

The Ethical, Legal, Forensics, and Societal Issues Specialty Section collaborated with the following organizations within SOT.

- Ethical, Legal, Forensics, and Societal Issues

V. Communication Methods:

The Ethical, Legal, Forensics, and Societal Issues Specialty Section stayed in contact with its members throughout the year through the following mechanisms.

- Emails through SOT Headquarters

VI. Promotion of Inclusivity

The Ethical, Legal, Forensics, and Societal Issues Specialty Section maintained an inclusive organization through the following activities.

- Nominate a diverse slate of candidates for elections
- Solicit equitable input from all executive committee leaders
- Prioritize diversity in selection of speakers/panelists
- Solicit member feedback for development of Specialty Section activities (such as webinar topics)
- Provide volunteer activities for the membership to be engaged

VII. Mentoring and Career Development Activities:

The Ethical, Legal, Forensics, and Societal Issues Specialty Section hosted the following mentoring activities throughout the year for its membership.

- Chat with an expert
- offered mentoring opportunities at annual meeting lunch

VIII. Awards Given:

Trainee	0
Early Career	0
Mid Career	0
Late Career	0

IX. Strategic Plan:

The Ethical, Legal, Forensics, and Societal Issues Specialty Section supported the following SOT Strategic Priorities.

- Effectively communicate scientific advances

X. Scientific Topics of Interest:

The Ethical, Legal, Forensics, and Societal Issues Specialty Section is interested in seeing the following topic areas developed into sessions at future SOT Annual Meetings.

- The "rise" of toxicological opinions by non-toxicologists will be our downfall unless we take noticeable actions to counteract.

XI. Feedback to the Society:

A. What is the one thing the Society should be doing that it currently does not do (or does not do effectively) that would be of importance/benefit to the members of the Specialty Section?

It would be helpful if SOT Council would check in with ELFSI on issues associated with our SS. For example, SOT Council wrote an opinion piece on EPA's decision with its Office of Research and Development. We did not "hear" about this until after it was published. Quite perplexing.

B. What is the one thing the Society is currently doing that impacts the Specialty Section that should be changed (e.g., stopped, modified, etc.)?

How do members of the US Congress (or of other governments) hear about SOT? More work is needed on getting SOT into the ethical, legal, forensics and social issues arenas.