

Deviation from Documented Procedures Form

Date of Deviation: 05/26/2022 – 06/02/2022

Type of Deviation:

Procedural. Quality Forensics Toxicology Draft Complete Outsourcing Part 1

Describe the Deviation: Since April of 2021, there has not been a second Toxicologist employed by the BCSO Crime Laboratory. Therefore, there was no analyst available for technical and administrative review of blood drug analysis. The current toxicologist ceased performing analysis, with the exception of urine specimens, after the voluntary withdrawal of Toxicological services from our scope of accreditation effective March 2, 2022. The cases remained in Draft Complete. BCSO Crime Laboratory could not find an outside laboratory willing to only technical and administratively review cases. All draft complete biological specimens will be sent for reanalysis by an outside laboratory. The first few cases were sent to Quality Forensics Toxicology Laboratory in San Antonio, Texas. A urine specimen was also included in this first batch sent to Quality Forensics. Our Toxicologist prepares the samples by filling out the Quality Forensics submission form, ensuring there is sufficient sample for analysis, and moving the evidence to the overflow refrigerator. Samples are prepared and shipped via FedEx. BCSO Crime Laboratory findings, in conjunction with the final report issued by the outside laboratory, will be available in each case file.

LOG-25-03 Evidence Control

“3.4.1 A technical review shall be performed by any authorized Laboratory employee with proper knowledge of the discipline to ensure all critical findings are accurate.

3.4.2 The technical reviewer shall not be the analyst who performed testing on the evidence.

3.4.6 All BCCL cases in each discipline shall be technically reviewed.

3.5.1 An administrative review should be completed by any authorized Laboratory employee with the proper knowledge of the discipline.

3.5.2 The administrative reviewer shall not review his/ her own report. It is recommended that the technical reviewer also perform the administrative review.

3.5.6 All cases shall be administratively reviewed prior to report distribution.

3.6.3 If an outside Laboratory needs to be contacted, it shall be treated as a subcontractor.”

Reason for Deviation: The Toxicology department is understaffed, and the Laboratory was unable to find a subcontractor to review casework.

Laboratory Number(s) (if applicable):

BCCL-21-1294


BCCL-21-1540

BCCL-22-0068

BCCL-21-1537

BCCL-21-1935

Brazoria County Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory


Evidence Technician



Date

Quality Forensics Toxicology Draft Complete Outsourcing Part 1



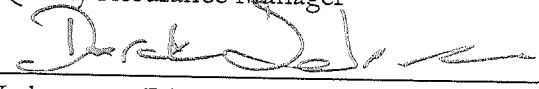
Toxicologist

6/3/22
Date



Quality Assurance Manager

3 June 2022
Date



Laboratory Director

05/20/2022
Date