

Deviation from Documented Procedures Form

Amended Deviation:

This is an amended deviation to the original Quality Forensics Toxicology Draft Complete Outsourcing Part 4 deviation dated 06/29/2022 to 08/08/2022 and signed 08/09/2022. This document reflects a correction to the name and identity of the cited standard operating procedure. Changes made to LOG-11 Case Review that took effect June 20, 2022, are also reflected – the standard numbered 3.4.6 changed to 3.4.5, the standard 3.5.1 changed to allow any authorized laboratory personnel to be able to complete administrative review, and the standard 3.5.2 changed to remove the recommendation that the technical reviewer also perform the administrative review.

Date of Deviation: 06/29/2022 – 08/08/2022

Type of Deviation:

Procedural. Quality Forensics Toxicology Draft Complete Outsourcing Part 4

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. At the time of withdrawal, there were still cases 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. Since accreditation withdrawal, the laboratory has still been accepting biological specimens. We have found an outside laboratory, Quality Forensics Toxicology Laboratory in San Antonio, Texas, willing to test our biological evidence, both unanalyzed and previously analyzed. 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. Any BCSO Crime Laboratory findings, in conjunction with the final report issued by the outside laboratory, will be available in each case file.

LOG-11-04 Case Review

“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.

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

3.5.1 An administrative review may be completed by any authorized Laboratory employee.

3.5.2 The administrative reviewer shall not review his/her own report.

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.”

Quality Forensics Toxicology Draft Complete Outsourcing Part 4

Reason for Deviation: The Toxicology department is understaffed, and the Laboratory was unable to find a subcontractor to review casework. The Crime Laboratory has withdrawn its scope of accreditation in Toxicology.

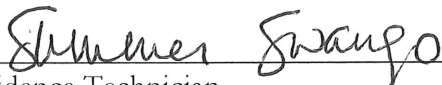
Laboratory Number(s) (if applicable):

BCCL-21-0683	BCCL-21-2236	BCCL-22-0483
BCCL-21-1731	BCCL-22-1	BCCL-22-0551
BCCL-21-2059	BCCL-22-0038	
BCCL-21-2143	BCCL-22-0275	

The following cases were previously analyzed for blood drug and a BCCL Draft Complete report issued in conjunction with the Quality Forensics Toxicology report:


BCCL-21-0948	BCCL-21-1459
BCCL-21-1400	BCCL-21-1472

Brazoria County Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory



Evidence Technician

8.12.22
Date




Toxicologist

8/12/22
Date



Quality Assurance Manager

12 Aug 2022
Date



Laboratory Director

15 Aug 2022
Date