Brazoria County Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory Standard Operating Procedure: Laboratory Operations Guide Subject: Deviation from documented procedures form

Deviation from Documented Procedures Form Texas DPS Crime Laboratory Houston Blood Alcohol Submissions

Dates of Deviation: 10/06/2022 – 11/02/2022

Type of Deviation: DPS Crime Laboratory Blood Alcohol Outsourcing Part 12

Describe the Deviation:

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Crime Laboratory Houston offered to test our blood alcohol samples after the BCSO Crime Laboratory withdrew our scope of accreditation with ANAB. Twenty samples are selected at a time. Our Toxicologist prepares the twenty samples by filling out the DPS Crime Laboratory submission form, ensuring there is sufficient sample for analysis, and moving the evidence to the overflow refrigerator. Investigators from the District Attorney's office are then picking up samples from the laboratory to submit to the DPS Crime Laboratory. Upon completion of analysis, a report is sent to the BCSO Crime Laboratory email and a contact at the District Attorney's office. If there are more cases to be submitted, the cycle repeats and the investigator picks up the previous twenty samples, if available, upon submission of the next twenty. A copy of the report from DPS Crime Laboratory Houston, this deviation, and a letter from the BCSO Crime Laboratory Director will be included in every case file.

Reason for Deviation:

The BCSO Crime Laboratory has voluntarily suspended operations and withdrawn our scope of accreditation pertaining to Toxicology, both blood alcohol and blood drug, while we develop new methods. We are still currently accepting biological evidence but not testing at this time. According to the *Texas Administrative Code Title 37 Part 15 Chapter 651 Subchapter A*, accreditation is required of analysis that involves use in a criminal proceeding. Evidence is typically submitted with an offense listed. The BCSO Crime Laboratory could no longer produce reports viable for criminal proceedings.

Laboratory Number(s) (if applicable):

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BCCL-21-1840	BCCL-22-0769	BCCL-22-1198
BCCL-22-0015	BCCL-22-0805	BCCL-22-1203
BCCL-22-0267	BCCL-22-0847	BCCL-22-1244
BCCL-22-0544	BCCL-22-0953	BCCL-22-1261
BCCL-22-0610	BCCL-22-0986	BCCL-22-1432
BCCL-22-0681	BCCL-22-1009	BCCL-22-1475
BCCL-22-0723	BCCL-22-1026	

Brazoria County Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory

Evidence Technician

Toxicologist

Data

11.3.22

Date

Approval Date: October 26, 2021 Effective Date: October 26, 2021 Issuing Authority: Upper Management Authorized for Distribution by Laboratory Director

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Quality Assurance Manager

03 Nov. 2022 Date