

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

Dates of Deviation: 11/01/2022 – 11/30/2022

Type of Deviation: DPS Crime Laboratory Blood Alcohol Outsourcing Part 14

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. Thirty samples are selected at a time. Our Toxicologist prepares the 30 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 set of samples, if available, upon submission of the next. 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The BCSO Crime Laboratory has voluntarily suspended operations and withdrawn our scope of accreditation pertaining to Toxicology, both blood alcohol and blood drug, while we develop new methods.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):

BCCL-21-2228	BCCL-22-1347	BCCL-22-1511
BCCL-22-0651	BCCL-22-1354	BCCL-22-1524
BCCL-22-0756	BCCL-22-1355	BCCL-22-1529
BCCL-22-0990	BCCL-22-1386	BCCL-22-1558
BCCL-22-1057	BCCL-22-1457	BCCL-22-1588
BCCL-22-1106	BCCL-22-1459	BCCL-22-1640
BCCL-22-1126	BCCL-22-1468	BCCL-22-1665
BCCL-22-1146	BCCL-22-1480	BCCL-22-1670
BCCL-22-1287	BCCL-22-1481	BCCL-22-1829
BCCL-22-1303	BCCL-22-1504	BCCL-22-1903

Brazoria County Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory



Toxicologist

12/5/22
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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DPS Crime Laboratory Blood Alcohol Outsourcing Part 14**



Quality Assurance Manager


Laboratory Director



Date


Date