

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

**Dates of Deviation:** 06/27/2023 – 07/25/2023

**Type of Deviation:** DPS Crime Laboratory Blood Alcohol Outsourcing Part 28

**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 or less samples are selected at a time. This batch includes 23 samples. Laboratory staff prepare the 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.

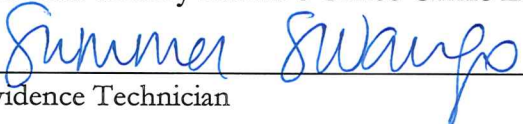
**Reason for Deviation:**

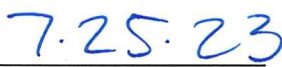
The BCSO Crime Laboratory has voluntarily suspended operations and withdrawn our scope of accreditation pertaining to Toxicology, both blood alcohol and blood drug, while we develop new methods. We are still currently accepting biological evidence but not testing at this time. According to the *Texas 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-23-0727	BCCL-23-0958	BCCL-23-1027
BCCL-23-0763	BCCL-23-0983	BCCL-23-1035
BCCL-23-0830	BCCL-23-0984	BCCL-23-1038
BCCL-23-0922	BCCL-23-1002	BCCL-23-1047
BCCL-23-0927	BCCL-23-1003	BCCL-23-1050
BCCL-23-0937	BCCL-23-1019	BCCL-23-1085
BCCL-23-0947	BCCL-23-1024	BCCL-23-1104
BCCL-23-0948	BCCL-23-1026	

**Brazoria County Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory**

  
Evidence Technician

  
Date

Approval Date: October 26, 2021  
Effective Date: October 26, 2021

Issuing Authority: Upper Management  
Authorized for Distribution by Laboratory Director

**Texas DPS Crime Laboratory Houston Blood Alcohol Submissions  
DPS Crime Laboratory Blood Alcohol Outsourcing Part 28**

Melina Henry  
Toxicologist

7/25/2023  
Date

Chris Wink  
Quality Assurance Manager

26 July 2023  
Date

Debra S. S. S.  
Laboratory Director

6/27/2023  
Date