

## Quality Forensics Toxicology Outsourcing Part 24 Deviation from Documented Procedures Form

**Date of Deviation:** 06/22/2023 – 07/27/2023

**Type of Deviation:** Procedural. Quality Forensics Toxicology Outsourcing Part 24

**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 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. 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. Laboratory staff prepare 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. Upon completion of analysis, a report is emailed to both the BCSO Crime Laboratory and a contact at the District Attorney's office. Any BCSO Crime Laboratory findings, in conjunction with the final report issued by the outside laboratory, will be available in each 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**Reason for Deviation:** The BCSO Crime Laboratory has voluntarily suspended operations and withdrawn our scope of accreditation pertaining to Toxicology, both blood alcohol and blood drug, while we develop new methods.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):** None of the cases sent in this batch were previously analyzed by the BCSO Crime Laboratory.

The following cases were analyzed for both blood alcohol and blood drug:

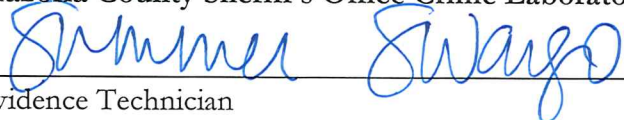
BCCL-23-0764	BCCL-23-1028
BCCL-23-0829	BCCL-23-1092


The following case was analyzed for blood alcohol only: BCCL-23-0938

The following cases were analyzed for blood drug only:

BCCL-23-0563	BCCL-23-0939
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**Brazoria County Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory**

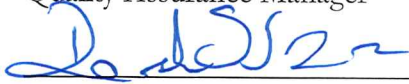
  
Evidence Technician

  
Date

### Quality Forensics Toxicology Outsourcing Part 24



Quality Assurance Manager



Laboratory Director

27 July 2023  
Date

28 July 2023  
Date