

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

Dates of Deviation: 07/18/2023 – 08/16/2023

Type of Deviation: DPS Crime Laboratory Blood Alcohol Outsourcing Part 29

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 30 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.

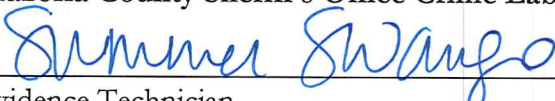
Reason for Deviation:


The BCSO Crime Laboratory has voluntarily suspended operations and withdrawn our scope of accreditation pertaining to Toxicology, both blood alcohol and blood drug, while we develop new methods.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-22-1770	BCCL-23-1017	BCCL-23-1091
BCCL-23-0146	BCCL-23-1018	BCCL-23-1102
BCCL-23-0345	BCCL-23-1036	BCCL-23-1107
BCCL-23-0484	BCCL-23-1048	BCCL-23-1116
BCCL-23-0549	BCCL-23-1049	BCCL-23-1117
BCCL-23-0728	BCCL-23-1061	BCCL-23-1129
BCCL-23-0934	BCCL-23-1065	BCCL-23-1146
BCCL-23-1004	BCCL-23-1074	BCCL-23-1148
BCCL-23-1006	BCCL-23-1075	BCCL-23-1153
BCCL-23-1014	BCCL-23-1076	BCCL-23-1172

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 29

Melina Henry
Toxicologist

8/18/2023
Date

Chris North
Quality Assurance Manager

18 Aug. 2023
Date

Donna Sunko
Laboratory Director

18 Aug 2023
Date