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April 29, 2020

I have observed Mr. Frommhold work in the Seized Drug section of the Lab from February 2020 through April 2020. Moreover, Mr. Frommhold has shadowed me, Paul Van Dorn, and fellow scientist Ms. Melissa Rodriguez extensively during this three month timeframe to become familiar with the procedures and protocols that are followed by Seized Drug analysts in the BCSO Crime Lab. During this extensive period of training, Mr. Frommhold has not only demonstrated proficiency at performing tests for both controlled substances and dangerous drugs, but has demonstrated excellent technique and attention to detail. His excellent organizational skills and self-starter attitude make him quite capable of working independently with Seized Drug forensic evidence.

Moreover, Mr. Frommhold has shown competence working with the BCSO Crime Lab information management system --JusticeTrax LIMS-plus, ver. 3.7.26. And, in addition to successfully completing a Controlled Substance proficiency examination, CTS-20-501, Mr. Frommhold has demonstrated the ability to effectively perform technical and administrative case review -- having reviewed BCCL-20-0213 as part of his supervised training. His license to practice Seized Drug analysis is current with the Texas Forensic Science Commission; and with more than 30 years of experience performing forensic testing in other labs throughout Texas, Mr. Frommhold is a great asset to the BCSO Crime Lab. He has consistently demonstrated proficiency, competence, and commitment to professional development throughout his extensive career as a Forensic Drug Analyst

Mr. Frommhold's specific knowledge of the laboratory GC/MS systems – utilized by him during his training period – as well as his demonstrated use of each analytical balance – Mettler Toledo-Panther Balance, Mettler H31AR Balance, Mettler PC2000 Balance, Mettler PJ6000 Balance, Ohaus Analytical-Plus AP210S Balance, and Ohaus AP250D Balance – makes him ready to perform independent casework. Therefore, Mr. Frommhold is authorized to perform seized drug testing according to the current BCSO Crime Lab SOP's and is authorized to issue test reports, give opinions, and make interpretations regarding seized drug analysis.

In conclusion, Mr. Frommhold has my blessing to begin independent casework in Forensic Seized Drug analysis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Van Dorn".

Paul Van Dorn

Brazoria County Crime Lab Director