Quality Forensics Toxicology Outsourcing Part 53
Deviation from Documented Procedures Form

Date of Deviation: 06/24/2025 – 08/20/2025

Type of Deviation: Procedural. Quality Forensics Toxicology Outsourcing Part 53

Describe the Deviation: BCSO Crime Laboratory 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. BCSO Crime Laboratory regained accreditation in blood alcohol analysis only in January 2024. We will continue to use an outside laboratory, Quality Forensic Toxicology Laboratory in San Antonio, Texas, for evidence needing blood drug analysis. Quality Forensic is willing to test our biological evidence, both unanalyzed and previously analyzed. Laboratory staff prepare the samples by filling out the Quality Forensic submission form, ensuring there is sufficient sample for analysis, and moving the evidence to the overflow refrigerator. Samples are prepared and shipped via FedEx. Submission forms are usually sent with the samples. 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 voluntarily suspended operations and withdrew our scope of accreditation pertaining to Toxicology, both blood alcohol and blood drug, while we develop new methods. We have since regained accreditation and are performing blood alcohol analysis. We are still currently accepting biological evidence but not performing blood drug analysis 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 is still unable to produce reports viable for criminal proceedings pertaining to blood drug.

Laboratory Number(s) (if applicable):
The following cases were analyzed for blood alcohol by the BCSO Crime Laboratory and outsourced for blood drug analysis only:

BCCL-25-0570	BCCL-25-0985	BCCL-25-1047
BCCL-25-0667	BCCL-25-0997	BCCL-25-1048
BCCL-25-0929	BCCL-25-1013	
BCCL-25-0948	BCCL-25-1033	

Note: The Evidence Technician's signature is typically required for deviations in the handling of evidence. However, due to an approved extended leave, their signature will not be required at this time. During this period, responsibilities are being shared among Laboratory personnel to ensure compliance with established procedures.

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Brazoria County Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory

Kayla M. Bayles
Toxicologist — 8/26/2025 Date

Melinc Henry
Toxicologist — 8/26/2025 Date

Alain Wentz
Quality Assurance Manager — 26 Aug. 2025 Date

Laboratory Director — 26 Aug 2025 Date