



## Commission on Forensic Science

***March 4, 2022***

***Division of Criminal Justice Services  
80 South Swan Street  
Albany, NY<sup>1</sup>***

**9:10 AM – 11:38 PM**

### **DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

#### **Commission Members in Attendance:**

Rossana Rosado, Chair  
Superintendent Kevin P. Bruen  
Pasquale Buffolino, Ph.D.  
Lydia de Castro  
Jill Dooley, Ph.D.  
Jessica Goldthwaite, Esq.  
Michael Marciano, Ph.D.  
Hon. Angela Mazzairelli  
Benjamin Ostrer, Esq.  
Michelli Schmitz  
Ann Willey, Ph.D., J.D.

#### **DCJS Staff in Attendance:**

Jennifer Alois  
Gregory Anastasio  
Andrea Lester  
Natasha Harvin-Locklear, Esq.  
Shelley Palmer  
Joe Popcun  
Elizabeth Suparmanto

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<sup>1</sup> Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19), and pursuant to Chapter 417 of the Laws of 2021 authorizing the meetings of any state agency, department, corporation, office, authority, board, or commission, as well as any local public body, or public corporation, or a committee or subcommittee or other similar body of such entity to be held remotely by conference call or similar service.

Chair Rosado opened the meeting by introducing the new member Michelli Schmitz. Ms. Schmitz was appointed to the Commission as Chair of the New York Crime Laboratory Advisory Committee (NYCLAC). She is the director of the Erie County Central Police Laboratory. Chair Rosado then took a roll call as the members were in attendance both in Albany and virtually. A quorum was established with 11 members (Rosado, Bruen, Buffolino, de Castro, Dooley, Goldthwaite, Marciano, Mazzarelli, Ostrer, Schmitz, and Willey).	<i>Approximate video times</i>
	00:00:00
	00:02:20
Chair Rosado requested a motion to approve the March 4, 2022, agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Ostrer, seconded by Dr. Dooley, and approved unanimously with 11 votes.	00:02:20
	00:03:46
Then, Chair Rosado requested a motion to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2021, Commission meeting. The motion was made by Judge Mazzarelli, Dr. Willey seconded the motion, and it was approved with 10 votes for (Rosado, Bruen, Buffolino, de Castro, Dooley, Goldthwaite, Marciano, Mazzarelli, Ostrer, and Willey) and 1 abstention (Schmitz).	00:03:46
	00:05:28
Chair Rosado asked Dr. Dooley to walk the Commission through the Accreditation/Laboratory Updates. During this agenda item, matters regarding the Erie County Medical Examiner's Office Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, Nassau County Medical Examiner's Office Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, New York City OCME Department of Forensic Biology, New York City Police Department Police Laboratory, New York State DCJS Latent Print Laboratory, New York State Police Crime Laboratory, Niagara County Sheriff's Office Forensic Laboratory, and Suffolk County Crime Laboratory were considered. Representatives from the laboratories were available via WebEx to respond to members' questions. During this agenda item, a fire alarm went off at the meeting site and the meeting was paused from approximately, 10:02 AM to 10:16 AM.	00:05:28
	01:41:32
The Commission reviewed the Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Service's ANAB scope extension assessment to add the discipline of Firearms/Toolmarks. The Chair asked for a motion to add the discipline of Firearms/Toolmarks to the New York State Accreditation of the Nassau County Office of the Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services. Judge Mazzarelli made the motion, Ms. Schmitz seconded, and it was approved with 10 votes for (Rosado, Bruen, de Castro, Dooley, Goldthwaite, Marciano, Mazzarelli, Ostrer, Schmitz, and Willey) and 1 abstention (Buffolino).	00:07:40
	00:09:53
The New York City Police Department Police Laboratory is currently engaged in the post assessment remediation process. To allow for this process, ANAB has extended the period of accreditation through June 30, 2022. Chair Rosado requested a motion to extend the New York State Accreditation of the New York City Police Department Police Laboratory current with the ANAB accreditation. The motion was made by Dr. Buffolino, seconded by Superintendent Bruen, and approved unanimously with 11 votes.	00:11:30
	00:26:52
The Suffolk County Crime Laboratory completed the remediation of its ANAB reaccreditation and was granted renewal of ANAB accreditation. The Commission reviewed the final remediation documents and a binding recommendation from the DNA Subcommittee to renew the New York State Accreditation of the Suffolk County Crime Laboratory in the	00:48:43
	01:13:35

discipline of Biology. There was also a lengthy discussion regarding upcoming internal audit and ANAB Surveillance visit. During this discussion, Ms. Goldthwaite made a motion that the Suffolk County Crime Laboratory provide by email to the Commission on Forensic Science a summary of its internal audit. Mr. Ostrer seconded the motion. The motion failed with 2 votes for (Goldthwaite and Ostrer) and 9 votes against (Rosado, Bruen, Buffolino, deCastro, Dooley, Marciano, Mazzairelli, Schmitz, and Willey). Chair Rosado then called for a motion to accept the binding recommendation of the DNA Subcommittee to renew the New York State Accreditation of the Suffolk County Crime Laboratory in the discipline of Biology and renew full New York State Accreditation for a period concurrent with their ANAB accreditation. Dr. Dooley made the motion, Ms. de Castro seconded, and it passed with 10 votes for (Rosado, Bruen, Buffolino, de Castro, Dooley, Marciano, Mazzairelli, Ostrer, Schmitz, and Willey) and 1 abstention (Goldthwaite).

*Approximate  
video times*

The next agenda item was Old Business. Dr. Dooley provided the Commission members with a verbal update on Familial Searching. Next, Ms. Harvin reminded the members that as policymakers they are subject to Public Officer's Law Section 74 – Code of Ethics - and are required to file financial filer statements by May; an official notification will be provided. Next, Ms. Harvin explained that the regulation update, to include ISO 17020 as an accreditation standard, is currently being reviewed and the next step would be a public comment period. Finally, as requested, Ms. Harvin reviewed the documents provided regarding the use of Investigative Genetic Genealogy (IGG) by the NYPD. At this time, it was determined that the stated use falls outside of the scope of the Commission.

01:13:35  
01:19:39

Next, under New Business, the Commission reviewed the 2021 Annual Laboratory Summaries for each accredited laboratory. Dr. Dooley gave a brief update regarding how the ABFT 2022 mid-cycle reviews will be conducted. Finally, Dr. Dooley gave an update on the DNA Subcommittee's initial review of the use of body fluid proteomics by the New York City OCME Department of Forensic Biology.

01:19:39  
01:28:16

The Commission then reviewed disclosures from the Monroe County Office of the Medical Examiner Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Science, New York City Police Department Police Laboratory, New York State Police Crime Laboratory, and New York City OCME Department of Forensic Biology. Representatives from the laboratories were available via WebEx to respond to members' questions.

01:28:16  
01:48:30

Chair Rosado then requested a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss matters relating to a current investigation or matters that may lead to the appointment, promotion, demotion, discipline, or suspension of a person. Dr. Dooley made the motion, which was seconded by Judge Mazzairelli and approved unanimously.

01:48:30  
01:50:12

The Commission adjourned into Executive Session. Present were Commission members Rosado, Bruen, Buffolino, de Castro, Dooley, Goldthwaite, Marciano, Mazzairelli, Ostrer, Schmitz, and Willey. A vote was taken during executive session to refer a matter to the State IG's Office. Chair Rosado requested the motion, which was made by Dr. Dooley, and seconded by Dr. Willey, and approved with 10 votes for and 1 abstention (Buffolino).

Executive Session commenced at 11:27 AM and ended at 11:36 AM. The Commission then reconvened the Open Meeting.

*Approximate  
video times*

The next meeting is scheduled for June 3, 2022. A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Marciano, seconded by Judge Mazzarelli, and approved unanimously.

01:50:41  
01:52:02

**Note:**

***Video of the open meeting is available at YouTube.***





# DNA Subcommittee

Received by OFS  
5/19/22

May 19, 2022

BRUCE S. WEIR, PH.D.  
CHAIR  
University of Washington

FREDERICK BIEBER, PH.D.  
Harvard Medical School

ALLISON EASTMAN, PH.D.  
Forensic DNA Consulting, LLC

KATHERINE GETTINGS, PH.D.  
National Institute of Standards and Technology

KENNETH KIDD, PH.D.  
Yale University School of Medicine

JENIFER SMITH, PH.D.  
PRINCIPAL, BIOFORENSIC CONSULTING LLC

AMANDA C. SOZER, PH.D.  
SNA International

Rossana Rosado  
Chair, Commission on Forensic Science  
Division of Criminal Justice Services  
80 South Swan Street  
Albany, New York 12210

Dear Commissioner Rosado:

At the May 13, 2022, DNA Subcommittee meeting, members reviewed the final ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) Assessment Report for the Erie County Central Police Services Forensic Laboratory. The Subcommittee voted and approved to issue a binding recommendation to the Commission on Forensic Science to renew the New York State Accreditation of the Erie County Central Police Services Forensic Laboratory in the discipline of Biology for the period concurrent with their ANAB accreditation. This accreditation is valid until August 31, 2026.

Very truly yours.



Bruce Weir, Ph.D.  
Chair, DNA Subcommittee

cc: Members of the Commission on Forensic Science  
Jill Dooley, Ph.D., Director, OFS  
Natasha Harvin-Locklear, Esq., Special Counsel



May 4, 2022

Michelli Schmitz  
Erie County Central Police Services  
Forensic Laboratory  
45 Elm Street  
Buffalo, NY 14203

Dear Director Schmitz,

Congratulations! On May 4, 2022 ANAB renewed your organization's accreditation in the Field of Forensic Testing. This decision was based upon the documentation provided in the assessment report and in accordance with the recommendation of the Lead Assessor. ANAB is satisfied that your organization has met or exceeded the accreditation requirements and requirements of your own documented management system.

Accredited forensic service providers are expected to maintain the standards which were required to achieve accreditation and conform to [ANAB Terms and Conditions for Accreditation](#). The principal means used to monitor ongoing conformance include surveillance activities, proficiency testing reports submitted by approved test providers, and disclosure of significant events and nonconformities. The results of these monitoring activities will be considered when confirming the continuation of accreditation between assessments.

The planned surveillance activity and reassessment schedule is listed below:

- |              |                              |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| • April 2023 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • April 2024 | Surveillance Assessment      |
| • April 2025 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • April 2026 | Reassessment                 |

The provided ANAB accreditation symbol may be used to convey your accredited status. An accreditation symbol must not be used in any way which implies accreditation in any area outside of the scope of accreditation. If appropriate, the accreditation symbol may be used on your organization's website, reports, letterhead, business cards, and other official documents. Please refer to [PR 1018 Policy on Use of ANAB Accreditation Symbols and Claims of Accreditation Status](#) for all required information. This policy also provides information on your ability to use a combined mark that contains the ANAB accreditation symbol and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) mark.

The report was provided to you during the assessment activity. An electronic version of accreditation documents is included with this letter.

Achieving accreditation is the result of an extensive commitment of resources and much preparation by the management and personnel of the entire organization. I commend the efforts of all who were involved in this achievement. On behalf of ANAB, I extend my sincere congratulations to you. If you have any questions or if ANAB might assist you in any way, please feel free to get in touch with us at [qualitymatters@anab.org](mailto:qualitymatters@anab.org).

Sincerely,



Janet M. Girten  
Senior Manager of Accreditation  
ANSI National Accreditation Board

cc: Maria Orsino, Acting Quality Assurance Coordinator  
ANAB Office

Received by OFS  
5/4/2022



# CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

**The ANSI National Accreditation Board**

Hereby attests that

**Erie County Central Police Services  
Forensic Laboratory  
45 Elm Street, Buffalo, New York 14203 USA**

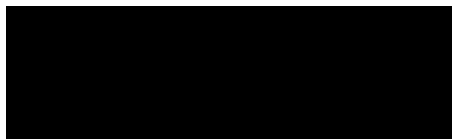
Fulfills the requirements of

**ISO/IEC 17025:2017  
ANAB Forensic Testing & Calibration AR 3125:2019  
FBI Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories:2020**

In the field of

**Forensic Testing**

This certificate is valid only when accompanied by a current scope of accreditation document.  
The current scope of accreditation can be verified at [www.anab.org](http://www.anab.org).



Expiry Date: 31 August 2026  
Certificate Number: FT-0037





Received by OFS  
5/4/22

**SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION TO:**  
**ISO/IEC 17025:2017**  
**ANAB Forensic Testing & Calibration AR 3125:2019**  
**FBI Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories:2020**

**Erie County Central Police Services**  
**Forensic Laboratory**  
45 Elm Street  
Buffalo, New York 14203 USA

**FORENSIC TESTING**

Expiry Date: 31 August 2026

Certificate Number: FT-0037

<b>Discipline: Biology</b>		
<b>Component/Parameter</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Key Equipment/Technology</b>
DNA Profile Determination	Short Tandem Repeat (STR) Y-Short Tandem Repeat (Y-STR)	Capillary Electrophoresis
Individual Characteristic Database	DNA Profile	National DNA Index System (NDIS)
Physical Comparison	DNA Profile	Software Program
Qualitative Determination	Body Fluid Epithelial Cell Feces	Chemical Fluorescence Spectroscopy General Microscopy Immunoassay

<b>Discipline: Fire Debris and Explosives</b>		
<b>Component/Parameter</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Key Equipment/Technology</b>
Qualitative Determination	Fire Debris	Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry

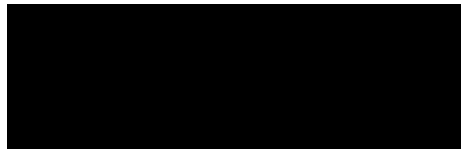
<b>Discipline: Firearms and Toolmarks</b>		
<b>Component/Parameter</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Key Equipment/Technology</b>
Function Evaluation	Firearm	Measuring Equipment Visual
Individual Characteristic Database	Ammunition	National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN)
Physical Comparison	Ammunition	General Microscopy
Qualitative Determination	Ammunition Firearm	General Microscopy Measuring Equipment Reference Collection
Serial Number Restoration	Physical Item	Chemical General Microscopy Magnetic Visual

<b>Discipline: Impressions</b>		
<b>Component/Parameter</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Key Equipment/Technology</b>
Enhancement	Footwear Physical Item Tire	Physical
Physical Comparison	Footwear Tire	Visual

<b>Discipline: Materials (Trace)</b>		
<b>Component/Parameter</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Key Equipment/Technology</b>
Chemical/Physical Comparison	Coating Fractured Item General Unknown Ink Polymer Tape	Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy Mass Spectrometry Microspectrophotometry Thin Layer Chromatography Visual
Qualitative Determination	Coating General Unknown Polymer Tape	Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy Mass Spectrometry Microspectrophotometry Visual

Discipline: Seized Drugs		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Qualitative Determination	Botanical Gas Liquid Solid	Chemical Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy Mass Spectrometry Thin-Layer Chromatography
Quantitative Measurement	Solid	Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry
Volume Measurement	Liquid	Volumetric Glassware
Weight Measurement	Botanical Liquid Solid	Balance

When published on a forensic service provider's Scope of Accreditation, ANAB has confirmed the competence required to develop and validate methods and perform on-going quality assurance for accredited activities. For a listed component/parameter, the forensic service provider may add or modify methods for activities without formal notice to ANAB for items and key equipment/technology listed. Contact the forensic service provider for information on the method utilized for accredited work.



Pamela L. Sale  
Vice President, Forensics

Received by OFS  
4/6/22



## **Erie County Central Police Services - Forensic Laboratory**

2022 - 17025T - Reassessment

Prepared by [REDACTED]

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Data collected on 2022-04-04

ANSI National Accreditation Board

United States



## Description

This assessment report summarizes the outcome of the recent accreditation activity. A separate document, the assessment plan, provides information on the type of activity (*e.g.*, reassessment, surveillance activity, scope extension), the date(s) of the activity, the assessment team members, the requirement documents and the scope by discipline that was assessed for each location. The assessment plan, together with this report, provides a complete picture of the accreditation activity.

The ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) evaluated the competence of the forensic service provider and conformance with all applicable accreditation requirements for the scope of accreditation listed in the assessment plan. Objective evidence of implementation was assessed. The results of an assessment activity are based on a sample of records, locations, and personnel that were available at the time of the activity. Witnessing is an additional technique used in on-site activities.

### REQUIREMENTS:

ISO/IEC 17025:2017 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories & ANAB ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Forensic Science Testing and Calibration Laboratories Accreditation Requirements (AR 3125) evaluated over the accreditation cycle are summarized in the following broad categories:

General requirements related to the forensic service provider's commitment to impartiality and confidentiality in its activities.

Structural requirements related to the range of activities, management structure, the authority, roles and responsibilities of personnel. Documented procedures which ensure a consistent application of activities and the validity of results.

Resource requirements related to the impartiality of personnel. Requirements for a training program, competency testing, authorizations and ongoing monitoring to ensure the competence of personnel. Facility and security suitability for activities. Records and procedures for equipment to ensure proper functioning and where applicable, establishment of metrological traceability. Requirements for externally provided products and services.

Process requirements related to the handling of test and calibration items in a manner to maintain the integrity of the item. Requirements for chain-of-custody of items to be tested and appropriate methods and procedures. Ensuring the required performance of the methods along with monitoring the validity of the results. Requirements to ensure results are supported by sufficient technical records and are reported accurately, clearly, unambiguously and objectively. Procedures for nonconforming work and a documented process for handling complaints. Requirements related to the laboratory information management system protection and integrity of data and information.

Management system requirements related to policies and objectives appropriate for the scope of activities. Requirements to control internal and external documents and records. Requirements to address risks and opportunities and timely, well-documented corrective actions. Requirements for an internal audit program and management reviews.

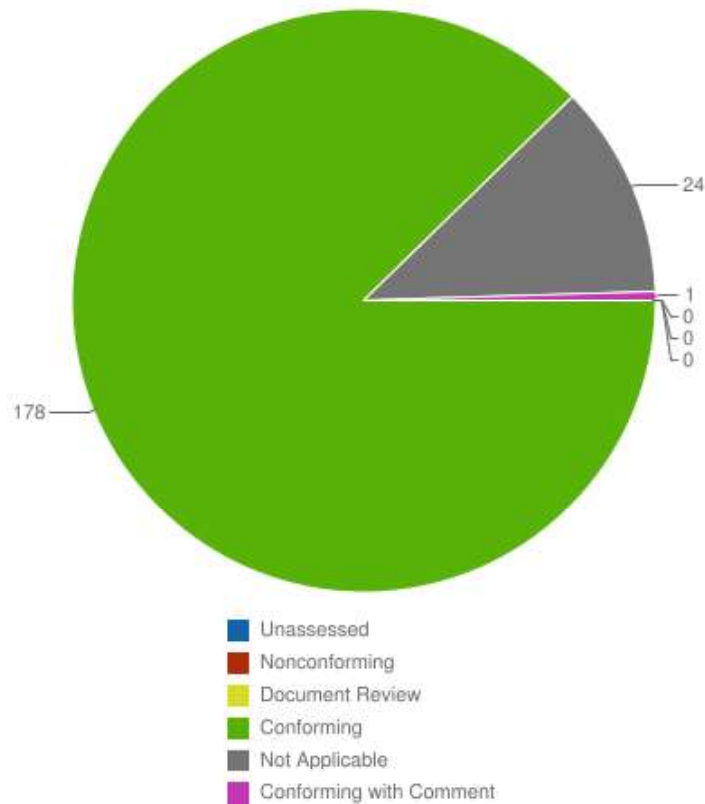
The accreditation activity also evaluates forensic science provider's conformance with their own management system requirements.

### ASSESSMENT RESULT:

Based on the assessment techniques and sampling reviewed during the assessment activity, the assessment team found that the forensic service provider demonstrated competence to operate a management system that fulfills all applicable accreditation requirements, including those specified within their management system.

Any comments (opportunities for improvement) or nonconformities identified during this assessment activity are noted below. All nonconformities will be resolved prior to an accreditation decision by ANAB and a summary provided in a subsequent assessment activity report.

## Summary of Comments



## Audit Comments

### 7.2.2 Validation of methods

#### 7.2.2.1 ISO/IEC 17025:2017

Conforming with Comment : 0

##### Requirement

Does the laboratory validate non-standard methods, laboratory-developed methods and standard methods used outside their intended scope or otherwise modified? Is the validation as extensive as is necessary to meet the needs of the given application or field of application?

NOTE 1 Validation can include procedures for sampling, handling and transportation of test or calibration items.

NOTE 2 The techniques used for method validation can be one of, or a combination of, the following:

- a) calibration or evaluation of bias and precision using reference standards or reference materials;
- b) systematic assessment of the factors influencing the result;
- c) testing method robustness through variation of controlled parameters, such as incubator temperature, volume dispensed;
- d) comparison of results achieved with other validated methods;
- e) interlaboratory comparisons;
- f) evaluation of measurement uncertainty of the results based on an understanding of the theoretical principles of the method and practical experience of the performance of the sampling or test method.

##### Comments

The lab would benefit from updating their validation studies



Received by OFS  
5/5/2022

5540 N. Academy Blvd., Suite 230  
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Phone: (719) 362-0452 • Website: [www.abft.org](http://www.abft.org)

May 5, 2022

Melissa Boler, M.S.  
Erie County Medical Examiner's Office  
County of Erie Department of Health  
501 Kensington Ave.  
Buffalo, New York 14214

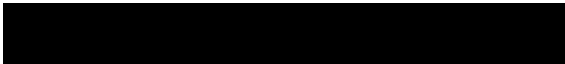
Dear Ms. Boler:

I am pleased to advise you that the Erie County Medical Examiner's Office Toxicology Laboratory has fulfilled the American Board of Forensic Toxicology laboratory accreditation requirements and is granted a Certificate of Laboratory Accreditation in Forensic Toxicology for the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024.

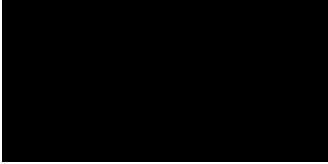
During the course of accreditation, you will be asked to provide evidence of satisfactory participation in recognized alcohol and drug-based proficiency test programs. Additionally, please note that per the agreement ABFT has with ANAB, should you wish to continue to have your laboratory accredited, you will need to apply directly to ANAB for assessment against ISO/IEC 17025 (including ABFT Supplemental Standards) at least six months prior to expiry of your ABFT accreditation.

Congratulations to you and your staff! A certificate attesting to your accreditation will be provided in the near future.

Sincerely,



Bruce A. Goldberger, Ph.D., F-ABFT  
President



Graham R. Jones, Ph.D., F-ABFT  
Chair, ABFT Accreditation

cc: Robert Sears, M.S., F-ABFT  
ABFT & ANAB



723 N. Weber Street, Suite 103  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Phone: (719) 362-0452 • Website: [www.abft.org](http://www.abft.org)

May 31, 2022

Rebecca L. Hartman, Ph.D.  
Monroe County Office of the Medical Examiner  
740 E. Henrietta Road  
Rochester, NY 14623

Dear Dr. Hartman:

I am pleased to advise you that the Monroe County Office of the Medical Examiner Toxicology Laboratory has fulfilled the American Board of Forensic Toxicology laboratory accreditation requirements and is granted a Certificate of Laboratory Accreditation in Forensic Toxicology for the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024.

During the course of accreditation, you will be asked to provide evidence of satisfactory participation in recognized alcohol and drug-based proficiency test programs. Additionally, please note that per the agreement ABFT has with ANAB, should you wish to continue to have your laboratory accredited, you will need to apply directly to ANAB for assessment against ISO/IEC 17025 (including ABFT Supplemental Standards) at least six months prior to expiry of your ABFT accreditation.

Congratulations to you and your staff! A certificate attesting to your accreditation will be provided in the near future.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Graham R. Jones.

President

A black rectangular box redacting the name of Graham R. Jones.

Graham R. Jones, Ph.D., F-ABFT  
Chair, ABFT Accreditation

cc: Robert Sears, M.S., F-ABFT  
ABFT & ANAB



Received by OFS  
5/13/22

410 North 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Phone: (719) 636-1100 • Fax: (719) 636-1993 • Web-site: [www.abft.org](http://www.abft.org)

May 13, 2022

Joseph Avella, Ph.D., D-ABFT-FT  
Chief Toxicologist  
Nassau County Medical Examiner  
Dept. of Forensic Toxicology

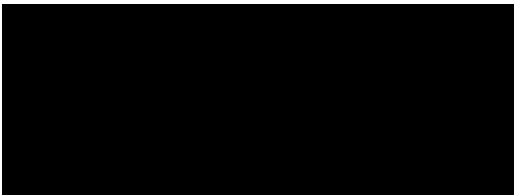
Dear Dr. Avella:      **Review of 2022 Mid-Cycle Report**

Our review of the May mid-cycle report from your laboratory is complete. The review has determined that your laboratory continues to be in compliance with the standards of the ABFT program. Any deficiencies that you identified as a result of internal review of the proficiency test results were appropriately addressed.

As stated in earlier correspondence, your laboratory will continue to be accredited by the ABFT Accreditation Program through June 30, 2023.

As always, we appreciate your participation in, and support of, the ABFT Laboratory Accreditation Program.

Yours Sincerely,



Graham R. Jones, Ph.D., F-ABFT  
Chair, ABFT Accreditation Committee

cc. Tim Hahn



Received by OFS  
5/13/22

410 North 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Phone: (719) 636-1100 • Fax: (719) 636-1993 • Web-site: [www.abft.org](http://www.abft.org)

May 13, 2022

Gail Cooper BSc(Hons), MSc, PhD CChem FRSC FHEA  
Director, Forensic Toxicology Laboratory  
Office of Chief Medical Examiner  
520 First Avenue  
New York, NY 10016

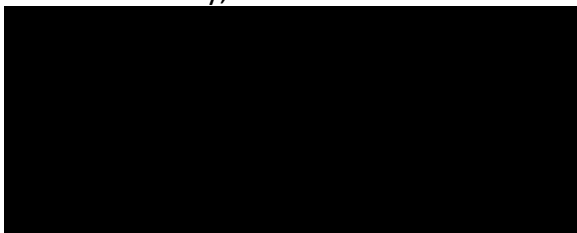
Dear Dr. Cooper: **Mid-cycle Review May 2022**

The ABFT Accreditation Committee has determined that your laboratory continues to be in compliance with the standards of the ABFT Laboratory Accreditation Program.

As stated in earlier correspondence, your laboratory will continue to be accredited by the ABFT Accreditation Program through June 30, 2023.

As always, we appreciate your participation in and support of the ABFT Laboratory Accreditation Program.

Sincerely,



Graham R. Jones, Ph.D., F-ABFT  
Chair, ABFT Accreditation



May 19, 2022

Dr. Scott O'Neill  
New York City Police Department  
Police Laboratory  
150-14 Jamaica Avenue  
Jamaica, NY 11432

Dear Director O'Neill,

Congratulations! On May 13, 2022, ANAB renewed your organization's accreditation in the Field of Forensic Testing. This decision was based upon the documentation provided in the assessment report and in accordance with the recommendation of the Lead Assessor. ANAB is satisfied that your organization has met or exceeded the accreditation requirements and requirements of your own documented management system.

Accredited forensic service providers are expected to maintain the standards which were required to achieve accreditation and conform to [ANAB Terms and Conditions for Accreditation](#). The principal means used to monitor ongoing conformance include surveillance activities, proficiency testing reports submitted by approved test providers, and disclosure of significant events and nonconformities. The results of these monitoring activities will be considered when confirming the continuation of accreditation between assessments.

The planned surveillance activity and reassessment schedule is listed below:

- |                 |                              |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| • November 2022 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • November 2023 | Surveillance Assessment      |
| • November 2024 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • November 2025 | Reassessment                 |

The provided ANAB accreditation symbol may be used to convey your accredited status. An accreditation symbol must not be used in any way which implies accreditation in any area outside of the scope of accreditation. If appropriate, the accreditation symbol may be used on your organization's website, reports, letterhead, business cards, and other official documents. Please refer to [PR 1018 Policy on Use of ANAB Accreditation Symbols and Claims of Accreditation Status](#) for all required information. This policy also provides information on your ability to use a combined mark that contains the ANAB accreditation symbol and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) mark.

The report and an electronic version of accreditation documents are included with this letter.

Achieving accreditation is the result of an extensive commitment of resources and much preparation by the management and personnel of the entire organization. I commend the efforts of all who were involved in this achievement. On behalf of ANAB, I extend my sincere congratulations to you. If you have any questions or if ANAB might assist you in any way, please feel free to get in touch with us at [qualitymatters@anab.org](mailto:qualitymatters@anab.org).

Sincerely,



Nita Bolz  
Senior Manager of Accreditation  
ANSI National Accreditation Board

cc: Stephanie O'Shea, Quality Assurance Manager  
ANAB Office





# CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

**The ANSI National Accreditation Board**

Hereby attests that

**New York City Police Department  
Police Laboratory  
150-14 Jamaica Avenue, Jamaica, New York 11432 USA**

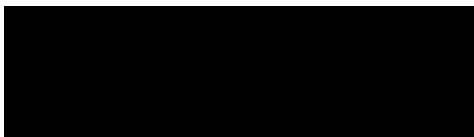
Fulfills the requirements of

**ISO/IEC 17025:2017  
ANAB Forensic Testing & Calibration AR 3125:2019**

In the field of

**Forensic Testing**

This certificate is valid only when accompanied by a current scope of accreditation document.  
The current scope of accreditation can be verified at [www.anab.org](http://www.anab.org).



Expiry Date: 31 March 2026  
Certificate Number: FT-0251





**SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION TO:**  
**ISO/IEC 17025:2017**  
**ANAB Forensic Testing & Calibration AR 3125:2019**

**New York City Police Department Police Laboratory**  
150-14 Jamaica Avenue  
Jamaica, New York 11432

**FORENSIC TESTING**

Expiry Date: 31 March 2026

Certificate Number: FT-0251

<b>Discipline: Document Examination</b>		
<b>Component/Parameter</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Key Equipment/Technology</b>
Chemical/Physical Comparison	Content Document Fractured Item Stamp	General Microscopy Reference Collection Visual
Qualitative Determination	Content Copier Document Fractured Item Ink Printer Stamp Substrate Typewriter	General Microscopy Reference Collection Visual
Recovery	Content Document	Electrostatic Detection Device Visual

<b>Discipline: Fire Debris and Explosives</b>		
<b>Component/Parameter</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Key Equipment/Technology</b>
Qualitative Determination	Explosive	Chemical Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy Mass Spectrometry

		Microcrystalline Raman Spectroscopy Scanning Electron Microscopy X-ray Fluorescence Spectroscopy X-ray Powder Diffraction Spectroscopy
Qualitative Determination	Fire Debris	Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry

Discipline: Firearms and Toolmarks		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Distance Determination	Firearm Physical Item	Chemical General Microscopy Measuring Equipment
Function Evaluation	Firearm Silencer	Dead Weight Measuring Equipment Visual
Individual Characteristic Database	Ammunition	National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN)
Physical Comparison	Ammunition	General Microscopy Visual
Qualitative Determination	Firearm Metal Nitrate	Chemical General Microscopy Measuring Equipment Reference Collection
Serial Number Restoration	Physical Item	Chemical General Microscopy Magnetic Visual
Simulation	Other Information Physical Item	Not Applicable

Discipline: Friction Ridge		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Enhancement	Ridge Detail	Chemical Physical Software Program

Discipline: Impressions		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Enhancement	Footwear	Chemical Physical Software Program
Physical Comparison	Footwear	Software Program Visual

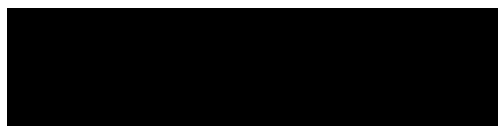
Qualitative Determination	Footwear	Reference Collection
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Discipline: Materials (Trace)		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Chemical/Physical Comparison	Coating Fiber/Textile Fractured Item General Unknown Glass Polymer Tape	Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy Mass Spectrometry Microcrystalline Microspectrophotometry Raman Spectroscopy Refractometry Scanning Electron Microscopy Ultraviolet Spectroscopy Visible Spectroscopy Visual X-ray Fluorescence Spectroscopy X-ray Powder Diffraction Spectroscopy
Qualitative Determination	Coating Fiber/Textile General Unknown Glass Gunshot Residue Hair Metal Tape	Chemical Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy Mass Spectrometry Microcrystalline Raman Spectroscopy Reference Collection Refractometry Scanning Electron Microscopy Ultraviolet Spectroscopy Visible Spectroscopy Visual X-ray Fluorescence Spectroscopy X-ray Powder Diffraction Spectroscopy
Reconstruction	Other Information Physical Item	Not Applicable

Discipline: Seized Drugs		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Qualitative Determination	Botanical Liquid Solid	Chemical Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry Raman Spectroscopy

		Thin-Layer Chromatography Visual
Quantitative Determination	Botanical Liquid Solid	Gas Chromatography Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry
Weight Measurement	Botanical Liquid Solid	Balance

When published on a forensic service provider's Scope of Accreditation, ANAB has confirmed the competence required to develop and validate methods and perform on-going quality assurance for accredited activities. For a listed component/parameter, the forensic service provider may add or modify methods for activities without formal notice to ANAB for items and key equipment/technology listed. Contact the forensic service provider for information on the method utilized for accredited work.



Pamela L. Sale  
Vice President, Forensics



## **New York City Police Department - Police Laboratory**

2021 - 17025T - Reassessment

Prepared by [REDACTED]

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Data collected on 2021-10-25

ANSI National Accreditation Board

United States

## Description

This assessment report summarizes the outcome of the recent accreditation activity. A separate document, the assessment plan, provides information on the type of activity (*e.g.*, reassessment, surveillance activity, scope extension), the date(s) of the activity, the assessment team members, the requirement documents and the scope by discipline that was assessed for each location. The assessment plan, together with this report, provides a complete picture of the accreditation activity.

The ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) evaluated the competence of the forensic service provider and conformance with all applicable accreditation requirements for the scope of accreditation listed in the assessment plan. Objective evidence of implementation was assessed. The results of an assessment activity are based on a sample of records, locations, and personnel that were available at the time of the activity. Witnessing is an additional technique used in on-site activities.

### REQUIREMENTS:

ISO/IEC 17025:2017 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories & ANAB ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Forensic Science Testing and Calibration Laboratories Accreditation Requirements (AR 3125) evaluated over the accreditation cycle are summarized in the following broad categories:

General requirements related to the forensic service provider's commitment to impartiality and confidentiality in its activities.

Structural requirements related to the range of activities, management structure, the authority, roles and responsibilities of personnel. Documented procedures which ensure a consistent application of activities and the validity of results.

Resource requirements related to the impartiality of personnel. Requirements for a training program, competency testing, authorizations and ongoing monitoring to ensure the competence of personnel. Facility and security suitability for activities. Records and procedures for equipment to ensure proper functioning and where applicable, establishment of metrological traceability. Requirements for externally provided products and services.

Process requirements related to the handling of test and calibration items in a manner to maintain the integrity of the item. Requirements for chain-of-custody of items to be tested and appropriate methods and procedures. Ensuring the required performance of the methods along with monitoring the validity of the results. Requirements to ensure results are supported by sufficient technical records and are reported accurately, clearly, unambiguously and objectively. Procedures for nonconforming work and a documented process for handling complaints. Requirements related to the laboratory information management system protection and integrity of data and information.

Management system requirements related to policies and objectives appropriate for the scope of activities. Requirements to control internal and external documents and records. Requirements to address risks and opportunities and timely, well-documented corrective actions. Requirements for an internal audit program and management reviews.

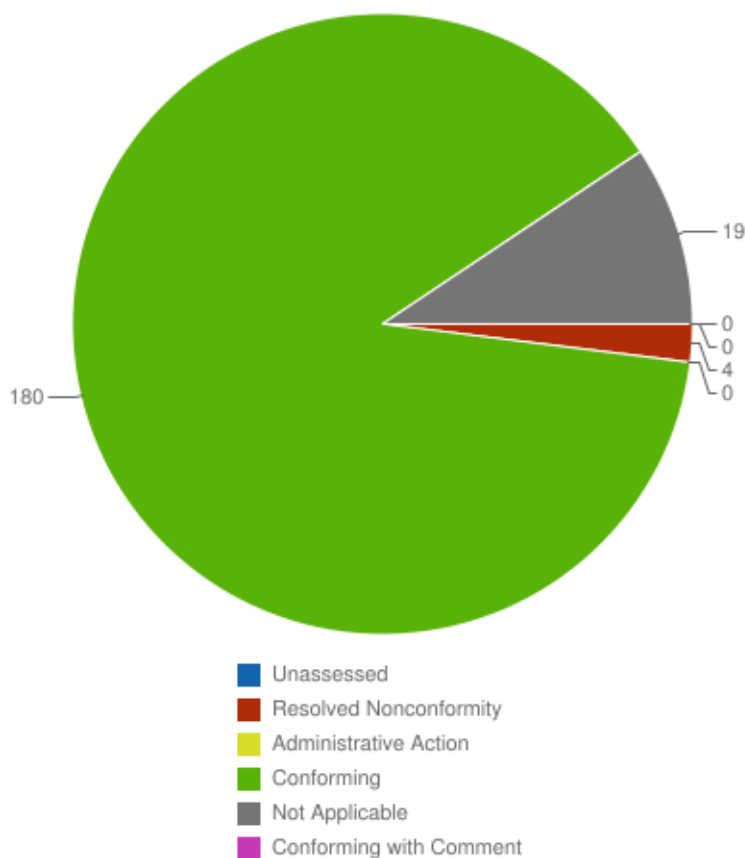
The accreditation activity also evaluates forensic science provider's conformance with their own management system requirements.

### ASSESSMENT RESULT:

Based on the assessment techniques and sampling reviewed during the assessment activity, the assessment team found that the forensic service provider demonstrated competence to operate a management system that fulfills all applicable accreditation requirements, including those specified within their management system.

Any comments (opportunities for improvement) or nonconformities identified during this assessment activity are noted below. All nonconformities will be resolved prior to an accreditation decision by ANAB and a summary provided in a subsequent assessment activity report.

## Summary of Comments



## Audit Comments

### 6.4 Equipment

#### 6.4.4 ISO/IEC 17025:2017

#### Resolved Nonconformity

##### Obligation

Does the laboratory verify that equipment conforms to specified requirements before being placed or returned into service?

##### Add Nonconformity Resolution Workflow

In the Footwear discipline a new piece of Software (SoulMate FPX) was introduced. Though the footwear examiners received training from the manufacturer on how to use the new software, they have no records to show that they verified the software can achieve the desired performance.

**Corrective Action Closure Note:** The laboratory performed cause analysis and evaluated the extent of the nonconforming work. A "Field Report SoleMate FPX Migration" that documents the training provided by the vendor has been presented for review. As part of the laboratory's action, they have performed a training presentation to all analysts to clarify what constitutes equipment that is subject to equipment checks. Analysts were reminded of the procedure for equipment checks and performance verifications. This nonconformity is resolved.

### 7.4 Handling of test or calibration items



**Obligation**

For all test items received except known origin individual characteristic database samples, does the procedure:

- a) address requirements for storage, packaging, and sealing of items to:
  - 1) protect the integrity of all items? and
  - 2) require items to be re-sealed as soon as practicable?
- b) address measures to be taken to secure unattended items?
- c) require chain-of-custody for:
  - 1) all items received? and
  - 2) items that are collected or created and preserved for future testing (e.g., ESDA lifts, test-fired ammunition, latent print lifts, trace evidence, DNA extracts)?
- d) require chain-of-custody to securely and accurately identify:
  - 1) the individual(s) or location(s) receiving or transferring the item(s)? and
  - 2) the item(s) being transferred? and
  - 3) the chronological order of all transfers, minimally including the date?
- e) require communication to the customer regarding the disposition of all items received; and
- F) address communication to the customer regarding items collected or created and preserved for future testing?

ANAB NOTE 1 c) An item being tracked could contain multiple components and be tracked as one item.

ANAB NOTE 2 d).1) Documentation of internal transfers does not need to include use of personal storage locations.

**Add Nonconformity Resolution Workflow**

In the discipline of Seized Drugs, when items are received containing a residual amount of test material, the material is transferred to a vial which then becomes the test item to be retained. The test item is run on an instrument in another section on another floor. During the time the test item is on the instrument or on a tray awaiting pick-up, the item is not in the possession of the original analyst; however, the chain of custody would indicate that it is.

**Corrective Action Closure Note:** The laboratory performed a cause analysis and evaluated extent. They noted that most of the cases resulted from drug overdoses and are a small percentage of the cases received. The laboratory's action plan going forward is to split the sample prepared from the test item into two aliquots and retain one aliquot with the evidence at all times. This item will remain with the analyst during the process of examination and will be tracked via the chain of custody for the test item it came from. This process is now in effect. This nonconformity is resolved.

## 7.6 Evaluation of measurement uncertainty

## 7.6.1 ISO/IEC 17025:2017

## Resolved Nonconformity

**Obligation**

Does the laboratory identify the contributions to measurement uncertainty? When evaluating measurement uncertainty, are all contributions that are of significance, including those arising from sampling, taken into account using appropriate methods of analysis?

**Comments**

This nonconformity (ISO/IEC 17025 7.6.1) was challenged. The challenge was denied.

**Add Nonconformity Resolution Workflow**

In the disciplines of Seized Drugs and Firearms/Toolmarks the laboratory identified the contributions to measurement uncertainty and evaluated the uncertainty per their procedure; however, they did not implement the new uncertainties when the uncertainty values increased.

**Corrective Action Closure Note:** The laboratory performed a cause analysis and evaluated the extent of the nonconforming work. They determined six cases from the Seized Drug discipline may have been impacted; no such cases were identified in the Firearms/Toolmarks discipline. For each of the six cases from the Seized Drug discipline, a memorandum pertaining to the nonconformity, was placed in the case file and the customer was notified. The Laboratory also incorporated a policy into its procedures that requires them to adopt newly calculated uncertainties when they are higher than the in-place uncertainty. This nonconformity is resolved.

## 7.8.1 General

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**Obligation**

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Are results provided accurately, clearly, unambiguously and objectively, usually in a report (e.g. a test report or a calibration certificate or report of sampling), and include all the information agreed with the customer and necessary for the interpretation of the results and all information required by the method used? Are all issued reports retained as technical records?

NOTE 1 For the purposes of this document, test reports and calibration certificates are sometimes referred to as test certificates and calibration reports, respectively.

NOTE 2 Reports can be issued as hard copies or by electronic means, provided that the requirements of this document are met.

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**Add Nonconformity Resolution Workflow**

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When quantitative results for purity are produced in the Seized Drug discipline, the test results for purity are always reported as base regardless of whether the salt form was determined or not.

**Corrective Action Closure Note:** The laboratory performed a cause analysis and evaluated extent. They revised the report format and added a comment to the reports to make it clear that purity results are always provided as base, regardless of the form determined. The laboratory also provided evidence that they notified their customers of the change. This nonconformity is resolved.



# DNA Subcommittee

Received by OFS  
5/19/22

May 19, 2022

BRUCE S. WEIR, PH.D.  
CHAIR  
University of Washington

FREDERICK BIEBER, PH.D.  
Harvard Medical School

ALLISON EASTMAN, PH.D.  
Forensic DNA Consulting, LLC

KATHERINE GETTINGS, PH.D.  
National Institute of Standards and Technology

KENNETH KIDD, PH.D.  
Yale University School of Medicine

JENIFER SMITH, PH.D.  
PRINCIPAL, BIOFORENSIC CONSULTING LLC

AMANDA C. SOZER, PH.D.  
SNA International

Rossana Rosado  
Chair, Commission on Forensic Science  
Division of Criminal Justice Services  
80 South Swan Street  
Albany, New York 12210

Dear Commissioner Rosado:

At the May 13, 2022, DNA Subcommittee meeting, members reviewed the final ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) Assessment Report for the New York State Police Crime Laboratory. The Subcommittee voted and approved to issue a binding recommendation to the Commission on Forensic Science to renew the New York State Accreditation of the New York State Police Crime Laboratory in the discipline of Biology for the period concurrent with their ANAB accreditation. This accreditation is valid until August 31, 2026.

Very truly yours,

Bruce Weir, Ph.D.  
Chair, DNA Subcommittee

cc: Members of the Commission on Forensic Science  
Jill Dooley, Ph.D., Director, OFS  
Natasha Harvin-Locklear, Esq., Special Counsel



Received by OFS  
4/15/22

April 15, 2022

Ray Wickenheiser  
New York State Police Crime Laboratory  
1220 Washington Avenue, Bldg #30  
Albany, NY 12226

Dear Director Wickenheiser,

Congratulations! On April 14, 2022, ANAB renewed your organization's accreditation in the Field of Forensic Testing. This decision was based upon the documentation provided in the assessment report and in accordance with the recommendation of the Lead Assessor. ANAB is satisfied that your organization has met or exceeded the accreditation requirements and requirements of your own documented management system. The report and an electronic version of accreditation documents are included with this letter.

Accredited forensic service providers are expected to maintain the standards which were required to achieve accreditation and conform to [ANAB Terms and Conditions for Accreditation](#). The principal means used to monitor ongoing conformance include surveillance activities, proficiency testing reports submitted by approved test providers, and disclosure of significant events and nonconformities. The results of these monitoring activities will be considered when confirming the continuation of accreditation between assessments.

The planned surveillance activity and reassessment schedule is listed below:

- |                |                              |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| • January 2023 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • January 2024 | Surveillance Assessment      |
| • January 2025 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • January 2026 | Reassessment                 |

The provided ANAB accreditation symbol may be used to convey your accredited status. An accreditation symbol must not be used in any way which implies accreditation in any area outside of the scope of accreditation. If appropriate, the accreditation symbol may be used on your organization's website, reports, letterhead, business cards, and other official documents. Please refer to [PR 1018 Policy on Use of ANAB Accreditation Symbols and Claims of Accreditation Status](#) for all required information. This policy also provides information on your ability to use a combined mark that contains the ANAB accreditation symbol and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) mark.

Achieving accreditation is the result of an extensive commitment of resources and much preparation by the management and personnel of the entire organization. I commend the efforts of all who were involved in this achievement. On behalf of ANAB, I extend my sincere congratulations to you. If you have any questions or if ANAB might assist you in any way, please feel free to get in touch with us at [qualitymatters@anab.org](mailto:qualitymatters@anab.org).

Sincerely,



Janet M. Girten  
Senior Manager of Accreditation  
ANSI National Accreditation Board

cc: David M. Pulikowski, Director of Quality Assurance  
ANAB Office

Received by OFS  
4/15/22



# CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

**The ANSI National Accreditation Board**

Hereby attests that

**New York State Police Crime Laboratory**  
1220 Washington Avenue, Bldg #30, Albany, New York 12226 USA

Fulfills the requirements of

**ISO/IEC 17025:2017**

**ANAB Forensic Testing & Calibration AR 3125:2019**

**FBI Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories:2020**

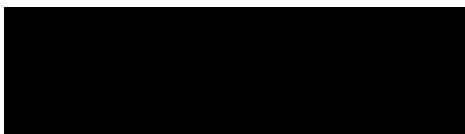
**FBI Quality Assurance Standards for DNA Databasing Laboratories:2020**

In the field of

**Forensic Testing**

This certificate is valid only when accompanied by a current scope of accreditation document.

The current scope of accreditation can be verified at [www.anab.org](http://www.anab.org).



Expiry Date: 31 May 2026  
Certificate Number: FT-0025





**SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION TO:**  
**ISO/IEC 17025:2017**  
**ANAB Forensic Testing & Calibration AR 3125:2019**  
**FBI Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories:2020**  
**FBI Quality Assurance Standards for DNA Databasing Laboratories:2020**

**New York State Police Crime Laboratory**  
(see locations listed below)

**FORENSIC TESTING**

Expiry Date: 31 May 2026

Certificate Number: FT-0025

**Forensic Investigation Center**  
1220 Washington Avenue  
Albany, New York 12226 USA

<b>Discipline: Biology</b>		
<b>Component/Parameter</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Key Equipment/Technology</b>
DNA Profile Determination	Short Tandem Repeat (STR) Y-Short Tandem Repeat (Y-STR)	Capillary Electrophoresis
Individual Characteristic Database	DNA Profile	National DNA Index System (NDIS)
Physical Comparison	DNA Profile	Software Program
Qualitative Determination	Body Fluid Epithelial Cell	Chemical Fluorescence Spectroscopy General Microscopy Immunoassay

<b>Discipline: Fire Debris and Explosives</b>		
<b>Component/Parameter</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Key Equipment/Technology</b>
Qualitative Determination	Fire Debris	Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry

Discipline: Firearms and Toolmarks		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Function Evaluation	Firearm	Measuring Equipment
Individual Characteristic Database	Ammunition	National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN)
Physical Comparison	Ammunition	General Microscopy Measuring Equipment Software Program Visual
Qualitative Determination	Ammunition Firearm Metal	Chemical General Microscopy Measuring Equipment Reference Collection
Serial Number Restoration	Physical Item	Chemical General Microscopy Magnetic Visual

Discipline: Friction Ridge		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Enhancement	Ridge Detail	Chemical Physical Software Program
Individual Characteristic Database	Ridge Detail	Next Generation Identification System (NGI)
Physical Comparison	Ridge Detail	Software Program Visual
Physical Comparison (Tenprint)	Ridge Detail	Software Program Visual

Discipline: Materials (Trace)		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Qualitative Determination	Hair	General Microscopy

Discipline: Seized Drugs		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Qualitative Determination	Botanical Liquid Solid	Chemical Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy



		Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry Raman Spectroscopy Thin-Layer Chromatography Ultraviolet Spectroscopy Visual
Quantitative Measurement	Botanical Liquid Solid	Gas Chromatography Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Spectroscopy
Volume Measurement	Liquid	Balance Volumetric Glassware
Weight Measurement	Botanical Liquid Solid	Balance

Discipline: Toxicology		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Qualitative Determination	Ante-Mortem Biological Item Post-Mortem Biological Item	Gas Chromatography Immunoassay Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry
Qualitative Determination (Volatiles)	Ante-Mortem Biological Item Post-Mortem Biological Item	Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry
Quantitative Measurement	Ante-Mortem Biological Item Post-Mortem Biological Item	Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry
Quantitative Measurement (Volatiles)	Ante-Mortem Biological Item Post-Mortem Biological Item	Gas Chromatography

**Mid-Hudson Satellite Crime Laboratory**  
224 Breunig Road  
New Windsor, New York 12553 USA

Discipline: Seized Drugs		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Qualitative Determination	Botanical Liquid Solid	Chemical Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry Raman Spectroscopy Thin-Layer Chromatography Ultraviolet Spectroscopy Visual

Quantitative Measurement	Botanical Liquid Solid	Gas Chromatography Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Spectroscopy
Volume Measurement	Liquid	Balance Volumetric Glassware
Weight Measurement	Botanical Liquid Solid	Balance

**Southern Tier Satellite Crime Laboratory**

44 Park Street  
Port Crane, New York 13833 USA

<b>Discipline: Seized Drugs</b>		
<b>Component/Parameter</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Key Equipment/Technology</b>
Qualitative Determination	Botanical Liquid Solid	Chemical Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry Raman Spectroscopy Thin-Layer Chromatography Ultraviolet Spectroscopy Visual
Quantitative Measurement	Botanical Liquid Solid	Gas Chromatography Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Spectroscopy
Volume Measurement	Liquid	Balance Volumetric Glassware
Weight Measurement	Botanical Liquid Solid	Balance

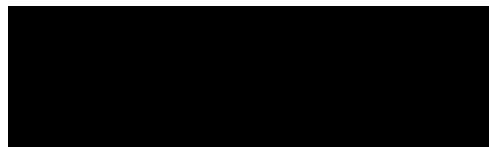
**Western Satellite Crime Laboratory**

722 Homer Street  
Olean, New York 14760 USA

<b>Discipline: Seized Drugs</b>		
<b>Component/Parameter</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Key Equipment/Technology</b>
Qualitative Determination	Botanical Liquid Solid	Chemical Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy Liquid Chromatography

		Mass Spectrometry Raman Spectroscopy Thin-Layer Chromatography Ultraviolet Spectroscopy Visual
Quantitative Measurement	Botanical Liquid Solid	Gas Chromatography Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Spectroscopy
Volume Measurement	Liquid	Balance Volumetric Glassware
Weight Measurement	Botanical Liquid Solid	Balance

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Pamela L. Sale  
Vice President, Forensics

Received by OFS  
4/14/22



## **New York State Police - Crime Laboratory**

2022 - 17025T - Reassessment

Prepared by [REDACTED]

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Data collected on 2022-01-24

ANSI National Accreditation Board

United States

## Description

This assessment report summarizes the outcome of the recent accreditation activity. A separate document, the assessment plan, provides information on the type of activity (*e.g.*, reassessment, surveillance activity, scope extension), the date(s) of the activity, the assessment team members, the requirement documents and the scope by discipline that was assessed for each location. The assessment plan, together with this report, provides a complete picture of the accreditation activity.

The ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) evaluated the competence of the forensic service provider and conformance with all applicable accreditation requirements for the scope of accreditation listed in the assessment plan. Objective evidence of implementation was assessed. The results of an assessment activity are based on a sample of records, locations, and personnel that were available at the time of the activity. Witnessing is an additional technique used in on-site activities.

### REQUIREMENTS:

ISO/IEC 17025:2017 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories & ANAB ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Forensic Science Testing and Calibration Laboratories Accreditation Requirements (AR 3125) evaluated over the accreditation cycle are summarized in the following broad categories:

General requirements related to the forensic service provider's commitment to impartiality and confidentiality in its activities.

Structural requirements related to the range of activities, management structure, the authority, roles and responsibilities of personnel. Documented procedures which ensure a consistent application of activities and the validity of results.

Resource requirements related to the impartiality of personnel. Requirements for a training program, competency testing, authorizations and ongoing monitoring to ensure the competence of personnel. Facility and security suitability for activities. Records and procedures for equipment to ensure proper functioning and where applicable, establishment of metrological traceability. Requirements for externally provided products and services.

Process requirements related to the handling of test and calibration items in a manner to maintain the integrity of the item. Requirements for chain-of-custody of items to be tested and appropriate methods and procedures. Ensuring the required performance of the methods along with monitoring the validity of the results. Requirements to ensure results are supported by sufficient technical records and are reported accurately, clearly, unambiguously and objectively. Procedures for nonconforming work and a documented process for handling complaints. Requirements related to the laboratory information management system protection and integrity of data and information.

Management system requirements related to policies and objectives appropriate for the scope of activities. Requirements to control internal and external documents and records. Requirements to address risks and opportunities and timely, well-documented corrective actions. Requirements for an internal audit program and management reviews.

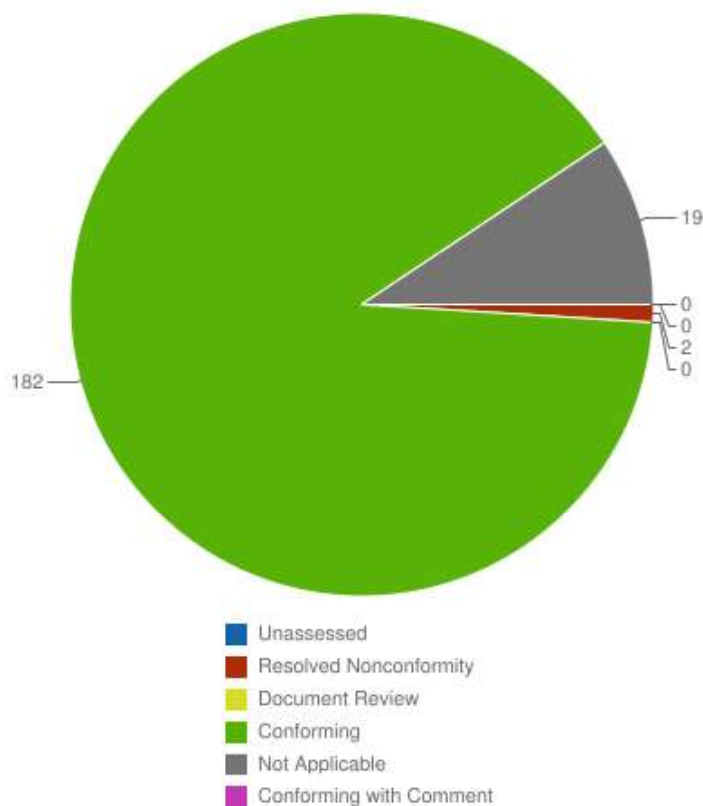
The accreditation activity also evaluates forensic science provider's conformance with their own management system requirements.

### ASSESSMENT RESULT:

Based on the assessment techniques and sampling reviewed during the assessment activity, the assessment team found that the forensic service provider demonstrated competence to operate a management system that fulfills all applicable accreditation requirements, including those specified within their management system.

Any comments (opportunities for improvement) or nonconformities identified during this assessment activity are noted below. All nonconformities will be resolved prior to an accreditation decision by ANAB and a summary provided in a subsequent assessment activity report.

## Summary of Comments



## Audit Comments

### 7.8.1 General

#### 7.8.1.2 ISO/IEC 17025:2017

#### Resolved Nonconformity

##### Requirement

Are results provided accurately, clearly, unambiguously and objectively, usually in a report (e.g. a test report or a calibration certificate or report of sampling), and include all the information agreed with the customer and necessary for the interpretation of the results and all information required by the method used? Are all issued reports retained as technical records?

NOTE 1 For the purposes of this document, test reports and calibration certificates are sometimes referred to as test certificates and calibration reports, respectively.

NOTE 2 Reports can be issued as hard copies or by electronic means, provided that the requirements of this document are met.

##### Nonconformity Resolution Workflow

In DNA, the laboratory does not report all results in a manner that is clear and unambiguous. Specifically, when the laboratory reports the presence of a minor profile as part of a mixture it does not specify whether the minor profile is suitable for comparison.

**Corrective Action Closure Note:** An evaluation of the nonconformity to determine the extent and cause were conducted. Root cause determined the laboratory attempted to streamline DNA report's conclusions, remove technical jargon, improve readability and customer comprehension. This resulted in DNA reports containing mixtures conclusion not identifying whether or not the minor portion of the profile was suitable for comparison. Biological Science Casework staff were notified on 1/31/2022, and advised that pending DNA reports with the affected conclusion(s) should not be reviewed or approved. The effect was determined to be mixture cases containing minor DNA profiles reported from October 21, 2021 to January 28, 2022. Corrective action implemented- Casework Section procedures D7.9 DNA Report Conclusions and D6.4.1 Guidelines for Interpretation of Y-STR DNA Profiles (YFiler® Plus) were updated to include language addressing

minor contributors. A Web-Ex meeting was held for all Bioscience Casework staff on 2/3/2022 that reviewed the revised conclusion wording specifying whether the minor component to a mixture profile was suitable for comparison. Customer notification was placed on the website where reports are obtained- <https://troopers.ny.gov/laboratory-test-report-information>. Updated procedures reviewed - DNA Section D7.9- DNA report Conclusions, version 12, effective 02/03/2022 and DNA Section D6.4.1- Guidelines for Interpretation of Y-STR Profiles (YFiler Plus) version 9, effective 02/03/2022. Amended reports will be issued when identified and requested by the customer. Five recently completed test reports addressing minor contributors to a mixture suitability for comparison were reviewed. This nonconformity has been resolved.

#### 7.8.1.2.2 ANAB Accreditation Requirement

#### Resolved Nonconformity

##### Requirement

Is there a procedure for reporting of results that:

- a) identifies what will be reported for all items received, including items on which no work was performed, items collected or created and preserved for future testing, and for partial work performed?
- b) requires qualifying the significance of associations in the report whether by a statistic or a qualitative statement?
- c) requires communicating the reason(s) in the report when the reported results are inconclusive? and
- d) requires reporting of the initial database entry (e.g., DNA profiles, friction ridge, ballistics, biometrics)?

ANAB NOTE b) Associations for multiple results may be qualified by a single statistic or qualitative statement if the statistics are identical or, where applicable, meet or exceed a defined minimum threshold.

##### Nonconformity Resolution Workflow

In Friction Ridge Identification reports from the Statewide Automated Biometric Identification System (SABIS) the significance of associations do not contain a qualitative statement.

**Corrective Action Closure Note:** An evaluation of the nonconformity to determine the extent and cause were conducted. Root cause determined a misunderstanding of the requirement regarding qualifying the significance of an association. The effect was determined to be reports issued between 03/03/2020 and 01/27/2022 reporting an identification from an automated search did not contain a qualitative statement indicating the strength of the association. Corrective action implemented: On January 27, 2022 the section was notified that no Automated Search Reports declaring tentative identification were to be issued until procedural updates. The following procedures were updated requiring the significance of association to be reported on Automated Search Reports- Latent Print Technical Test Method Version 14 - Section 4D: Miscellaneous procedures- Friction Ridge Impression Examination, effective January 27, 2022 and Latent Prints Technical Test Method Appendices, version 14 effective January 27, 2022. Staff were notified of procedure changes. On February 12, 2022, customers were notified that the significance of association were not included on reports involving automated searches between 03/03/2020 and 01/27/2022. Amended reports will be issued upon request. Five recently completed Automated Search Reports qualifying the significance of associations were reviewed. This nonconformity has been resolved.





**State  
Police**

**Forensic  
Investigation  
Center**

**KATHY HOCHUL**  
Governor

**KEVIN P. BRUEN**  
Superintendent

**DR. RAY A. WICKENHEISER**  
Director

May 9, 2022

Jill Dooley  
Director, Office of Forensic Services  
New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services  
80 South Swan Street  
Albany, New York 12210

**RE: Change in Top Management**

Dr. Dooley,

Please be advised that on May 12, 2022, Major Michael A. Jankowiak will replace Major Brian T. Colwell as Assistant Laboratory Director following Major Colwell's retirement.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Dr. Ray A. Wickenheiser.

Dr. Ray A. Wickenheiser

RAW/eac





May 9, 2022

Christine Griffin, M.S.  
Niagara County Sheriff's Office  
Forensic Laboratory  
5526 Niagara Street, Ext.  
Lockport, New York 14094

Dear Director Griffin,

Congratulations! On April 4, 2022, ANAB renewed your organization's accreditation in the Field of Forensic Testing. This decision was based upon the documentation provided in the assessment report and in accordance with the recommendation of the Lead Assessor. ANAB is satisfied that your organization has met or exceeded the accreditation requirements and requirements of your own documented management system.

Accredited forensic service providers are expected to maintain the standards which were required to achieve accreditation and conform to [ANAB Terms and Conditions for Accreditation](#). The principal means used to monitor ongoing conformance include surveillance activities, proficiency testing reports submitted by approved test providers, and disclosure of significant events and nonconformities. The results of these monitoring activities will be considered when confirming the continuation of accreditation between assessments.

The planned surveillance activity and reassessment schedule is listed below:

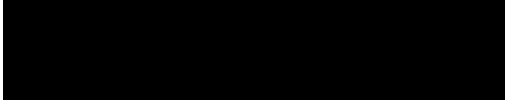
- |                 |                              |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| • February 2023 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • February 2024 | Surveillance Assessment      |
| • February 2025 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • February 2026 | Reassessment                 |

The provided ANAB accreditation symbol may be used to convey your accredited status. An accreditation symbol must not be used in any way which implies accreditation in any area outside of the scope of accreditation. If appropriate, the accreditation symbol may be used on your organization's website, reports, letterhead, business cards, and other official documents. Please refer to [PR 1018 Policy on Use of ANAB Accreditation Symbols and Claims of Accreditation Status](#) for all required information. This policy also provides information on your ability to use a combined mark that contains the ANAB accreditation symbol and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) mark.

The report was provided to you during the assessment activity. An electronic version of accreditation documents is included with this letter.

Achieving accreditation is the result of an extensive commitment of resources and much preparation by the management and personnel of the entire organization. I commend the efforts of all who were involved in this achievement. On behalf of ANAB, I extend my sincere congratulations to you. If you have any questions or if ANAB might assist you in any way, please feel free to get in touch with us at [qualitymatters@anab.org](mailto:qualitymatters@anab.org).

Sincerely,



Chris Hamburg  
Senior Manager of Accreditation  
ANSI National Accreditation Board

cc: Michelle Scotland, Ph.D, Quality Assurance Coordinator  
ANAB Office

Received by OFS  
5/9/2022



# CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

**The ANSI National Accreditation Board**

Hereby attests that

**Niagara County Sheriff's Office  
Forensic Laboratory  
5526 Niagara Street, Ext., Lockport, New York 14094 USA**

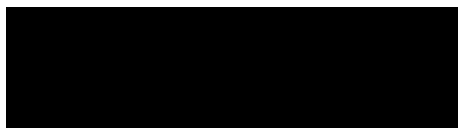
Fulfills the requirements of

**ISO/IEC 17025:2017  
ANAB Forensic Testing & Calibration AR 3125:2019**

In the field of

**Forensic Testing**

This certificate is valid only when accompanied by a current scope of accreditation document.  
The current scope of accreditation can be verified at [www.anab.org](http://www.anab.org).



Expiry Date: 30 June 2026  
Certificate Number: FT-0311





**SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION TO:**  
**ISO/IEC 17025:2017**  
**ANAB Forensic Testing & Calibration AR 3125:2019**

**Niagara County Sheriff's Office Forensic Laboratory**

5526 Niagara Street, Ext.  
Lockport, New York 14094 USA

**FORENSIC TESTING**

Expiry Date: 30 June 2026

Certificate Number: FT-0311

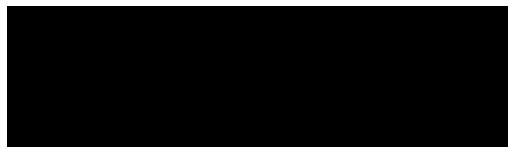
<b>Discipline: Biology</b>		
<b>Component/Parameter</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Key Equipment/Technology</b>
Qualitative Determination	Body Fluid	Chemical General Microscopy Immunoassay

<b>Discipline: Firearms and Toolmarks</b>		
<b>Component/Parameter</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Key Equipment/Technology</b>
Function Evaluation	Firearm	Dead Weight Measuring Equipment Visual
Individual Characteristic Database	Ammunition	National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN)
Physical Comparison	Ammunition	General Microscopy Software Program Visual
Qualitative Determination	Ammunition Firearm	Chemical General Microscopy Measuring Equipment Reference Collection
Serial Number Restoration	Physical Item	Chemical Visual

Discipline: Seized Drugs		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Qualitative Determination	Botanical Liquid Solid	Chemical Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy Mass Spectrometry
Quantitative Measurement	Solid	Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry
Weight Measurement	Botanical Liquid Solid	Balance

Discipline: Toxicology		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Qualitative Determination	Ante-Mortem Biological Item Post-Mortem Biological Item	Gas Chromatography Immunoassay Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry
Qualitative Determination (Volatiles)	Ante-Mortem Biological Item Post-Mortem Biological Item	Gas Chromatography
Quantitative Measurement	Ante-Mortem Biological Item Post-Mortem Biological Item	Gas Chromatography Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry
Quantitative Measurement (Volatiles)	Ante-Mortem Biological Item Post-Mortem Biological Item	Gas Chromatography

When published on a forensic service provider's Scope of Accreditation, ANAB has confirmed the competence required to develop and validate methods and perform on-going quality assurance for accredited activities. For a listed component/parameter, the forensic service provider may add or modify methods for activities without formal notice to ANAB for items and key equipment/technology listed. Contact the forensic service provider for information on the method utilized for accredited work.



Pamela L. Sale  
Vice President, Forensics



Received by OFS  
5/13/22

410 North 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Phone: (719) 636-1100 • Fax: (719) 636-1993 • Web-site: [www.abft.org](http://www.abft.org)

May 16, 2022

Kristie Barba, M.S. D-ABFT-FT  
Toxicologist  
Onondaga County Health Department  
Medical Examiner's Office  
Forensic Toxicology Laboratory  
100 Elizabeth Blackwell Street  
Syracuse, NY 13210

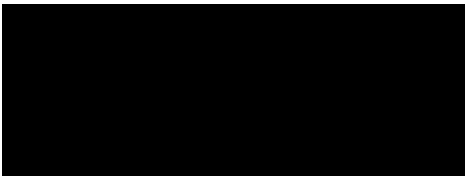
Dear Ms. Barba:      **Review of 2022 Mid-Cycle Report**

Our review of your mid-cycle report is complete. I am pleased to advise that the Accreditation Committee found that your laboratory has satisfactorily completed all of the subscribed proficiency tests and continues to meet ABFT program requirements.

As indicated in the original letter sent to you by Dr. Goldberger, accreditation of your laboratory will continue through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Thank you for your support of the ABFT Accreditation Program.

Yours sincerely,



Graham R. Jones, Ph.D., F-ABFT  
Chair, ABFT Accreditation Committee



Received by OFS

5/31/22

723 N. Weber Street, Suite 103

Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Phone: (719) 362-0452 • Website: [www.abft.org](http://www.abft.org)

May 31, 2022

Michael Lehrer, Ph.D.  
Suffolk County Office of the Medical Examiner  
Suffolk County Office Building, #487  
725 Veteran's Memorial Highway  
Hauppauge, NY 11787


Dear Dr. Lehrer:

I am pleased to advise you that the Suffolk County Office of the Medical Examiner Toxicology Laboratory has fulfilled the American Board of Forensic Toxicology laboratory accreditation requirements and is granted a Certificate of Laboratory Accreditation in Forensic Toxicology for the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024.


During the course of accreditation, you will be asked to provide evidence of satisfactory participation in recognized alcohol and drug-based proficiency test programs. Additionally, please note that per the agreement ABFT has with ANAB, should you wish to continue to have your laboratory accredited, you will need to apply directly to ANAB for assessment against ISO/IEC 17025 (including ABFT Supplemental Standards) at least six months prior to expiry of your ABFT accreditation.

Congratulations to you and your staff! A certificate attesting to your accreditation will be provided in the near future.

Sincerely,



Bruce A. Goldberger, Ph.D., F-ABFT  
President



Graham R. Jones, Ph.D., F-ABFT  
Chair, ABFT Accreditation

cc: Robert Sears, M.S., F-ABFT  
ABFT & ANAB



Received by OFS  
5/10/22

410 North 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Phone: (719) 636-1100 • Fax: (719) 636-1993 • Web-site: [www.abft.org](http://www.abft.org)

May 9, 2022

Christopher Cording, MS, D-ABFT-FT  
Director of Toxicology  
Westchester County Department of Laboratories and Research  
10 Dana Road  
Valhalla, NY 10595

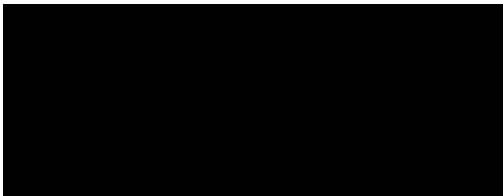
Dear Mr. Cording:   **Review of 2022 Mid-Cycle Report**

Our review of the 2022 mid-cycle report from your laboratory is complete. The review has determined that your laboratory continues to be in compliance with the standards of the ABFT Accreditation Program. Any deficiencies that were identified as a result of internal review of the proficiency test results were appropriately addressed.

As stated in earlier correspondence, your laboratory will continue to be accredited by the ABFT program through June 30, 2023.

As always, we appreciate your participation in and support of the ABFT Laboratory Accreditation Program.

Yours Sincerely,



Graham R. Jones, Ph.D., F-ABFT  
Chair, ABFT Accreditation Committee





# DNA Subcommittee

Received by OFS  
5/19/22

May 19, 2022

BRUCE S. WEIR, PH.D.  
CHAIR  
University of Washington

FREDERICK BIEBER, PH.D.  
Harvard Medical School

ALLISON EASTMAN, PH.D.  
Forensic DNA Consulting, LLC

KATHERINE GETTINGS, PH.D.  
National Institute of Standards and Technology

KENNETH KIDD, PH.D.  
Yale University School of Medicine

JENIFER SMITH, PH.D.  
PRINCIPAL, BIOFORENSIC CONSULTING LLC

AMANDA C. SOZER, PH.D.  
SNA International

Rossana Rosado  
Chair, Commission on Forensic Science  
Division of Criminal Justice Services  
80 South Swan Street  
Albany, New York 12210

Dear Commissioner Rosado:

At the May 13, 2022, DNA Subcommittee (Subcommittee) meeting, members discussed the May 5, 2022, First Judicial Department of the Appellate Division ruling in the Matter of Stevens et. al., v. The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, the New York State Commission on Forensic Sciences, and the DNA Subcommittee of the New York State Commission on Forensic Science.

The Subcommittee made a motion, voted, and approved to ask the Commission on Forensic Science to formulate and write to the Attorney General of New York to urge her to file an appeal forthwith, and communicate the willingness of the Subcommittee to assist with preparing technical documentation.

Very truly yours,

Bruce Weir, Ph.D.  
Chair, DNA Subcommittee

cc: Members of the Commission on Forensic Science  
Jill Dooley, Ph.D., Director, OFS  
Natasha Harvin-Locklear, Esq., Special Counsel