



Commission on Forensic Science

September 27, 2024

Division of Criminal Justice Services
80 South Swan Street, Room 118, Albany, NY 12210

9:01 AM – 12:34 PM

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Commission Members in Attendance:

Pasquale Buffolino, Ph.D.
James Chithalen, Ph.D.¹
Lydia de Castro
Steven Epstein, Esq.
Jessica Goldthwaite, Esq.
Michael Marciano, Ph.D.
Erin Murphy, Esq.
Beverly Rauch
Rossana Rosado
Michelli Schmitz
Rachel Singer (non-voting proxy for William Fitzpatrick, Esq.)
Ann Willey, Ph.D.

DCJS Staff in Attendance:

Taylor Aaron
Dean DeFruscio
Colleen Glavin, Esq.
Natasha Harvin-Locklear, Esq.
Janine Kava
Katherine Mayberry
Shelley Palmer
Joseph Popcun
Brianna Robinson
Lindsey Rockwell
Matthew Schrantz, Esq.
Elizabeth Suparmanto

Other Attendees:

¹ Representative of Commission Member James V. McDonald, M.D.

Julia Becker – New York State Police Crime Laboratory
 Sana Hazina Butler – Voting Public
 Jill Dooley, PhD. – New York State Police Crime Laboratory
 James Harrison – Westchester County Department of Public Safety Crime Laboratory
 Nichole Hurbanek – New York State Police Crime Laboratory
 Michael Jankowiak – New York State Police Crime Laboratory
 Thomas Leach – New York State Police Crime Laboratory
 Daniel Myers – New York State Police Crime Laboratory
 Julie Pizziketti – New York State Police Crime Laboratory
 Kerri Sage – New York State Police Crime Laboratory
 Paul Stasaitis – Westchester County Department of Public Safety Crime Laboratory
 Christian Westring – Niagara County Sheriff's Office Forensic Laboratory

*Approximate
video times*

Chair Rosado opened the meeting by introducing new member Erin Murphy, who has replaced the Honorable Judge Mazzarelli, in the role of attorney or judge with a background in privacy issues and biomedical ethics. Chair Rosado then noted Rachel Singer was joining the meeting as the designated participant on behalf of the Honorable William Fitzpatrick. Shelley Palmer was then introduced as Office of Forensic Services Interim Director, and Matthew Schrantz as new Special Counsel to the Commission, replacing Natasha Harvin-Locklear. Chair Rosado took a roll call as the members were in attendance in Albany and virtually. A quorum was established with 10 voting members (Buffolino, de Castro, Epstein, Goldthwaite, Marciano, Murphy, Rauch, Rosado, Schmitz, and Willey).

00:00:00
00:02:18

Chair Rosado then requested a motion to approve the September 27, 2024, agenda. The motion to approve the agenda was made by Ms. Schmitz, seconded by Ms. Rauch, and approved unanimously with 10 votes.

00:02:23
00:02:53

Chair Rosado requested a motion to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2024, Commission meeting. Ms. de Castro requested a change to specify a working group formed in response to a complaint regarding the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner Department of Forensic Biology. The motion to approve the minutes with the correction was made by Ms. de Castro, seconded by Dr. Marciano, and approved unanimously with 10 votes.

00:02:54
00:04:08

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 particular person. The motion was made by Dr. Willey and seconded by Dr. Buffolino. The motion was approved with 7 votes (Buffolino, de Castro, Marciano, Rauch, Rosado, Schmitz, and Willey) and 2 opposed (Epstein and Goldthwaite) and 1 abstention (Murphy).

00:04:09
00:05:20

The Commission adjourned into Executive Session at 9:09 am.

The Commission reconvened the open meeting at 10:11 am and indicated that no formal action was taken during Executive Session. Chair Rosado requested that Ms. Palmer lead the accreditation and laboratory updates section of the meeting.

00:05:52
00:06:04

Next, the Commission reviewed the Accreditation/Laboratory Updates. Matters regarding the following laboratories were considered: New York City OCME Forensic Anthropology Unit, New York City Police Department Latent Print Section, New York City Police Department Police Laboratory, New York State Police Crime Laboratory, Niagara County Sheriff's Office Forensic Laboratory, Onondaga County Center for Forensic Sciences Laboratory, Suffolk County Crime Laboratory, Westchester County Department of Laboratories and Research Division of Forensic Science, Westchester County Department of Public Safety Crime Laboratory, and Yonkers Police Department Forensic Science Laboratory. Representatives from the laboratories were available in person or via Webex to respond to members' questions.

*Approximate
video times*
00:06:05
00:25:23

The next agenda item was Old Business. Ms. Palmer provided the Commission members with a verbal update on the Familial Search Program. At the last meeting, it was noted that both the Partial Match and Familial Search program policies were due for a periodic review. No comments or suggestions for updates were made by DNA Subcommittee members at their August meeting. New York State Police Crime Laboratory also provided a document outlining improvements made to the program. Commission members had no comments or suggestions for updates to the policies.

00:25:28
00:27:20

The Commission then discussed the New York State Police Crime Laboratory response to the request made by the Commission at the June 14, 2024, meeting. Representatives from the New York State Police Crime Laboratory were available to respond to members' questions.

00:27:26
00:37:44

Ms. Palmer then gave a verbal update about Rapid DNA. A letter was sent earlier this month to law enforcement agencies, district attorney's offices, and the NYS laboratories regarding the use of Rapid DNA technology and the role of the Commission and DNA Subcommittee in its use. Any entity seeking to adopt Rapid DNA for any purpose must present their intended use and validation studies to the DNA Subcommittee and Commission for their review and approval.

00:37:51
00:38:44

Next, an update was given regarding the NIST Interagency report. The DNA Subcommittee had a brief discussion with the Biology Technical Working Group in August, and further discussion with the Biology TWG is planned for the November DNA Subcommittee meeting. Additional updates will be given to the Commission when available.

00:38:45
00:41:36

The next agenda item was New Business. Ms. Palmer provided a verbal update regarding SABIS audits. The Office of Forensic Services completed on-site SABIS audits and is working to determine how many latent print sites will be coming into the accredited environment in response to the 2021 change in Executive Law removing the latent print exemption from the definition of a forensic laboratory.

00:41:42
00:46:11

The Commission then reviewed disclosures from the Nassau County Office of the Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, New York City OCME Department of Forensic Biology, New York City OCME Department of Forensic Toxicology, New York City Police Department Latent Print Section, New York City Police Department Police Laboratory, New York State Police Crime Laboratory, Onondaga County Center for Forensic Sciences

00:46:12
02:24:39

Laboratory, Suffolk County Crime Laboratory, Suffolk County Office of the Medical Examiner Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, and Westchester County Department of Laboratories and Research Division of Forensic Toxicology were reviewed. Representatives from the laboratories were available in person or via Webex to respond to members' questions.

*Approximate
video times*

Ms. Glavin then thanked Natasha Harvin-Locklear for her work in support of the Commission and her continued service as the Ethics Officer.

02:25:54
02:26:25

Chair Rosado stated that the next meeting of the Commission will take place on December 13, 2024. Dr. Willey made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dr. Buffolino and approved unanimously.

02:26:27
02:27:00

Note:

Video of the open meeting is available on YouTube.



Erie County Medical Examiner Office Forensic Toxicology Laboratory

501 Kensington Avenue Buffalo, New York 14214

Memo

To: DCJS, ANAB
cc: Janinne Blank Division Director, Colleen Corcoran Quality Assurance Specialist, Caitlin Johnson Toxicologist III
From: Melissa Boler, MS Chief County Toxicologist
Date: 10/15/2024
Re: Temporary Management Change

Erie County Medical Examiner Office-Toxicology Laboratory will have an Interim Chief County Toxicologist, Caitlin Johnson starting tentatively December 2nd 2024 - TBD. Her contact information is Caitlin.Johnson@erie.gov and Phone: 716-961-7594. During this period, please be sure all appropriate emails are forwarded to Caitlin Johnson as I will be on medical leave with no access to email.

Additional Attachments: Caitlin Johnson's CV

Signature: [Redacted] Date: 10/15/2024
Printed Name: Melissa Boler



**Erie County Medical Examiner Office
Forensic Toxicology Laboratory**

501 Kensington Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14214

Memo

To: DCJS, ANAB
cc: Janinne Blank Division Director, Colleen Corcoran Quality Assurance Specialist, Melissa Boler, MS Chief County Toxicologist
From: Caitlin Johnson, Toxicologist III/Technical Leader
Date: 10/28/2024
Re: Temporary Management Change_UPDATE

Melissa Boler had to go on medical leave sooner than expected. Effective 10/28/2024, Erie County Medical Examiner Office-Toxicology Laboratory now has an Interim Chief County Toxicologist, Caitlin Johnson. This temporary management change will be in place until Melissa Boler's return (TBD). My contact information is Caitlin.Johnson@erie.gov and Phone: 716-961-7594. During this period, please be sure all appropriate emails are forwarded to me, Caitlin Johnson.

Signature:

[Redacted Signature]

Date: 10/28/2024

Printed Name: CAITLIN JOHNSON

From: [QualityMatters](#)
To: [Hartman, Rebecca L](#); [dcjs.sm.forensiclabs](#)
Cc: [Lori Nix](#)
Subject: RE: Significant Change in Management - MCOME Toxicology Assistant Chief
Date: Thursday, November 14, 2024 12:08:20 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Good afternoon!

Thank you for the notification. Let me know if she should receive ANAB communications (assessment activities, etc.).

Have a great day!

Caprice

Caprice Fowler | ANAB
Manager, Operations
ANSI National Accreditation Board
D.C. | Fort Wayne, IN
414-501-5375 (direct, NC)
414-501-5494 (main)
www.anab.org
qualitymatters@anab.org
ANAB Training - www.anab.org/training



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From: Hartman, Rebecca L <RebeccaHartman@monroecounty.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:01 AM
To: ForensicLabs@dcjs.ny.gov; QualityMatters@anab.org
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Significant Change in Management - MCOME Toxicology Assistant Chief

Good Morning,

I am pleased to inform you that after almost a year's vacancy, our Assistant Chief Toxicologist position has been filled. Ana Ovalle is scheduled to start in the role effective Monday, November 18, 2024. We are very much looking forward to working with her again.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you and best regards,



Rebecca L. Hartman, PhD, F-ABFT

Chief Toxicologist

Monroe County Office of the Medical Examiner

Monroe County, NY

P: (585) 753-5923 | F: (585) 324-1609

rebeccahartman@monroecounty.gov

Feedback? Take the [Laboratory Survey](#)

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November 22, 2024

Pasquale Buffolino, Ph.D.
Nassau County Office of the Medical Examiner
Division of Forensic Services
1194 Prospect Avenue
Westbury, NY 11590

Dear Dr. Buffolino,

Congratulations! On November 22, 2024, ANAB approved the continuation of your organization's accreditation based upon the results of your recent surveillance activity. Continuation of accreditation is a formal acknowledgement that your organization continues to operate in conformance with accreditation requirements. The report was provided to you during the assessment activity.

The provided ANAB accreditation symbol ([Testing](#)) 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 next assessment activity is a Surveillance Document Review scheduled for October 2025.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to quality and the accreditation process.

Sincerely,

Jami J. StClair
Senior Manager of Accreditation
ANSI National Accreditation Board

cc: Karen Dooling, Assistant Director
Mark Gil, Quality Assurance Manager
ANAB Office



ANSI National Accreditation Board

**SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION TO:
 ISO/IEC 17025:2017
 Accreditation Requirements for Forensic Testing and Calibration (2023)
 FBI Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories:2020**

**Nassau County Office of the Medical Examiner
 Division of Forensic Services**

1194 Prospect Avenue
 Westbury, New York 11590 USA

FORENSIC TESTING

ISO/IEC 17025 Accreditation Granted: 12 October 2010

Certificate Number: FT-0243

Certificate Expiry Date: 28 February 2027

Discipline: Biology		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
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 General Microscopy Immunoassay

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

Discipline: Firearms and Toolmarks		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Function Evaluation	Air Gun Firearm Silencer	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	General Microscopy Reference Collection

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

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



**Nassau County Office of the Medical Examiner Division of
Forensic Services**

2024 - 17025T - Surveillance Assessment

Prepared by Alexandria Bradley

Data collected on 2024-10-16

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 refers to the scope of the discipline(s) assessed for each location. The assessment plan, together with this report, provide a complete picture of the accreditation activity.

The ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) evaluated the competence of the laboratory and conformance with all applicable accreditation requirements for the scope of accreditation referenced 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 most activities.

REQUIREMENTS:

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

General requirements related to the laboratory'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 the laboratory's conformance with their own management system requirements.

ASSESSMENT RESULT:

Based on the assessment techniques and a sample of the objective evidence reviewed during the assessment activity, the assessment team found that the laboratory demonstrated competence to operate a management system that fulfills all applicable accreditation requirements, including those specified within their management system.

Any 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



**New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner - Department
of Forensic Biology**

2024 - 17025T - Surveillance Document Review

Prepared by Carl Sobieralski

Data collected on 2024-10-01

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 refers to the scope of the discipline(s) assessed for each location. The assessment plan, together with this report, provide a complete picture of the accreditation activity.

The ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) evaluated the competence of the laboratory and conformance with all applicable accreditation requirements for the scope of accreditation referenced 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 most activities.

REQUIREMENTS:

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

General requirements related to the laboratory'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.

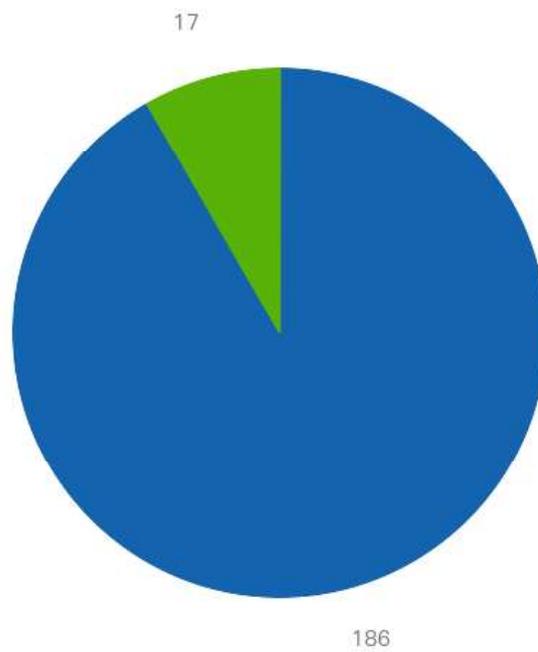
The accreditation activity also evaluates the laboratory's conformance with their own management system requirements.

ASSESSMENT RESULT:

Based on the assessment techniques and a sample of the objective evidence reviewed during the assessment activity, the assessment team found that the laboratory demonstrated competence to operate a management system that fulfills all applicable accreditation requirements, including those specified within their management system.

Any 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



New York City Office of Chief Medical Examiner-Forensic Anthropology Unit

2024 - 17020 - Surveillance Assessment

Prepared by Alexandria Bradley

Data collected on 2024-11-12

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 refers to the scope of the discipline(s) 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 inspection body and conformance with all applicable accreditation requirements for the scope of accreditation referenced 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 most activities.

REQUIREMENTS:

ISO/IEC 17020:2012 Conformity assessment – Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection & ANAB Accreditation Requirements for Forensic Inspection Bodies (AR 3120) evaluated over the accreditation cycle are summarized in the following broad categories:

General requirements related to the inspection body'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 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 subcontracting inspection services when applicable.

Process requirements related to the handling of inspection items in a manner to maintain the integrity of the item. Requirements for chain-of-custody of items collected 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 records and are reported correctly, accurately, clearly. Requirements for a documented process for handling complaints and appeals.

Management system requirements related to policies and objectives appropriate for the scope of activities. Requirements to control internal and external documents and records. Required procedures for corrective action and preventive actions. Requirements for an internal audit program and management reviews.

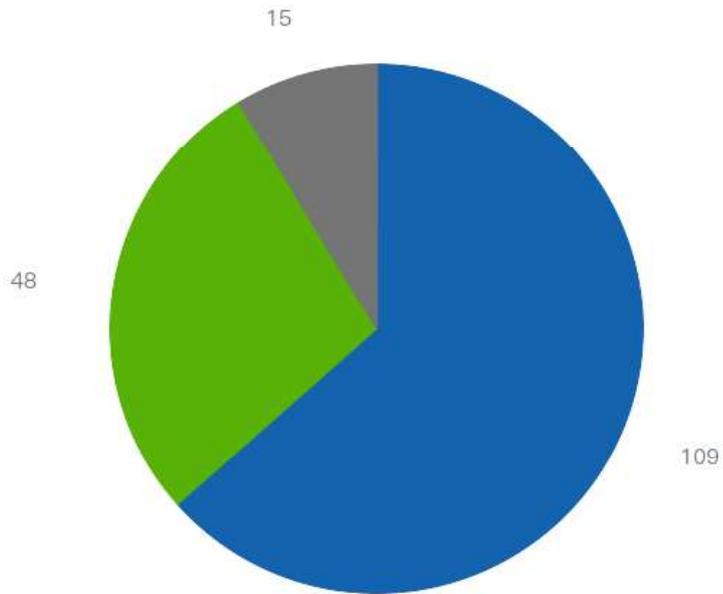
The accreditation activity also evaluates the inspection body's conformance with their own management system requirements.

ASSESSMENT RESULT:

Based on the assessment techniques and a sample of the objective evidence reviewed during the assessment activity, the assessment team found that the inspection body demonstrated competence to operate a management system that fulfills all applicable accreditation requirements, including those specified within their management system.

Any 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



December 6, 2024

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

Dear Director O'Neill,

Congratulations! On December 6, 2024, ANAB approved the continuation of your organization's accreditation based upon the results of your recent surveillance activity. Continuation of accreditation is a formal acknowledgement that your organization continues to operate in conformance with accreditation requirements. The report was provided to you during the assessment activity.

The provided ANAB accreditation symbol ([Testing](#)) 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 next assessment activity is a Reassessment scheduled for the week of October 19, 2025.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to quality and the accreditation process.

Sincerely,


Nita Bolz
Senior Manager of Accreditation
ANSI National Accreditation Board

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



ANSI National Accreditation Board

**SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION TO:
ISO/IEC 17025:2017
Accreditation Requirements for Forensic Testing and Calibration (2023)**

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

FORENSIC TESTING

ISO/IEC 17025 Accreditation Granted: 20 March 2008

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

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

Discipline: Fire Debris and Explosives		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Qualitative Determination	Explosive	Chemical Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy Gas Chromatography

This Scope of Accreditation, version 11, was last updated on: 06 December 2024 and is valid only when accompanied by the Certificate.

Page 1 of 4

		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	Measuring Equipment Visual
Individual Characteristic Database	Ammunition	National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN)
Physical Comparison	Ammunition	General Microscopy Visual
Qualitative Determination	Firearm Metal Nitrate/Nitrite	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

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

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 Measurement	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
2024 - 17025T - Surveillance Document Review
Prepared by Zaire Garcia

Data collected on 2024-10-01

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 refers to the scope of the discipline(s) assessed for each location. The assessment plan, together with this report, provide a complete picture of the accreditation activity.

The ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) evaluated the competence of the laboratory and conformance with all applicable accreditation requirements for the scope of accreditation referenced 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 most activities.

REQUIREMENTS:

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

General requirements related to the laboratory'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.

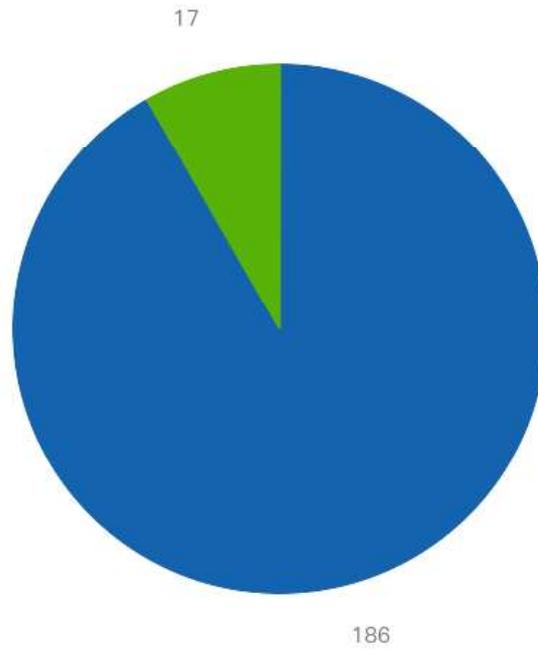
The accreditation activity also evaluates the laboratory's conformance with their own management system requirements.

ASSESSMENT RESULT:

Based on the assessment techniques and a sample of the objective evidence reviewed during the assessment activity, the assessment team found that the laboratory demonstrated competence to operate a management system that fulfills all applicable accreditation requirements, including those specified within their management system.

Any 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

dcjs.sm.forensiclabs

From: QualityMatters <qualitymatters@anab.org>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 12:38 PM
To: OSHEA, STEPHANIE
Cc: dcjs.sm.forensiclabs; ONEILL, SCOTT; SUCKOW, JEFFREY
Subject: RE: NYPD Police Laboratory (FT-0251)- Personnel Change

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Hello Stephanie,

Thank you for the notification.

Have a great day/weekend!

Mary

**Mary Kiella | ANAB
Coordinator, Operations**

ANSI National Accreditation Board
D.C. | Fort Wayne
Tel: 414.501.5364 | mkiella@anab.org
www.anab.org

ANAB Training - <https://anab.ansi.org/training/>

From: OSHEA, STEPHANIE <STEPHANIE.OSHEA@nypd.org>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 10:17 AM
To: QualityMatters <qualitymatters@anab.org>
Cc: dcjsforensiclabs@dcjs.ny.gov; ONEILL, SCOTT <SCOTT.ONEILL@nypd.org>; SUCKOW, JEFFREY <JEFFREY.SUCKOW@nypd.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NYPD Police Laboratory (FT-0251)- Personnel Change

Good morning,

This email is to notify that there has been a change in personnel. Lt. Michael Bopp, the Commanding Officer of the Firearms Analysis Section, has retired. Deputy Director Jeffrey Suckow is the acting Commanding Officer.

Stephanie O'Shea
Quality Assurance Manager
NYPD Police Laboratory
Office Phone: (718) 558-8729
Department Cell: (929) 920-4186

This e-mail is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an official report. Any specific questions should be directed to the examiner who conducted the analysis.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email and any attachments may contain confidential and privileged information for the use of the designated recipient(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this communication in error and that any review, use or disclosure of it or its contents is prohibited and may violate laws including the Electronic Communications Privacy Act. If you are not the

intended recipient, please contact the sender and destroy all copies of this communication. Please treat this and all other communications from the New York City Police Department as law enforcement sensitive/for official use only.



December 4, 2024

Andrea Lester
New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services
Latent Print Laboratory
80 South Swan Street
Albany, NY 12210

Dear Director Lester,

Congratulations! On December 4, 2024, 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 Team Leader. 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 by which ANAB monitors the CAB's on-going conformance are Program dependent and may include surveillance activities, CAB and personnel performance in proficiency testing and other monitoring activities, and CAB self-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 2025 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • November 2026 | Surveillance Assessment |
| • November 2027 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • November 2028 | Reassessment |

The provided ANAB accreditation symbol ([Testing](#)) 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.

Sincerely,



Janet M. Girten
Senior Accreditation Manager
ANSI National Accreditation Board

cc: Jennifer Alois, Laboratory Quality Manager
ANAB Office



CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

The ANSI National Accreditation Board

Hereby attests that

**New York State Division of Criminal Justice
Services Latent Print Laboratory
80 South Swan Street, Albany, New York 12210 USA**

Fulfills the requirements of

ISO/IEC 17025:2017

**Accreditation Requirements for Forensic Testing and
Calibration (2023)**

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.



Pamela L. Sale, Vice President, Forensics

Expiry Date: 31 March 2029
Certificate Number: FT-0001





ANSI National Accreditation Board

**SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION TO:
 ISO/IEC 17025:2017
 Accreditation Requirements for Forensic Testing and Calibration (2023)**

**New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services
 Latent Print Laboratory
 80 South Swan Street
 Albany, New York 12210 USA**

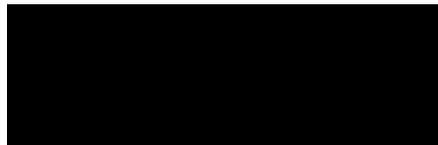
FORENSIC TESTING

ISO/IEC 17025 Accreditation Granted: 07 November 2016

Certificate Number: FT-0001 Certificate Expiry Date: 31 March 2029

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

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 State Division of Criminal Justice Services - Latent Print
Laboratory**

2024 - 17025T - Reassessment

Prepared by Lisa Brewer

Data collected on 2024-11-12

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 refers to the scope of the discipline(s) assessed for each location. The assessment plan, together with this report, provide a complete picture of the accreditation activity.

The ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) evaluated the competence of the laboratory and conformance with all applicable accreditation requirements for the scope of accreditation referenced 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 most activities.

REQUIREMENTS:

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

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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.

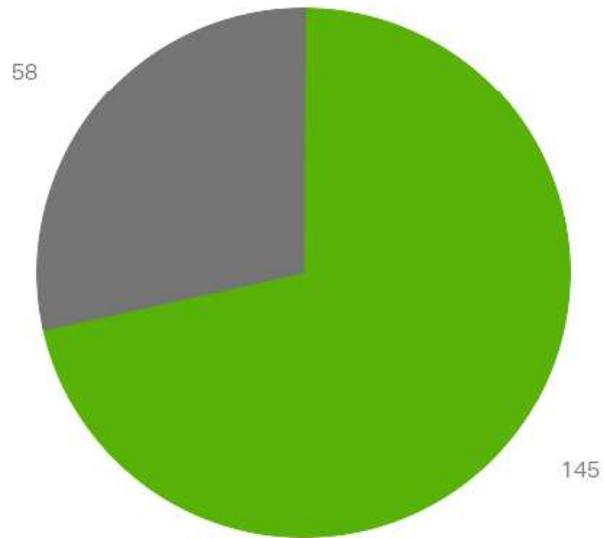
The accreditation activity also evaluates the laboratory's conformance with their own management system requirements.

ASSESSMENT RESULT:

Based on the assessment techniques and a sample of the objective evidence reviewed during the assessment activity, the assessment team found that the laboratory demonstrated competence to operate a management system that fulfills all applicable accreditation requirements, including those specified within their management system.

Any 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



DNA Subcommittee

November 26, 2024

MICHAEL COBLE, PH.D.
CHAIR
Center for Human Identification

FREDERICK BIEBER, PH.D.
Harvard Medical School

KATHLEEN CORRADO, PH.D.
Syracuse University

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 November 15, 2024, DNA Subcommittee (Subcommittee) meeting, members reviewed the final ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) Assessment Report for the Onondaga County Center for Forensic Sciences 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 Onondaga County Center for Forensic Sciences Laboratory in the discipline of Biology for the period concurrent with their ANAB accreditation. This accreditation is valid until January 31, 2029.



Michael Coble, Ph.D.
Chair, DNA Subcommittee

cc: Members of the Commission on Forensic Science
Shelley Palmer, Interim Director, OFS
Matthew Schrantz, Esq., Special Counsel



October 18, 2024

Ranee Ho
Onondaga County Center for
Forensic Sciences Laboratory
100 Elizabeth Blackwell Street
Syracuse, New York 13210

Dear Director Ho,

Congratulations! On October 17, 2024, 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 Team Leader. 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 by which ANAB monitors the CAB's on-going conformance are Program dependent and may include surveillance activities, CAB and personnel performance in proficiency testing and other monitoring activities, and CAB self-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:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| • September 2025 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • September 2026 | Surveillance Assessment |
| • September 2027 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • September 2028 | Reassessment |

The provided ANAB accreditation symbol ([Testing](#)) 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.

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.

Sincerely,



Nita Bolz
Senior Manager of Accreditation
ANSI National Accreditation Board

cc: Kathleen Hum, Quality Assurance Manager
ANAB Office



CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

The ANSI National Accreditation Board

Hereby attests that

**Onondaga County Center for
Forensic Sciences Laboratory**

100 Elizabeth Blackwell Street, Syracuse, New York 13210 USA

Fulfills the requirements of

ISO/IEC 17025:2017

Accreditation Requirements for Forensic Testing and Calibration (2023)

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.



Pamela L. Sale, Vice President, Forensics

Expiry Date: 31 January 2029
Certificate Number: FT-0229





ANSI National Accreditation Board

**SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION TO:
 ISO/IEC 17025:2017**

**Accreditation Requirements for Forensic Testing and Calibration (2023)
 FBI Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories:2020**

Onondaga County Center for Forensic Sciences Laboratory

100 Elizabeth Blackwell Street
 Syracuse, New York 13210 USA

FORENSIC TESTING

Expiry Date: 31 January 2029

Certificate Number: FT-0229

Discipline: Biology		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
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 General Microscopy Immunoassay

Discipline: Digital and Video/Imaging Technology and Analysis		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Acquisition/Extraction	Digital Data	Software Program
Content Analysis	Digital Data	Software Program Visual

Discipline: Fire Debris and Explosives		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
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	Measuring Equipment Visual
Individual Characteristic Database	Ammunition	National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN)
Physical Comparison	Ammunition	General Microscopy Visual
Qualitative Determination	Ammunition Firearm	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

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



Onondaga County Center for Forensic Sciences Laboratory

2024 - 17025T - Reassessment

Prepared by Lori Nix

Data collected on 2024-09-16

ANSI National Accreditation Board

United States

Description

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REQUIREMENTS:

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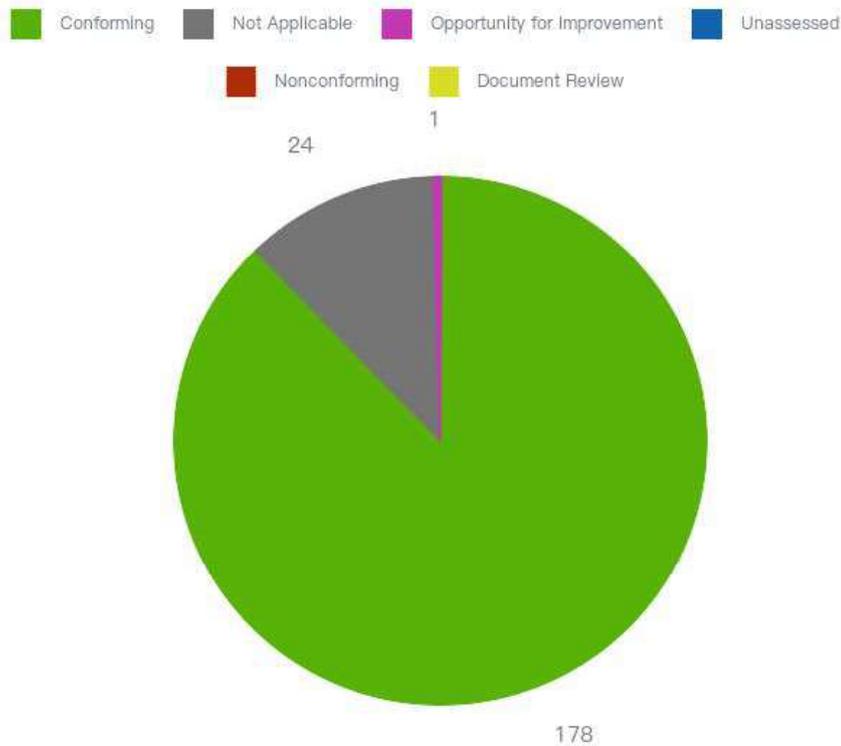
The accreditation activity also evaluates the laboratory's conformance with their own management system requirements.

ASSESSMENT RESULT:

Based on the assessment techniques and a sample of the objective evidence reviewed during the assessment activity, the assessment team found that the laboratory demonstrated competence to operate a management system that fulfills all applicable accreditation requirements, including those specified within their management system.

Any 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

8.7 Corrective actions (Option A)

8.7.1.g) ANAB Accreditation Requirement

Opportunity for Improvement : 0

Requirement

g) Does the process for corrective action establish a reasonable timeframe for completion for each corrective action?

Comments

The laboratory may benefit from standardizing the process for establishing a timeframe for completion of each corrective action.



DNA Subcommittee

November 26, 2024

MICHAEL COBLE, PH.D.
CHAIR
Center for Human Identification

FREDERICK BIEBER, PH.D.
Harvard Medical School

KATHLEEN CORRADO, PH.D.
Syracuse University

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 November 15, 2024, DNA Subcommittee (Subcommittee) meeting, members reviewed the final ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) Assessment Report for the Westchester County Department of Laboratories & Research, Division of Forensic Science.

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 Westchester County Department of Laboratories & Research, Division of Forensic Science in the discipline of Biology for the period concurrent with their ANAB accreditation. This accreditation is valid until October 31, 2028.

Very truly yours,



Michael Coble, Ph.D.
Chair, DNA Subcommittee

cc: Members of the Commission on Forensic Science
Shelley Palmer, Interim Director, OFS
Matthew Schrantz, Esq., Special Counsel



August 15, 2024

Lydia De Castro
Westchester County Department
of Laboratories & Research Division
of Forensic Science
10 Dana Road
Vallhalla, New York 10595

Dear Director De Castro,

Congratulations! On August 15, 2024 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 Team Leader. 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 by which ANAB monitors the CAB's on-going conformance are Program dependent and may include surveillance activities, CAB and personnel performance in proficiency testing and other monitoring activities, and CAB self-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:

- | | |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| • June 2025 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • June 2026 | Surveillance Assessment |
| • June 2027 | Surveillance Document Review |
| • June 2028 | Reassessment |

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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.

Sincerely,



Jami St Clair
Senior Manager of Accreditation
ANSI National Accreditation Board

cc: Jennifer Reilly, Quality Manager
ANAB Office



CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

The ANSI National Accreditation Board

Hereby attests that

**Westchester County Department of
Laboratories & Research
Division of Forensic Science
10 Dana Road, Valhalla, New York 10595 USA**

Fulfills the requirements of

ISO/IEC 17025:2017

**Accreditation Requirements for Forensic Testing and Calibration (2023)
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.



Pamela L. Sale, Vice President, Forensics

Expiry Date: 31 October 2028
Certificate Number: FT-0155





ANSI National Accreditation Board

**SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION TO:
ISO/IEC 17025:2017**

**Accreditation Requirements for Forensic Testing and Calibration (2023)
FBI Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories: 2020**

**Westchester County Department of Laboratories & Research
Division of Forensic Science**

10 Dana Road
Valhalla, New York 10595 USA

FORENSIC TESTING

Expiry Date: 31 October 2028

Certificate Number: FT-0155

Discipline: Biology		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
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	Chemical General Microscopy Immunoassay

Discipline: Digital and Video/Imaging Technology and Analysis		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Field Sampling	Physical Item	Not Applicable
Acquisition/Extraction	Image Multimedia Recording Video	Software Program
Authentication	Image Multimedia Recording Video	Software Program

Content Analysis	Image Multimedia Recording Video	Software Program Visual
Enhancement	Image Multimedia Recording Video	Software Program
Physical Comparison	Image Multimedia Recording Video	Software Program Visual
Reconstruction	Inspection/Test Result Other Information Physical Item	Software Program
Transcoding	Image Multimedia Recording Video	Software Program

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

Discipline: Firearms and Toolmarks		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Distance Determination	Physical Item	Chemical General Microscopy Measuring Equipment
Qualitative Determination	Metal Nitrate/Nitrite	Chemical General Microscopy

Discipline: Impressions		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Field Sampling	Physical Item	Not Applicable
Enhancement	Footwear Physical Item Tire	Chemical Physical Software Program

Physical Comparison	Footwear Physical Item Tire	General Microscopy Software Program Visual
Qualitative Determination	Footwear Physical Item Tire	Reference Collection

Discipline: Materials (Trace)		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Field Sampling	Physical Item	Not Applicable
Chemical/ Physical Comparison	Adhesive Coating Fiber/Textile Fractured Item Polymer Tape	Chemical Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy Fluorescence Spectroscopy Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy Mass Spectrometry Microspectrophotometry Scanning Electron Microscopy Visual
Qualitative Determination	Adhesive Coating Fiber/Textile Glass Gunshot Residue Hair Polymer Tape	Chemical Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy Fluorescence Spectroscopy Gas Chromatography General Microscopy Infrared Spectroscopy Mass Spectrometry Microspectrophotometry Reference Collection Scanning Electron Microscopy Visual

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

Quantitative Measurement	Botanical Liquid Solid	Gas 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



ANSI National Accreditation Board

**SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION TO:
 ISO/IEC 17025:2017**

Accreditation Requirements for Forensic Testing and Calibration (2023)

**Westchester County Department of Laboratories & Research:
 Division of Forensic Toxicology**

10 Dana Road
 Valhalla, New York, 10595 USA

FORENSIC TESTING

ISO/IEC 17025 Accreditation Granted: 08 May 2023

Certificate Number: FT-0385

Certificate Expiry Date: 31 July 2027

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



**Westchester County Department of
Laboratories & Research:
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FT-0385

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