



Commission on Forensic Science

December 11, 2025

Division of Criminal Justice Services

80 South Swan Street, Room 348
Albany, NY 12210

Video Conference Locations:

666 Old Country Road, Suite 700
Garden City, NY 11530

02:37 PM – 4:11 PM

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Commission Members in Attendance:

Pasquale Buffolino, Ph.D.

Lydia de Castro

Steven Epstein, Esq.

Jessica Goldthwaite, Esq.

Michael Marciano, Ph.D.

Erin Murphy, Esq.

Shelley Palmer

Beverly Rauch

Michelli Schmitz

Rachel Singer, Esq. (non-voting proxy for William Fitzpatrick, Esq.)

Ann Willey, Ph.D.¹

DCJS Staff in Attendance:

Taylor Aaron

Dean DeFruscio

Colleen Glavin, Esq.

Katherine Mayberry

Joseph Popcun

Brianna Robinson

Lindsey Rockwell

Matthew Schrantz, Esq.

Elizabeth Suparmanto

¹ In accordance with a resolution and related procedures regarding the use of videoconferencing under extraordinary circumstances, which were adopted by the Commission on Forensic Science on June 9, 2023, and added to its bylaws, Dr. Ann Willey participated by video conferencing from a private location due to extraordinary circumstances.

Other Attendees:

Jill Dooley – New York State Police Crime Laboratory
 Pam Sale –ANSI National Accreditation Board
 Christian Westring – Niagara County Sheriff's Office Forensic Laboratory

	<i>Approximate video times</i>
Ms. Palmer opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to an informational session regarding the Organization of Scientific Area Committees on Forensic Science (OSAC). The members present in Albany and virtually were Dr. Buffolino, Ms. de Castro, Mr. Epstein, Ms. Goldthwaite, Dr. Marciano, Ms. Murphy, Ms. Rauch, Ms. Schmitz and Dr. Willey ¹ . Ms. Palmer then noted that Rachel Singer was joining the meeting as the designated participant on behalf of the Honorable William Fitzpatrick.	00:00:00 – 00:03:11
Ms. Palmer then introduced Lindsey Rockwell, from Office of Forensic Services. Ms. Rockwell provided a verbal update on the data gathered from the New York State laboratories regarding their implementation of standards from the OSAC registry within their systems. Special Counsel to the Commission, Matthew Schrantz, then provided the guidelines for the meeting.	00:03:12– 00:05:42
The following speakers addressed the Commission:	00:06:29 –
○ John Paul Jones, National Institute of Standards and Technology	00:34:25
○ Pam Sale, ANSI National Accreditation Board	00:35:10 – 00:51:26
○ Rebecca Hartman, Monroe County Office of the Medical Examiner Forensic Toxicology Laboratory	00:51:56 – 01:04:53
Ms. Palmer then opened the floor for additional questions from Commission members. Mr. Epstein left the meeting at 3:14 pm and Ms. Singer left the meeting at 4:01 pm.	01:04:54 – 01:33:45
Ms. Palmer thanked the speakers and concluded the informational session.	01:33:46 01:34:20
Note: Video of the meeting is available at https://www.youtube.com/user/nyspublicsafety	



Commission on Forensic Science

December 12, 2025

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

Video Conference Locations:
445 Hamilton Avenue, Suite 1203, White Plains, NY 10601
666 Old Country Road, Suite 700, Garden City, NY 11530

09:03 AM – 12:48 PM

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Commission Members in Attendance:

Lt.Col. Nicholas Banbury
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.
Shelley Palmer
Beverly Rauch
Rossana Rosado
Michelli Schmitz
Rachel Singer, Esq. (non-voting proxy for William Fitzpatrick, Esq.)
Ann Willey, Ph.D.²

DCJS Staff in Attendance:

Taylor Aaron
Dean DeFruscio
Colleen Glavin, Esq.
Katherine Mayberry
Joseph Popcun
Brianna Robinson
Lindsey Rockwell

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

² In accordance with a resolution and related procedures regarding the use of videoconferencing under extraordinary circumstances, which were adopted by the Commission on Forensic Science on June 9, 2023, and added to its bylaws, Dr. Ann Willey participated by video conferencing from a private location due to extraordinary circumstances.

Matthew Schrantz, Esq.
Elizabeth Suparmanto

Other Attendees:

Michelle Adams - New York State Police Crime Laboratory
Jennifer Alois - NYS DCJS Latent Print Laboratory
Julia Becker - New York State Police Crime Laboratory
Jamie Belrose - New York State Police Crime Laboratory
Kathleen Corrado - DNA Subcommittee
Michael Coble - DNA Subcommittee
Jill Dooley - New York State Police Crime Laboratory
Nichole Hurbanek - New York State Police Crime Laboratory
Jolin Koch - New York State Police Crime Laboratory
Tom Leach - New York State Police Crime Laboratory
Andrea Lester - NYS DCJS Latent Print Laboratory
Julie Pizziketti - New York State Police Crime Laboratory
Pam Sale - ANSI National Accreditation Board
Anthula Vandoros – New York State Police Crime Laboratory
Christian Westring - Niagara County Sheriff's Office Forensic Laboratory

Chair Rosado opened the meeting by thanking those that participated in the OSAC Informational Session the day before. Chair Rosado announced Dr. Buffolino's resignation from the Commission and thanked him for his years of service. Chair Rosado went on to congratulate Ms. Palmer on her appointment to the Commission and then noted that Rachel Singer was joining the meeting as the designated participant on behalf of the Honorable William Fitzpatrick. Chair Rosado stated that she was attending virtually, and that Ms. Palmer would run the meeting.

*Approximate
video times*

00:00:00 –
00:01:53

Ms. Palmer proceeded to take a roll call as members were in attendance in Albany and virtually. A quorum was established with 11 voting members (Banbury, Buffolino, de Castro, Epstein, Goldthwaite, Marciano, Murphy, Palmer, Rauch, Rosado, and Schmitz); one member participated and voted from a private location due to extraordinary circumstances (Willey³).

00:01:54–
00:02:32

Ms. Palmer then requested a motion to approve the December 12, 2025, agenda. The motion to approve the agenda was made by Dr. Buffolino, seconded by Ms. Schmitz and approved unanimously (Banbury, Buffolino, de Castro, Epstein, Goldthwaite, Marciano, Murphy, Palmer, Rauch, Rosado, Schmitz, and Willey).

00:02:34 –
00:03:05

Then Ms. Palmer requested a motion to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2025, Commission meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Murphy, seconded by Ms. de Castro and approved with 11 votes (Banbury, Buffolino, de Castro, Epstein, Goldthwaite, Marciano, Murphy, Rauch, Rosado, Schmitz, and Willey) and 1 abstention (Palmer).

00:03:06 –
00:03:40

³ See FN 2.

Approximate
video times

Ms. Palmer 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 Ms. de Castro, seconded by Ms. Rauch, and was approved with 11 votes (Banbury, Buffolino, de Castro, Epstein, Marciano, Murphy, Palmer, Rauch, Rosado, Schmitz, and Willey), and 1 opposed (Goldthwaite). The Commission adjourned into Executive Session at 9:06am.

00:03:43–
00:04:31

Executive Session concluded at 9:14 am and Ms. Palmer indicated that the Commission took no formal action during Executive Session.

00:06:48 –
00:06:54

The next agenda item to be reviewed was Accreditation/Laboratory Updates. Matters regarding the following laboratories were considered: Nassau County Office of the Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, New York City OCME Department of Forensic Biology, New York City Police Department Latent Print Section, New York City Police Department Police Laboratory, New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Latent Print Laboratory, Onondaga County Center for Forensic Sciences Laboratory, Suffolk County Crime Laboratory, Westchester County Department of Laboratories & Research Division of Forensic Toxicology, and Westchester County Department of Public Safety Crime Laboratory. Representatives from the laboratories were available in person or via Zoom to respond to members' questions.

00:06:55 –
00:25:42

The Commission reviewed the final documentation from the ANAB reaccreditation assessment activity of the New York City Police Department Police Laboratory. Ms. de Castro made a motion to issue a full renewal of the laboratory's New York State Accreditation for a period concurrent with their ANAB accreditation. Dr. Marciano seconded the motion. The motion was approved with 10 votes (Banbury, Buffolino, de Castro, Epstein, Marciano, Palmer, Rauch, Rosado, Schmitz, and Willey), and 2 opposed (Goldthwaite and Murphy).

00:12:37
00:16:50

The Commission reviewed the Suffolk County Crime Laboratory's ANAB reaccreditation assessment documentation and the binding recommendation of the DNA Subcommittee. Ms. de Castro made a motion to accept the binding recommendation of the DNA Subcommittee and issue a full renewal of the laboratory's New York State Accreditation concurrent with their ANAB accreditation. Dr. Buffolino seconded the motion, and it was approved with 10 votes (Banbury, Buffolino, de Castro, Epstein, Marciano, Palmer, Rauch, Rosado, Schmitz, and Willey), and 2 opposed (Goldthwaite and Murphy).

00:17:43
00:24:43

The next agenda item was Old Business. Ms. Palmer provided the Commission members with a verbal update on the Familial Search Program. Next the Chair of the DNA Subcommittee, Dr. Coble, and Subcommittee member Dr. Corrado, were present to take questions regarding the Subcommittee's responses to the *Forensic DNA Interpretation and Human Factors: Improving Practice Through a Systems Approach* and the *DNA Mixture Interpretation: A NIST Scientific Foundation Review* papers. A motion was made by Ms. Murphy for the Biology Technical Working Group (BIOTWG) to consider and digest and report back by the end of 2026, on the two letters that were provided by the subgroups of the Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Ms. Goldthwaite and approved unanimously.

00:25:44 –
01:22:4101:21:50 –
01:22:18

The Commission took a break at 10:30 am and returned at 10:41 am⁴.

*Approximate
video times*

Next in Old Business, the OSAC Registry was discussed by Commission members. Lindsey Rockwell, from the Office of Forensic Services, provided an update from the information gathered from the laboratories regarding the implementation of OSAC Registry standards. After robust conversation, a motion was made by Dr. Marciano for the Commission to direct the Office of Forensic Services to conduct an annual survey of the laboratories review and consideration of new or revised standards, including OSAC, and share such results with the Commission for discussion to continue to advance the delivery of forensic sciences. The motion was seconded by Ms. de Castro and approved unanimously.

01:23:00 –
02:27:22

02:25:25 –
02:26:27

Ms. Palmer then went into New Business. Pam Sale from ANSI National Accreditation Board was present to provide a brief overview and take questions regarding their new online platform, Audeee. The Commission went on to discuss the New York State Police Crime Laboratory's validation study and the DNA Subcommittee's binding recommendation of Next Generation Sequencing using the MiSeq FGx System with the Forenseq™ Kintelligence Kit. A motion was made by Ms. Murphy to table the consideration of the binding recommendation, pending further information, that will be received at the March meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Epstein and passed with 11 votes (Banbury, Buffolino, de Castro, Epstein, Goldthwaite, Murphy, Palmer, Rauch, Rosado, Schmitz, and Willey), and 1 abstention (Marciano).

02:27:23–
02:54:31

02:53:01 –
02:54:20

Next, the Commission reviewed disclosures from: Monroe County Crime Laboratory, Nassau County Office of the Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Toxicology, New York City Police Department Police Laboratory, New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Latent Print Laboratory, New York State Police Crime Laboratory, Suffolk County Crime Laboratory, Suffolk County Medical Examiner Toxicology Laboratory, Westchester County Department of Laboratories & Research Division of Forensic Science, and New York City OCME Department of Forensic Biology. Representatives from laboratories were available in person or via Zoom to respond to members' questions.

02:54:32 –
03:28:20

Ms. Palmer then stated the next Commission meeting will take place on March 13, 2026, with the location to be determined. A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Schmitz, seconded by Ms. Rauch, and approved unanimously.

03:28:21
03:29:17

Note: Video of the meeting is available at <https://www.youtube.com/user/nyspublicsafety>

⁴ Ms. Singer returned at 10:47 am.



February 9, 2026

Director Angela Soler, Ph.D.
New York City Office of Chief Medical Examiner
Forensic Anthropology Unit
520 1st Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Dr. Soler,

Congratulations! On December 31, 2025, ANAB made the decision to maintain your organization's accreditation in the Field of Forensic Inspection. ANAB is satisfied that your organization meets or exceeds accreditation requirements, including the requirements of your own documented management system.

The report was provided to you during the assessment activity.

The provided ANAB accreditation symbols ([Forensic Inspection](#)) 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 November 15, 2026.

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



Christopher Hamburg
Associate Director of Accreditation

cc: Jennifer Odien, Ph.D., Assistant Director
New York DCJS



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

2025 - 17020 - Y3 - Surveillance Assessment Without Witnessing

Prepared by Lynn Langford

Data collected on 2025-11-01

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, 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.

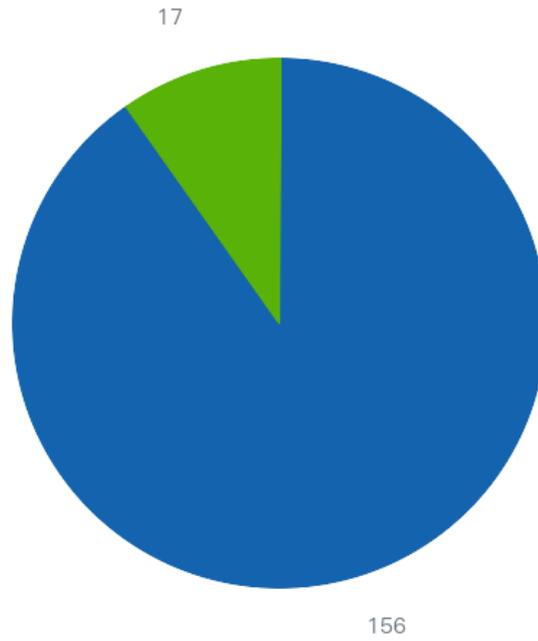
The accreditation activity also evaluates the inspection body's conformance with their own management system requirements.

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 Objective Evidence



Audit Objective Evidence

dcjs.sm.forensiclabs

From: Odien, Jennifer (OCME) <JOdien@ocme.nyc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 1:25 PM
To: Hamburg, Chris
Cc: dcjs.sm.forensiclabs
Subject: NYC OCME FAU Personnel update

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

Hi Chris,

I just want to keep you posted on our lab's personnel updates. I have been officially promoted to Assistant Director of the Forensic Anthropology Unit. In addition, our previous Postdoctoral fellow has been hired as a full-time employee and our new Postdoctoral Fellow has just begun her fellowship.

I hope you had a nice holiday season. Happy New Year!

Best,
Jen

Jennifer K. Odien, PhD, D-ABFA
Assistant Director of Forensic Anthropology
City of New York
Office of Chief Medical Examiner
520 First Avenue
New York, New York, 10016
Tel: 212-447-2767
WTC Hotline: 212-447-7884
Email: JOdien@ocme.nyc.gov
Web: <http://www.nyc.gov/ocme>



Click [HERE](#) to provide feedback for the Forensic Anthropology Unit

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December 5, 2025

Craig O'Connor
New York City Office of Chief Medical Examiner
Department of Forensic Biology
421 East 26th Street
New York, NY 10016

Dear Director O'Connor,

Congratulations! On December 4, 2025, ANAB made the decision to maintain your organization's accreditation in the Field of Forensic Testing. ANAB is satisfied that your organization meets or exceeds accreditation requirements, including the requirements of your own documented management system.

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 Assessment without Witnessing scheduled for October 2026.

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

Sincerely,


Nita Bolz
Senior Manager of Accreditation
ANSI National Accreditation Board

cc: Meredith Rosenberg, Laboratory Deputy Director
Kyra McKay, Laboratory Assistant Director/Quality Assurance Manager
New York DCJS
ANAB Office



**Division of State Police
Crime Laboratory System**

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

STEVEN G. JAMES
Superintendent

DR. JILL M. DOOLEY
Director



December 29, 2025

Pamela Sale
Vice President, Forensics
ANSI National Accreditation Board
2000 Regency Parkway, Suite 430
Cary, North Carolina 27518

RE: Change in Management: Assistant Director / NYSP Crime Laboratory System

Ms. Sale:

Please be advised that Major Michael A. Jankowiak will retire as the Assistant Laboratory Director, effective December 30, 2025.

Sincerely,



Dr. Jill M. Dooley

JMD/jdb



**Division of State Police
Crime Laboratory System**

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

STEVEN G. JAMES
Superintendent

DR. JILL M. DOOLEY
Director



December 29, 2025

Pamela Sale
Vice President, Forensics
ANSI National Accreditation Board
2000 Regency Parkway, Suite 430
Cary, North Carolina 27518

RE: Change in Management: Staff Inspector / NYSP Crime Laboratory System

Ms. Sale:

Please be advised that Major Mary A. Barrette will be appointed to Staff Inspector and will oversee all laboratory system operations, effective January 1, 2026.

Sincerely,



Dr. Jill M. Dooley

JMD/jdb



March 10, 2026

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

Dear Director Westring,

Congratulations! On March 6, 2026, ANAB made the decision to grant accreditation to your organization/maintain your organization's accreditation in the Field of Forensic Testing. ANAB is satisfied that your organization meets or exceeds accreditation requirements, including the requirements of your own documented management system.

To retain accredited status until the expiry date on the Certificate of Accreditation, a conformity assessment body (CAB) is expected to continue to meet the Requirements under which it was accredited, as well as the responsibilities and obligations of ANAB's Terms and Conditions for Accreditation. The principal means by which ANAB monitors on-going conformance are Program dependent and may include surveillance activities, CAB and personnel performance in proficiency testing and other monitoring activities, complaints, and CAB self-disclosure of significant events and nonconformities.

The planned surveillance activity and reassessment schedule is listed below:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------|
| • February 2027 | Surveillance Assessment without Witnessing |
| • February 2028 | Surveillance Assessment with Witnessing |
| • February 2029 | Surveillance Assessment without Witnessing |
| • February 2030 | Reassessment |

The provided ANAB accreditation symbol ([Forensic 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 and 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.

Sincerely,



Bradford A. Putnam
Senior Director of Accreditation, Forensics
ANSI National Accreditation Board

cc: Kevin Condel, Quality Manager
NY DCJS
ANAB Office



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

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: 30 June 2030
Certificate Number: FT-0311





ANSI National Accreditation Board

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

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

FORENSIC TESTING

ISO/IEC 17025 Accreditation Granted: 11 June 2013

Certificate Number: FT-0311

Certificate Expiry Date: 30 June 2030

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

Discipline: Firearms and Toolmarks		
Component/Parameter	Item	Key Equipment/Technology
Function Evaluation	Firearm	Measuring Equipment Visual
Physical Comparison	Ammunition	General Microscopy Visual
Qualitative Determination	Ammunition Firearm	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 Solid	Balance

Discipline: Toxicology - General Testing		
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



Niagara County Sheriff's Office - Forensic Laboratory
2026 - 17025 - Y4 - Reassessment
Prepared by Deedra Hughes

Data collected on 2026-02-23

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.

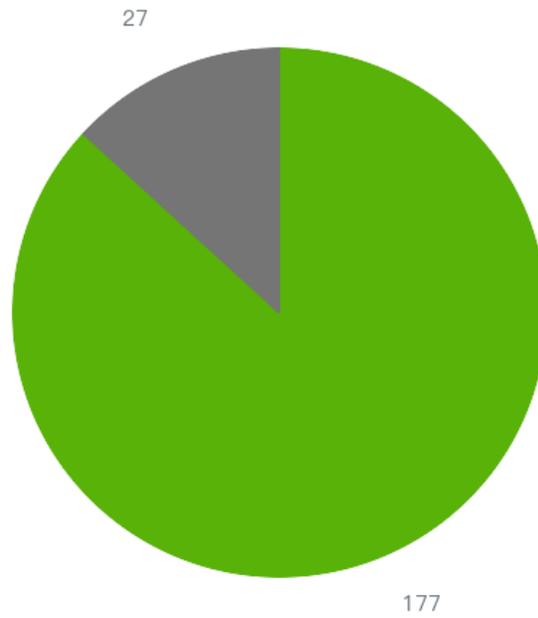
The accreditation activity also evaluates the laboratory's conformance with their own management system requirements.

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 Objective Evidence



Audit Objective Evidence



**Division of Criminal
Justice Services**

RECEIVED 3/4/2026 Office of Forensic Services



ANSI National Accreditation Board

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

2026 - 17025 - Y3 - Surveillance Assessment without Witnessing

Prepared by Terry Mills

Data collected on 2026-03-01

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.

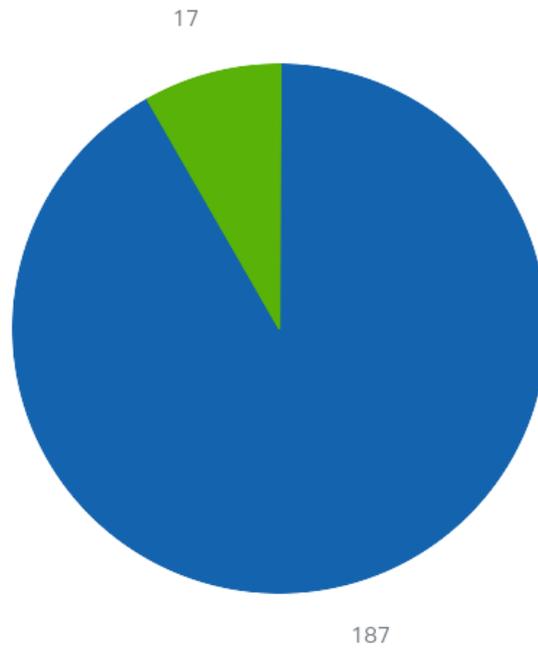
The accreditation activity also evaluates the laboratory's conformance with their own management system requirements.

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 Objective Evidence



Audit Objective Evidence



Commission on Forensic Science



ROSSANA ROSADO
Chair
New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services

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New York State Police

PASQUALE BUFFOLINO, PH.D.
Nassau County Office of the Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services

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New York State Department of Health

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ANN WILLEY, J.D., PH.D.

January 6, 2026

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Dear Biology TWG Chairs Laureano and Williamson:

At the December 12, 2025, Commission on Forensic Science (Commission) meeting, the Commission discussed the letters from the DNA Subcommittee (Subcommittee) regarding the *Forensic DNA Interpretation and Human Factors: Improving Practice Through a Systems Approach* and the *DNA Mixture Interpretation: A NIST Scientific Foundation Review* papers. A motion was made for the Biology Technical Working Group (BIOTWG) to review and evaluate the recommendations provided to them by the Subcommittee.

The BIOTWG should provide a response regarding the recommendations to both the DNA Subcommittee and Commission on Forensic Science prior to the end of 2026.

Sincerely,



Rossana Rosado
Chair

Attachment
cc: Matthew Schrantz, Esq., Special Counsel