# Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting June 14, 2019



#### HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER, INC.

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING June 14, 2019

Notice is hereby given that beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the date set out above, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of the Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc. (the "Corporation") will meet in the Council Annex Chambers, 900 Bagby St. (Public Level), Houston, Texas 77002. The items listed below may be taken out of order at the discretion of the Chair and any items listed for closed session may be discussed and/or approved in open session and vice versa as permitted by law.

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Call to order.
- 2. Roll call; confirmation of presence of quorum.
- 3. Consider annual appointment of corporate officers: Dr. Peter Stout as president, Dr. Amy Castillo as vice president, Mr. David Leach as treasurer and Ms. Jordan Benton as secretary.
- 4. Reading of draft minutes of April 12, 2019 Board meeting. Consideration of proposed corrections, if any. Approval of minutes.
- 5. Public comment.
- 6. Report from Nicole Casarez, board chair, including a monthly update of activities and other announcements.
- 7. Consider a conflict of interest disclosure from Vice Chair Sandra Guerra Thompson relating to a pending federal grant application by the Corporation and possible related action.
- 8. Consider extending the May 2019 deadline for the Board's annual performance review of Dr. Peter Stout, president and CEO, and the June 1, 2019 deadline for submission of Dr. Stout's proposed list of annual priorities and performance objectives and possible related action.

#### Reports and presentations by corporate officers, and possible related action items

- 9. Report from Dr. Stout including technical updates, outreach efforts, staffing changes and other corporate business items.
  - a. Presentation and update on bills passed by the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature that could potentially impact the Corporation's activities and budget.

- 10. Report from Mr. Leach, treasurer and CFO, regarding company financials and other fiscal updates.
  - a. Presentation by Mr. David Leach regarding proposed reallocations to the fiscal year budget and possible related action.
- 11. Monthly operations report from Dr. Amy Castillo, vice president and COO, including a review of turnaround times and backlogs.

#### Reports and presentations by staff

- 12. Report from Mr. Jerry Pena, director of CSU and digital multimedia evidence, on evidence collection, turnaround times and other updates.
- 13. Report from Mr. Charles Evans, director of business development, regarding the status of the Corporation's facility project and move to 500 Jefferson.
  - a. Consider authorizing the President and CEO to enter into a service agreement with Full Spectrum Analytics Inc. for the purchase of services relating to the move, testing and verification of Corporate lab instruments for a total contract amount not to exceed \$250,000, and possible related action.
- 14. Report from Mr. James Miller, manager of seized drugs, regarding House Bill 1325 which creates a mechanism in Texas for the legal production of hemp and the potential impact to the Corporation.
- 15. Report from Ms. Paula Evans, project engineer, regarding the outcome of a process improvement project that focused on returning to the Houston Police Department Property Room evidence created during analysis.
- 16. Report from Ms. Aimee Grimaldi, project engineer, regarding results from a process improvement project that created a better mechanism for handling and tracking evidence items that require analysis by more than one discipline.
- 17. Report from Ms. Erika Ziemak, assistant quality director, regarding quality assurance, including review of testimony monitoring, proficiency tests and corrective actions.
- 18. Adjournment.

#### -NOTICE REGARDING SPECIAL NEEDS -

Persons requiring accommodations for special needs may contact the HFSC at 713-929-6760 to arrange for assistance.

-NOTICE REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENT -

Members of the public may address the Board during the "Public Comment" segment of the meeting. Each speaker should limit his or her comments to three minutes. The Chairman may limit both the number of speakers and the time allotted for each speaker. A speaker who plans to submit a document for the Board's consideration should provide at least ten copies of the document, each marked with the speaker's name.

#### - NOTICE REGARDING CLOSED MEETINGS -

As authorized by Texas Government Code Chapter 551.001 (the "Open Meetings Act",) if during the course of the meeting covered by this Notice, the Board should determine that a closed or executive session of the Board should be held or is required in relation to any items included in this Notice, then such closed or executive session as authorized by Section 551.001 et seq. of the Texas Government Code (the Open Meetings Act) will be held by the Board at the date, hour and place given in this Notice or as soon after the commencement of the noticed open meeting, for any and all purposes permitted by Section 551.071-551.089, inclusive, of the Open Meetings Act.

The presiding officer shall announce that the Board will convene in a closed meeting; that is, in "a meeting to which the public does not have access," sometimes known as an "executive session." The presiding officer's announcement will identify the provision(s) of the Open Meetings Act permitted by Section 551.071-551.089 under which the closed meeting will be held. Should any final action or vote be required in the opinion of the Board with regard to any matter considered in such closed or executive session, then such final action or vote shall be taken only in a meeting open to the public, including reconvening the open meeting covered by this Notice.

### Certification of Posting of Notice of the Board of Directors ("the Board) of the Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc. (the "Corporation)

I, Jordan Benton, coordinator of board relations and executive administration, do hereby certify that a notice of this meeting was posted on Tuesday, the 11th day of June, 2019 in a place convenient to the public in the Council Annex Chambers, 900 Bagby Street. (Public Level), Houston, Texas 77002, and on the HFSC website as required by Section 551.002 et seq., Texas Government Code.

Given under my hand this the 11th day of June 2019.

Jordan Benton

#### HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER, INC.

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

June 14, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Agenda Action Item No.:	<b>3.</b> Consider annual appointment of corporate officers: Dr. Peter Stout as president, Dr. Amy Castillo as vice president, Mr. David Leach as treasurer and Ms. Jordan Benton as secretary.	
Subject:	The Board's annual appointment of corporate officers as required in HFSC's Bylaws.	
Background:	During the June 2018 meeting of the Board, HFSC's corporate officers were appointed, as follows: Dr. Peter Stout as president, Dr. Amy Castillo as vice president, Mr. David Leach as treasurer and Ms. Jordan Benton as secretary. The corporate officers are currently serving in their respective appointments and no resignations have been provided to the Chair.	
Executive Summary:	Pursuant to Section 5.01 of the Corporation's Bylaws, the Board shall appoint a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The appointed persons shall hold office until the next annual Board meeting, at which time the Board shall appoint or reappoint each officer. The Board may appoint any person to serve as a corporate officer, except the Board may not appoint a director of the Board. A description of each officer's position is found in Sections 5.03 - 5.06 of the Bylaws.	
Fiscal Impact:	No anticipated additional fiscal impact.	
Staff Recommendation:	Staff recommends approval.	
By:	Nicole Cásarez, Board Chair Legal review by General Counsel	

#### HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER, INC.

#### BYLAWS (excerpt)

#### **ARTICLE 5 – OFFICERS**

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**SECTION 5.03. PRESIDENT.** The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation and the Executive Director of the Houston Forensic Science Center. If and as authorized by the Board, the President may sign, with the Secretary or another officer of the Corporation, all bonds, notes, deeds, conveyances, assignments, mortgages, notes, contracts, and other instruments of any kind in the name of the Corporation. The President also shall perform other duties prescribed from time to time by the Board.

**SECTION 5.04. VICE PRESIDENT.** The Vice President shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President upon the President's death, absence, disability, resignation, or inability to perform the duties of the office, except that the Vice President shall not act as the Executive Director of the Houston Forensic Science Center without the Board's approval as evidenced by a resolution. The Vice President also shall perform other duties prescribed from time to time by the Board or by the President.

**SECTION 5.05. SECRETARY.** The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Board in one or more books provided for that purpose, see that all notices are duly given as required by law or by these Bylaws (specifically including Section 7.04 below), serve as custodian of the records of the Corporation, and in general perform the duties incident to the office of Secretary. The Secretary also shall perform other duties prescribed from time to time by the Board or by the President.

**SECTION 5.06. TREASURER.** The Treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of the Corporation and shall have custody of, and responsibility for, all funds of the Corporation. The Treasurer shall receive and give receipts for funds due and payable to the Corporation; deposit all funds of the Corporation in one or more depository institutions as provided by these Bylaws; and in general perform the duties incident to the office of Treasurer. The Treasurer also shall perform other duties prescribed from time to time or by the Board or by the President.

#### Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc.

# MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES April 12, 2019

The undersigned, being the duly appointed secretary of the Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc., (HFSC and/or the "Corporation") hereby certifies the following are true and correct minutes of the March 8, 2019 meeting of the Board of Directors (the "Board") of the Corporation.

- A. In a manner permitted by the Corporation's Bylaws, the meeting was called by providing all directors with notice of the date, time, place and purposes of the meeting more than three days before the date of the meeting.
- B. In accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, made applicable to the Corporation by Section 431.004, Texas Transportation Code, a notice of the meeting was duly posted on April 9, 2019, in the same manner and location as required by law of the City of Houston, Texas (the "City").
- C. The meeting was called to order by Nicole B. Cásarez, Board chairwoman, at approximately 9:00 a.m. on Friday April 12, 2019 in the Council Annex Chambers, 900 Bagby St. (Public Level), Houston, Texas 77002.
- D. Ms. Jordan Benton called the roll. The following directors were present: Nicole B. Cásarez, Anthony Graves, Philip Hilder, Francisco Medina, Dr. Robert "Bob" H. McPherson, Dr. Stacey Mitchell, Mary Lentschke and Ms. Tracy Calabrese

The following directors were absent: Sandra Guerra Thompson, Janet Blancett

Dr. McPherson arrived at the meeting at approximately 9:17 a.m. Chairwoman Cásarez declared a quorum was present

- E. Chairwoman Cásarez asked if any changes were needed for the March 8, 2019 Board meeting minutes. Dr. Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Medina seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. Chairwoman Cásarez asked if members of the public wished to address the Board. No one addressed the Board.
- G. Chairwoman Cásarez presented a chair's report. Ms. Cásarez shared that she and Vice Chair Thompson met with mayoral candidate Bill King. She said he expressed support for the lab and interest in touring the facility. The Chair said Dr. Stout will speak about Rapid DNA at the Quattrone Center in May. Ms. Cásarez thanked Mayor Sylvester Turner, renowned attorney Michael Bromwich and Ms. Sarah Chu from the Innocence Project for attending HFSC's 5-year anniversary celebration. She thanked HFSC staff for organizing the event and Mr. John

Quinlan, president of Jefferson Smith, LLC, for his sponsorship.

- H. Chairwoman Casarez presented a resolution confirming the Board's commitment to follow Section 551.143 of the Texas Government Code, conspiracy to circumvent the Texas Open Meetings Act, despite a recent ruling by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals that struck it down. Mr. Medina made a motion to adopt the resolution. Ms. Lentschke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- I. Dr. Peter Stout, president and CEO, presented the president's report. He reviewed HFSC's overall turnaround time and requests completed by section for March 2019. Dr. Stout shared monthly averages and gave a staffing update. Dr. Stout told the Board HFSC has already participated in 20 community outreach events since January, including the final session of the nation's first forensic science Explorer program led by HFSC volunteers and in cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America. Dr. Stout said Mr. Bromwich and Ms. Chu toured HFSC before the 5-year anniversary celebration.
- J. Dr. Stout requested authority to enter into a 60-month lease agreement with Agilent Technologies for an instrument in the toxicology section. The \$429,000 lease also includes instrument components, service and training. Mr. Hilder made a motion to authorize Dr. Stout's request. Dr. McPherson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- K. Mr. David Leach, chief financial officer and treasurer, requested approval to reallocate funds in the FY18 budget to better reflect spending, including the use of grant dollars. Dr. McPherson made a motion to approve the budget reallocations. Ms. Lentschke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- L. Mr. Leach reviewed the new General Accounting Standards Board (GASB) requirements that will impact monthly reporting. Mr. Leach said GASB no longer allows operations leases \_ only capital leases. This will require future changes to HFSC's income statement \_ which shows income earned and expenses incurred with no cash impacted \_ and to the balance sheet, which shows assets, liabilities and equity. The cash flow statement will also change.
- M. Dr. Amy Castillo, vice president and chief operations officer, presented an operations report. Dr. Castillo said at the next meeting, the operations report will feature screenshots from the new management dashboard, showcasing HFSC metrics in a single view. Dr. Castillo reviewed turnaround times by section. She updated the Board on the biology/DNA backlog elimination outsourcing project and said the target outsourcing end date is July, two months earlier than anticipated. The section's focus will now be on reviewing outsourced cases. Dr. Castillo updated the Board about additional staff training on how to input profiles into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS.) HFSC implemented the training after an internal audit found an error in how profiles were being uploaded that could have led to potential "hits" being missed.
- N. Mr. Jerry Pena, director of the crime scene (CSU) and digital multimedia units, said the digital and A/V sections are now fully operational a short time after moving into the new facility at 500 Jefferson. Mr. Pena said CSU is busy preparing for their May move. He said 20 crime scene investigators and supervisors are being trained to use 3D scanning technology.

- O. Mr. Charles Evans, director of business development, updated the Board about the lab's ongoing move to 500 Jefferson. Mr. Evans said moves one through three have been completed. By the end of May about 65 percent of staff will be housed in 500 Jefferson. Mr. Evans said the lab has handed back the space at 1301 Fannin with no additional costs incurred. He said the lab permit was submitted and expected to be received within the next week, and that the basement permit would come next.
- P. Mr. Evans requested approval for Dr. Stout to purchase lab furniture for the Corporation's new lab space on the 18<sup>th</sup> floor of 500 Jefferson, including \$99,220 in federal grant funds and \$235,432 to be received from Jefferson Smith, LLC., with a maximum purchase cost of up to \$350,000. Chairwoman Casarez made a motion to approve the purchase. Mr. Hilder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Q. Ms. Erika Ziemak, assistant quality division director, updated the Board on blind quality controls (BQC,) audits, disclosures, corrective actions, proficiency tests, transcript reviews and testimony data. She said the first blind verification in latent prints was submitted in March in latent prints section. The blind verification program in latent prints will allow a second examiner to review a completed case without knowing the findings of the initial examiner.
- R. Dr. McPherson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Medina seconded the motion. The meeting ADJOURNED at approximately 10:25 a.m.

By:	
Jordan Benton Secretary	
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#### HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER, INC.

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

June 14, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Agenda Action	7. Consider a conflict of interest disclosure from Vice Chair Sandra Guerra		
Item No.:	Thompson relating to a pending federal grant application by the Corporation and possible related action.		
Subject:	Consider information relating to the vice chair's conflict of interest disclosure and possible related action.		
Background:	HFSC submitted a grant application to the National Institute of Justice ("NIJ") for a federal grant solicitation. The submitted application included a proposal for HFSC to work with Duke University School of Law and the University of Houston, School of Law. Vice Chair Guerra Thompson is a faculty member at the University of Houston School of Law and would be the primary contact.		
	Chapter 171 of the Local Government Code ("LGC") states that a local public official who has a substantial interest in a business entity, shall file an affidavit stating the nature and extent of the interest, and abstain from further participation in the matter. LGC Chapter 176 requires a local government officer to file a conflicts disclosure statement if the local government entity is considering entering into an agreement with a vendor that has an employment relationship with the officer. The vice chair fulfilled both statutory obligations in May 2019 by filing disclosures with the secretary and chair of the board.		
Executive	HFSC's Financial Conflict of Interest policy restricts or prohibits transactions		
Summary:	involving interested persons, including Board directors. The policy requires full and prompt disclosure of all conflicts and sets forth procedures to resolve the conflict and avoid the appearance of impropriety. A conflict arises when an interested party has a substantial interest in an entity that is negotiating a transaction with HFSC or a transaction that could directly or indirectly benefit the interested person. Receiving a grant is a transaction under the policy. A director has a substantial interest in an entity if he or she receives more than \$2,500 or 10% of gross income from the business entity, whichever amount is less.  Pursuant to the policy, after an interested director discloses the potential conflict to		
	the Board chair, the Board shall determine if a conflict exists and resolve the conflict in a manner that is fair, reasonable, and the best interest of HFSC.		
Fiscal Impact:	No anticipated additional fiscal impact.		
Staff Recommendation:	No staff recommendation.		
By:	Nicole Casarez, Board Chair Legal review by General Counsel		



#### Sandra Guerra Thompson

Newell H. Blakely Chair & Criminal Justice Institute Director

June 11, 2019

To fellow members of the HFSC Board of Directors:

I have applied to participate on a grant project submitted by HFSC to provide training to attorneys and laboratory analysts regarding forensic science testimony. The grant application proposes for Brandon Garrett, a law professor at Duke University Law School, to participate as well. If awarded, I intend to resign my position on the Board of Directors in order to eliminate the conflict of interest. Otherwise, I plan to continue to serve on the Board.

Sincerely,

Sandra Guerra Thompson

Sandy Sky

Newell H. Blakely Chair

and Criminal Justice Institute Director



#### **Houston Forensic Science Center** Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement

This Houston Forensic Science Center ("HFSC") Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement is to be completed annually by all persons with decision-making authority regarding any HFSC contract or transaction. Completed forms should be submitted to the secretary of the Board of Directors by June 1 of each year.

- 1. I, <u>Sandra</u> G. <u>Hompson</u>, have received a copy of and have read and understand the HFSC Financial Conflict of Interest Policy (the "Policy"). I agree to comply with the Policy.
- 2. If I have an actual or perceived conflict of interest (as defined in the Policy), I will promptly disclose it as required by the Policy.
- 3. I do not have, nor am I negotiating, a contract or transaction (as defined in the Policy) with HFSC for goods or services (other than any employment contract that may exist between HFSC and me), and this statement is true with regard to any family member of mine (as family member is defined in the Policy).
- 4. I do not have (nor does a family member have) a financial interest in a contract or transaction that exists or is being negotiated between HFSC and any entity in which (a) I am (or a family member is) a director, officer, agent, partner, associate, employee, trustee, or legal representative or (b) I am (or a family member is) engaged in some other capacity.
- 5. I am not (nor is a family member) engaged in any capacity with a business or enterprise that competes with HFSC nor do I or a family member have a financial interest in a business or enterprise that competes with HFSC.
- 6. I do not and will not engage in any business or financial activity that adversely affects or is detrimental to the best interests of HFSC.
- 7. I will not accept gifts, gratuities, entertainment, or other favors from individuals or entities when the party offering the gift, gratuity, entertainment or favor does so under circumstances that might create the perception that such action was intended to influence me in the performance of my HFSC duties.

Check one of the following:

I agree with all of the statements in this Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement. My
statements concerning my family members are made to the best of my knowledge.

I cannot agree with a certain statement (or statements). Below I identify the statement(s) by number and disclose the following circumstances:

See attachment

SANDRA E, THOMPSON May 7, 2019
NAME PRINTED DATE

Rev. 9.3.15

Financial Conflict of Interest Issued By: Human Resources Director Uncontrolled When Printed

Document ID: 8348 Issue Date: 08/04/2017 Page 7 of 7 Attachment for Houston Forensic Science Center, Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement of Sandra G. Thompson, 5/7/19

• #3- I am an "interested person," as defined by the HFSC financial conflict of interest policy. I have a substantial interest in an entity (University of Houston Law Center) that has or is negotiating a potential contract or transaction with HFSC, namely a proposal to provide services to HFSC as a grant subrecipient, if selected. Pursuant to the policy, I have also disclosed this information to the Chair of the Board of Directors; recused myself from the decision-making process; will timely file a disclosure statement with the Corporate Secretary pursuant to Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code; as well as file an affidavit and abstain from voting pursuant to Section 171.004 of the Texas Local Government Code, should this matter be brought before the Board of Directors.

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICER CONFLICTS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

FORM CIS

(Instructions for completing and filing this form are provided on the next page.)

	g the form are provided on the flext page.)			
This questionnaire reflects changes m	OFFICE USE ONLY			
This is the notice to the appropriat government officer has become awa in accordance with Chapter 176, Loc	Date Received			
1 Name of Local Government Officer				
Sandra Guer	ra Thompson			
2 Office Held to Uston F	orensic Science Center			
Vice Chair, Board				
Name of vendor described by Se	ctions 176.001(7) and 176.003(a), Local Government	Code		
University of Houston (I, Sandra Thompson, Serving as the primary agent of the vendor).  Description of the nature and extent of each employment or other business relationship and each family relationship with vendor named in item 3.				
Description of the nature and extended with vendor named in item 3.	ent of each employment or other business relationship	o and each family relationship		
Employed by Univ	versity of Houston receiving to	V. 1.).		
exceeding \$2500	during the previous it man	the project		
5 List gifts accepted by the local g	ersity of Houston, receiving ta during the previous 12 men- overnment officer and any family member, if aggregated as \$100 during the 12-month period described by	ate value of the gifts accepted		
1	the true daming the 12 month period described by	Section 176.003(a)(2)(B).		
Date Gift Accepted	Description of Gift			
Date Gift Accepted	Description of Gift			
	Description of Gift			
	(attach additional forms as necessary)			
AFFIDAVIT	I swear under penalty of perjury that the above statement is that the disclosure applies to each family member (as define Government Code) of this local government officer. I also a covers the 12-month period described by Section 176.003(a)	ed by Section 176.001(2), Local acknowledge that this statement		
ELAINE IRENE FIALA My Notary ID # 128890725 Expires February 21, 2020	Signature of Local G	overnment Officer		
AFFIX NOTARY STAMP / SEAL ABO		n-th		
Sworn to and subscribed before me, by th		_, this the day		
Claime Trans St	certify which, witness my hand and seal of office.			
Signature of officer administering oath	Printed name of officer administering oath Titl	e of officer administering oath		

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICER CONFLICTS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Section 176.003 of the Local Government Code requires certain local government officers to file this form. A "local government officer" is defined as a member of the governing body of a local governmental entity; a director, superintendent, administrator, president, or other person designated as the executive officer of a local governmental entity; or an agent of a local governmental entity who exercises discretion in the planning, recommending, selecting, or contracting of a vendor. This form is required to be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than 5 p.m. on the seventh business day after the date on which the officer becomes aware of the facts that require the filing of this statement.

A local government officer commits an offense if the officer knowingly violates Section 176.003, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.

Refer to chapter 176 of the Local Government Code for detailed information regarding the requirement to file this form.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

The following numbers correspond to the numbered boxes on the other side.

- 1. Name of Local Government Officer. Enter the name of the local government officer filing this statement.
- 2. Office Held. Enter the name of the office held by the local government officer filing this statement.
- **3. Name of vendor described by Sections 176.001(7) and 176.003(a), Local Government Code.** Enter the name of the vendor described by Section 176.001(7), Local Government Code, if the vendor: a) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A), Local Government Code; b) has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), Local Government Code; or c) has a family relationship with the local government officer as defined by Section 176.001(2-a), Local Government Code.
- **4. Description of the nature and extent of each employment or other business relationship and each family relationship with vendor named in item 3.** Describe the nature and extent of the employment or other business relationship the vendor has with the local government officer or a family member of the officer as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A), Local Government Code, and each family relationship the vendor has with the local government officer as defined by Section 176.001(2-a), Local Government Code.
- 5. List gifts accepted, if the aggregate value of the gifts accepted from vendor named in item 3 exceeds \$100. List gifts accepted during the 12-month period (described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), Local Government Code) by the local government officer or family member of the officer from the vendor named in item 3 that in the aggregate exceed \$100 in value.
- 6. Affidavit. Signature of local government officer.

<u>Local Government Code § 176.001(2-a)</u>: "Family relationship" means a relationship between a person and another person within the third degree by consanguinity or the second degree by affinity, as those terms are defined by Subchapter B, Chapter 573, Government Code.

#### Local Government Code § 176.003(a)(2)(A):

- (a) A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to a vendor if:
  - (2) the vendor:
    - (A) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income, other than investment income, that exceeds \$2,500 during the 12-month period preceding the date that the officer becomes aware that:
      - (i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or
      - (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor.



#### FINANCIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

#### **Policy Statement**

A financial conflict of interest occurs when personal interests interfere, or appear to interfere, with the ability to make sound business decisions on behalf of Houston Forensic Science Center (HFSC). There are some common relationships or circumstances that can create, or give the appearance of, a conflict of interest. Generally, these situations involve gifts, business or financial dealings, investments, or any combination of these. The Financial Conflict of Interest Policy is designed to help identify situations that present conflicts of interest and to provide procedures to prevent, manage, and resolve conflicts appropriately and in accordance with the goals of ensuring objectivity, accountability, and transparency and preserving public trust in HFSC's operations. Any contract or transaction with any vendor, supplier, or other party doing business with HFSC in which the contract or transaction benefits the interested person (defined below) or a family member directly or indirectly is prohibited.

An interested person must disclose a conflict of interest if that person knows or reasonably should have known of the conflict, and he or she must disclose the conflict promptly. The expressions *conflict of interest* and *contract or transaction* are broadly defined in this policy.

#### **Applicability**

This policy applies to all persons with decision-making authority regarding any HFSC contract or transaction. To the extent that any director or staff member has such decision-making authority, such person shall comply with this policy.

#### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to protect the interests of HFSC in circumstances of conflicts of interest. This policy is intended to supplement but not replace any state and federal laws governing conflicts of interest applicable to publicly funded organizations.

Conflict of interest arises whenever the financial interest of an interested person (or a family member of such person) is at odds with the best interests of HFSC. Interested persons shall not engage in any business or financial activity that adversely affects or is detrimental to the best interests of HFSC.

This policy restricts or prohibits certain contracts or transactions involving interested persons and their family members. It also requires full and prompt disclosure of all conflicts of interest. Because public confidence is important in forensic operations, interested persons and HFSC must take appropriate steps to avoid even the appearance of impropriety. The procedures set forth below will assist in that effort.

#### **Definitions**

Board of Directors -- the HFSC Board of Directors.

CEO -- the president and chief executive officer (CEO) of HFSC or his/her designee.

Financial Conflict of Interest Issued By: Human Resources Director Uncontrolled When Printed

Document ID: 8348 Issue Date: 08/04/2017

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**Finance Division** 

*Civilian* -- a person providing services under the management responsibility of HFSC, but employed by the City of Houston in a job classification other than a sworn peace officer.

*Classified* -- a person providing services under the management responsibility of HFSC, but employed by the City of Houston in a sworn peace officer job classification.

#### Conflict of Interest

- A. Any of the following circumstances creates a financial conflict of interest:
  - 1) An interested person (or a family member of such person) has or is negotiating a contract or transaction with HFSC (other than the person's HFSC employment contract) that could benefit him or her directly or indirectly.
  - 2) An interested person (or a family member of such person) has a substantial interest (defined below) in an entity that has or is negotiating a contract or transaction with HFSC.
  - 3) An interested person (or a family member of such person) has a substantial interest in an entity that competes with HFSC.
- B. The circumstances listed in part A above are conflicts of interest if they are actual (such as contracts in existence), potential (such as arrangements under discussion or negotiation), or create the appearance of impropriety.

Contract or Transaction -- any agreement or relationship involving the sale, purchase, or lease of property, goods, or services; providing or receiving a loan or grant; or an investment or any other type of financial relationship or arrangement. Making a gift to HFSC is not a contract or transaction.

Director -- a member of the Board of Directors.

Division Director -- any manager responsible for one of the HFSC divisions.

*Employee* -- a person directly employed by and on the payroll of HFSC, whether full-time, part-time, or temporary.

**Family Member** -- a spouse, parent, child, brother, sister, grandparent or grandchild, and spouses of children, brothers, and sisters of an interested person. "Step" relatives are included. The term also includes the cohabiting life partner of the interested person.

*Interested Person* — any director or staff member with decision-making authority regarding any HFSC contract or transaction who appears to have or does have real or potential involvement or interest in a contract or transaction.

Staff Member -- any person who is a civilian, classified, or employee.

#### Substantial Interest

A. A person has a substantial interest in an entity if any of the following are true:

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- 1) The person owns 10% or more of the voting stock or shares of the business entity or owns either 10% or more or \$15,000 or more of the fair market value of the entity.
- The person received funds from the entity that exceeded the lesser of either (a) 10% of the person's gross income for the previous year or (b) \$2,500 in the previous year.
- 3) The person (or a family member of such person) is a member of the board of directors or an officer, partner, trustee, or legal representative of the entity.
- B. A person has a substantial interest in real property if the interest is an equitable or legal ownership with a fair market value of \$2,500 or more.

Supervisor -- any staff member with responsibilities that include supervision and management of other staff members.

#### Responsibilities

- A. Board of Directors—The Board of Directors is responsible for resolving or otherwise taking appropriate action regarding any conflict of interest disclosed by or relating to any director or the CEO.
- B. Chief Executive Officer—The CEO is responsible for administering the policy as it relates to applicable staff members; implementing processes and procedures to ensure that the policy is followed; and monitoring compliance with the policy. In addition, the CEO shall annually review the Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements that are required to be filed in accordance with this policy.
- C. Division Directors—Division directors are responsible for overseeing the administration of the policy in their area of accountability and for providing division-level direction for compliance.
- D. Supervisors/Managers—Supervisors/managers are responsible for overseeing the administration of the policy in their area of accountability and for providing area-level direction for compliance.

#### **Procedures**

#### General Guidelines

- A. Interested persons shall refrain from engaging in any conflict of interest.
- B. An interested person shall recuse himself or herself from the decision-making process, including any discussions or meetings, regarding contracts or transactions in which the interested person has a possible conflict of interest.
- C. Interested persons shall not accept gifts, gratuities, entertainment, or other favors from individuals or entities when the party offering the gift, gratuity, entertainment, or favor does so under circumstances that might create the perception that such action was intended to influence the interested person in the performance of his/her duties. (Refer to HFSC Gifts to Staff Members Policy for further information.)
- D. Each HFSC director or officer shall also comply with Chapter 171 of the Texas Local Government Code, including Section 171.004, which requires in certain situations an affidavit and abstention from a vote or decision involving a matter in which a director or officer has a substantial interest in a business entity or real property.





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- E. Each interested person shall also comply with Chapter 176 of the Texas Local Government Code, which requires the person to file with HFSC a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to certain vendor relationships.
- F. HFSC expects its vendors to comply with Chapter 176 of the Texas Local Government Code, which requires each vendor to file with HFSC a conflicts disclosure "questionnaire" with respect to certain relationships. HFSC will include in each of its vendor contracts a requirement that the vendor comply with Chapter 176 and a provision allowing HFSC to void the contract in the event of the vendor's noncompliance.

#### Process of Conflict of Interest Identification, Disclosure, and Resolution

- A. The process for disclosure by an interested person who is a staff member (other than a director or the CEO) is outlined below:
  - An interested person must disclose a conflict of interest if that person knows or reasonably should have known of the conflict, and he or she must disclose the conflict promptly to his/her immediate supervisor.
  - 2) If it is not clear whether a conflict of interest exists, the interested person shall disclose the circumstances to his/her immediate supervisor.
  - 3) The immediate supervisor and the next level of leadership, if applicable, shall work with the interested person to gather all the relevant facts for presentation to the CEO.
  - 4) After disclosure, review of relevant facts, and discussion with the interested person, the CEO shall determine if a conflict of interest exists.
  - 5) If a conflict of interest exists, the CEO shall take appropriate action to resolve the conflict of interest in a manner that is fair, reasonable, and in the best interest of HFSC. At his or her discretion, the CEO may bring any conflict of interest issue to the Board of Directors for review and resolution.
- B. The process for disclosure by an interested person who is a director or the CEO is outlined below:
  - An interested person must disclose a conflict of interest if that person knows or reasonably should have known of the conflict, and he or she must disclose the conflict promptly to the chair of the Board of Directors.
  - 2) If it is not clear whether a conflict of interest exists, the interested person shall disclose the circumstances to the chair of the Board of Directors.
  - 3) The chair of the Board of Directors, or his/her designee, shall work with the interested person to gather all the relevant facts for presentation to the full Board of Directors.
  - 4) After disclosure, review of the relevant facts, and discussion with the interested person, the Board of Directors shall determine if a conflict of interest exists.
  - 5) If a conflict of interest exists, the Board of Directors shall take appropriate action to resolve the conflict of interest in a manner that is fair, reasonable, and in the best interest of HFSC.
- C. The process for disclosure by an interested person who is the chair of the Board of Directors shall follow the above procedures in part *B*, except that the chair shall disclose any conflict of interest to the vice-chair of the Board of Directors, who shall proceed in the role that would otherwise be performed by the chair.





**Finance Division** 

D. Upon resolution of a conflict of interest issue by the Board of Directors or the CEO, the resolution will be documented, as appropriate, either by the secretary of the Board of Directors in meeting minutes or by the CEO in meeting minutes or a memorandum to the file.

#### **Annual Statements**

Each director or staff member with decision-making authority regarding any HFSC contract or transaction shall annually sign a Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement in the form attached hereto (Appendix A), affirming that such person:

- received a copy of the policy
- read and understood the policy
- agreed to comply with the policy
- truthfully completed the Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement

The completed disclosure statements shall be submitted to the secretary of the Board of Directors not later than June 1 of each year. The secretary of the Board of Directors shall maintain, and shall post on the HFSC website, certain completed disclosure statements and questionnaires in accordance with Sections 176.0065(2) and 176.009(a) of the Texas Local Government Code.

#### <u>Compliance</u>

- A. Compliance with the policy is an ongoing requirement; each interested person is accountable for ensuring his/her compliance.
- B. If the CEO or Board of Directors, as appropriate, has reasonable cause to believe an interested person has failed to disclose a conflict of interest, the interested person shall be informed of the basis for such belief and he/she shall be afforded the opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.
- C. After hearing the individual's response and after making further investigation as warranted by the circumstances, the CEO or Board of Directors, as appropriate under this policy, shall determine:
  - 1) Whether the individual has failed to disclose a conflict of interest
  - 2) Whether a conflict of interest has occurred
- D. Based on the findings, progressive corrective action may be implemented under the direction of the CEO as appropriate to the interested person's status as civilian, classified, or employee.
- E. Based on the findings, appropriate action may be implemented under the direction of the Board of Directors.
- F. Any exception to this policy shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

Attachment—Appendix A: Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement





Appendix A

### Houston Forensic Science Center Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement

This Houston Forensic Science Center ("HFSC") Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement is to be completed annually by all persons with decision-making authority regarding any HFSC contract or transaction. Completed forms should be submitted to the secretary of the Board of Directors by June 1 of each year. , have received a copy of and have read and understand the HFSC Financial Conflict of Interest Policy (the "Policy"). I agree to comply with the Policy. 2. If I have an actual or perceived conflict of interest (as defined in the Policy), I will promptly disclose it as required by the Policy. 3. I do not have, nor am I negotiating, a contract or transaction (as defined in the Policy) with HFSC for goods or services (other than any employment contract that may exist between HFSC and me), and this statement is true with regard to any family member of mine (as family member is defined in the Policy). 4. I do not have (nor does a family member have) a financial interest in a contract or transaction that exists or is being negotiated between HFSC and any entity in which (a) I am (or a family member is) a director, officer, agent, partner, associate, employee, trustee, or legal representative or (b) I am (or a family member is) engaged in some other capacity. 5. I am not (nor is a family member) engaged in any capacity with a business or enterprise that competes with HFSC nor do I or a family member have a financial interest in a business or enterprise that competes with HFSC. 6. I do not and will not engage in any business or financial activity that adversely affects or is detrimental to the best interests of HFSC. 7. I will not accept gifts, gratuities, entertainment, or other favors from individuals or entities when the party offering the gift, gratuity, entertainment or favor does so under circumstances that might create the perception that such action was intended to influence me in the performance of my HFSC duties. Check one of the following: I agree with all of the statements in this Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement. My

I cannot agree with a certain statement (or statements). Below I identify the statement(s) by number and

NAME PRINTED

statements concerning my family members are made to the best of my knowledge.

Rev. 9.3.15

Financial Conflict of Interest Issued By: Human Resources Director Uncontrolled When Printed

disclose the following circumstances:

SIGNATURE

Document ID: 8348 Issue Date: 08/04/2017

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DATE

#### HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER, INC.

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

June 14, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Agenda Action	<b>8.</b> Consider extending the May 2019 deadline for the Board's annual	
Item No.:	performance review of Dr. Peter Stout, president and CEO, and the June 1,	
	2019 deadline for submission of Dr. Stout's proposed list of annual priorities	
	and performance objectives, and possible related action.	
G 1: 4	7	
Subject:	Board approval to extend the 2019 deadlines for Dr. Stout's performance	
	evaluation and submission of annual priorities and performance objectives to the Board.	
	the Board.	
Background:	On January 13, 2017 the Board offered, and Dr. Stout accepted an agreement of	
	employment to serve as president and CEO of HFSC. The agreement is for a	
	term of five years and will expire on January 12, 2022. The agreement provides	
	the Board an annual process for evaluating Dr. Stout's job performance and	
	setting performance related goals for the upcoming year.	
Executive	Pursuant to Dr. Stout's agreement of employment, the Board shall evaluate his	
Summary: job performance in May of each year. The review is held in a closed in		
	and Dr. Stout's evaluation must be based on:	
	1) the job description of HFSC president and CEO;	
	2) approved performance objectives from the previous annual evaluation;	
	3) progress towards HFSC's goals and plans;	
	4) and management criteria as outlined in the Board's evaluation procedure.	
	and management effectia as outlined in the Board's evaluation procedure.	
	Additionally, the agreement requires Dr. Stout, in consultation with the Board	
	Chair, to develop and submit for the Board's approval, a list of annual priorities	
	and performance objectives no later than June 1st of each year. If approved,	
	these priorities and objectives shall be part of the Board's consideration in the	
	subsequent annual evaluation.	
	Both deadlines are provided in the employment agreement between the Board	
	and Dr. Stout, thus if both parties agree, the terms can be modified. The Board	
	must approve an extension of the deadlines with Dr. Stout's agreement.	
Fiscal Impact:	No anticipated additional fiscal impact.	
Staff	Staff recommends approval.	
Recommendation:		
By:	Nicole Cásarez, Board Chair	
	Legal review by General Counsel	

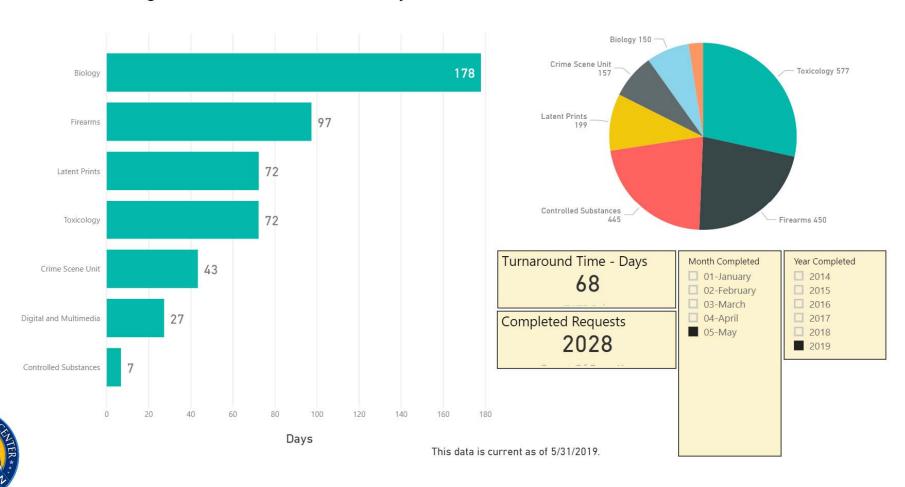
# Presidents Report

June 14, 2019



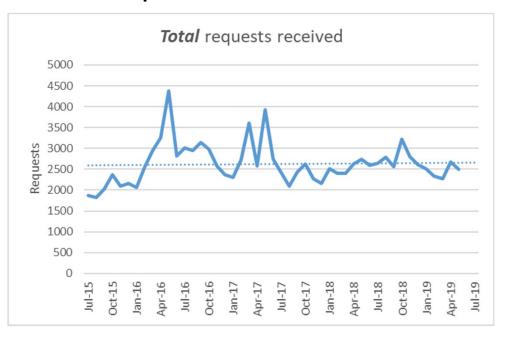
#### Requests Completed by Section

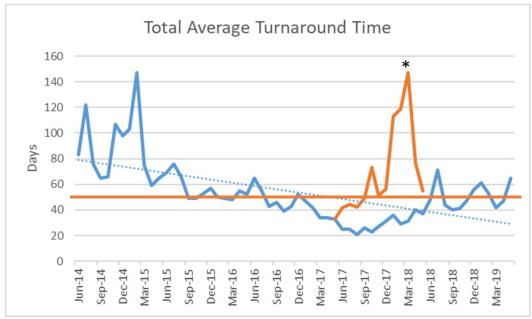
#### Average Turnaround Time for May 2019





### Requests received







<sup>\*</sup> From May 2017 to May 2018 total TAT shown with latent prints (orange) and without (blue) latent print. Everything in blue beginning in June 2018 includes latent print TAT.

# Staffing – June 14, 2019

- 194 staff members
  - 7 City of Houston civilians
  - 187 HFSC employees
- 10 open positions, 3 offers accepted
  - 1 forensic analyst forensic biology
  - 1 forensic analyst multimedia
  - 1 quality specialist

- 7 active vacancies
  - 1 crime scene investigator
  - 2 forensic analysts toxicology
  - 3 latent print examiner trainees
  - 1 postdoctoral research associate





# The Big Move: Late May





























The Big Move: Lowering the Shooting Tank

8

### Outreach

- Fort Bend Drug Symposium: opioid presentation to about 300 attendees
- Texas Forensic Science Commission quarterly meeting in April
- · Presented on Rapid DNA at a symposium held by the Quattrone Center at the University of Pennsylvania
- Appeared on the Harris County Criminal Lawyers Association TV show, Reasonable Doubt
- Center for Statistics and Application in Forensic Evidence (CSAFE) all-hands meeting:
  - Quality/research specialist Maddi Neuman attended a Quality/Research Associate presented a poster about HFSC's collaboration
  - CSAFE presented poster of initial findings from research partnership with HFSC
- National Institute of Justice grant selection committee
- Multimedia supervisor Rachel Maloney presented at the International Association for Chiefs of Police (IACP) Tech Conference
- Tour with Rep. Gina Calanni and staff
- Signing ceremony with Gov. Greg Abbott, Rep. Donna Howard for HB 1590
- Lots o' Austin (coming up in legislative update)





# CrimeCon 2019: The HFSC Experience

Jordan Benton
Adam Whitman
Joe Parian
Patrick Tynan
Brooke Mendenhall
Natalie Azzarello
Daniela Anane-Bediakoh
Jerry Pena
Ramit Plushnick-Masti

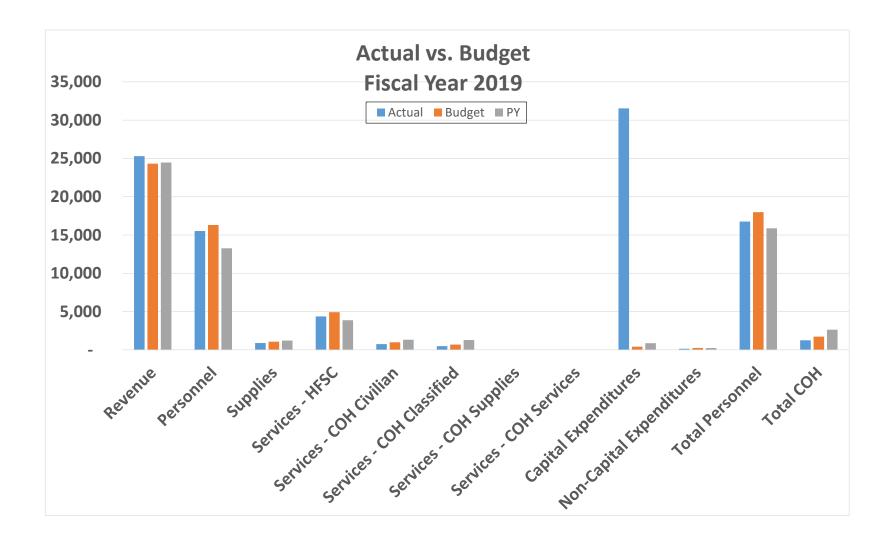
# Legislature 2019

June 14, 2019



## Forensic legislation

- HB 8 Rep. Victoria Neave
  - Sexual assault omnibus, creates way to eliminate state backlog, addresses other issues
- HB 616 Rep. Victoria Neave
  - Increases amount of time sexual assault survivors have to get a forensic exam
- HB 1590 Rep. Donna Howard
  - Creates state sexual assault stakeholder task force
- HB 3845, SB 1125 Rep. Gina Calanni, Sen. Chuy Hinojosa
  - · Forensic video testimony
- Weed, weed and more weed around 50 bills being considered
  - HB 1325, legalizes hemp, direct impact
- Unprecedented budget dollars for forensics, but not enough



For the Period July 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019

	ou outy 1, 2010 timough may		Cui	rent Mo	onth (Preli	mina	ary)				`	/TD				FY	19
		FY19	FY19	FY18			iance		FY19	FY19	FY18		Var	iance		FY19	% Year
									July 1-May 31,		July 1- May						
		May 2019	Budget	May 2018	Budget - Actual	%	FY19 - FY18	%	2019	Budget	31, 2018	Vs. Budget	%	Vs. FY18	%	Budget V3	Completed
			# of Months							# of Months							
			1							11							
Revenues:																	
411000	City of Houston-Appropriations	\$ -	Ψ 2,010	\$ -	\$ (2,013)	-100%	\$ -		\$ 23,496	22,141	\$ 22,351	\$ 1,349	6%	\$ 1,146	5%	\$ 24,160	97%
415000	City of Houston Direct OH-Appro	122	122	122	-	0%	-	0%	1,338	1,338	1,338	-	0%	-	0%	1,460	92%
416000	City of Houston - Safe funds	-	•	-	-	0%	-			-		-	0%	- (-)	0%	-	0%
420000	Contributions	-	1	-	(1)	0%	-		8	8	8	0	0%	(0)	-2%	8	98%
425000	In-Kind Donations	-		5	- (0)	0%	(5)	-100%	7		39 5	2	0%	(39)	-100%		0%
426000	Training Services	5	0	-	(0)	0%	4	07.40/	428	5	689	(388)	0%	(261)	34%	5	135%
440000 450000	Grants	5	74 1		(69) (1)	-93% -100%	4	274%	12	816 8	27	(300)	-48% 48%	(15)	-38% -56%	890	48% 136%
450000 450001	Forensic Services Miscellaneous Copy Fees		1		(1)	-100%			0	•	-	0	48% 0%	0	-56%	9	0%
450001	Interest Income	0	0	0	(0)	-49%	(0)	-7%	5	3	5	2	48%	1	14%	4	136%
Total Income		127	2,211	128	(2,084)	-94%	(1)	-1%	25,295	24,325	24,462	970	4%	833	3%	26,536	95%
		127	_,	120	(2,001)	0170	(.,	170	20,200	21,020	21,102		1,0		070	20,000	5070
Expenses:																	
Per	sonnel:																
500010	Salary Base - Civilian	1,123	1,197	1,005	74	6%	(118)	-12%	12,726	13,168	10,779	442	3%	(1,948)	-18%	14,365	89%
501070	Pension - Civilian	65	67	59	1	2%	(6)	-10%	732	732	653	(0)	0%	(79)	-12%	798	92%
502010	FICA - Civilian	83	87	74	4	5%	(9)	-12%	920	957	791	37	4%	(130)	-16%	1,044	88%
503010	Health Insurance - Active Civil	111	111	87	1	1%	(23)	-26%	962	1,226	902	264	22%	(60)	-7%	1,338	72%
503015	Basic Life Ins - Active Civil	11	10	10	(1)	-5%	(1)	-10%	89	111	79	22	20%	(10)	-13%	121	74%
503060	Long Term Disability - Civilian	4		3	3	0%	(1)		45	-	41	27	0%	- (2)	0%		0%
503090 503100	Workers Comp - Civilian Adm Workers Comp - Civil Claims	4	7	3	3	41%	(1)	-16%	0	72	41	(0)	38% 0%	(3)	-8% 0%	78	57% 0%
504030	Unemployment Claims - Admin	_			_		_		_		_	(0)	0%	-	0%		0%
504010	Pension - GASB 27 Accrual			0	_		0	100%	_		0	_	0%	0	0%		0%
504031	Unemployment Taxes - Admin	0	4	0	3	92%	0	41%	39	40	28	1	3%	(11)	-38%	44	89%
		1,396	1,482	1,239	86	6%	(157)	-13%	15,514	16,306	13,273	792	5%	(2,241)	-17%	17,789	87%
Sup	oplies:																
511010	Chemical Gases & Special Fluids	1	2	3	0	22%	1	50%	18	18	12	1	4%	(5)	-45%	20	88%
511040	Audio Visual Supplies	-	-	-	-	100%	-		-	-	-	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
511045	Computer Supplies	(0)	3	0	3	101%	0	113%	8	36	14	28	78%	7	46%	39	20%
511050	Paper & Printing Supplies	1	2	3	1	38%	2	62%	21	23	23	2	7%	1	5%	25	85%
511055	Publications & Printed Material	-	1	1	1	100%	1	100%	6	13	8	7	57%	3	34%	14	39%
511060	Postage	0	0	0	0	56%	0	19%	0	1	1	1	62%	0	49%		35%
511070	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	20 69	9	12 74	(11)	-118%	(8)	-70%	100 670	101	86 991		1%	(14)	-16%	111	91%
511080 511090	General Laboratory Supply	69	70 0	74	0	1%	5	7%	670	769	991	98	13%	321	32%	839	80% 0%
511090	Medical & Surgical Supplies Small Technical & Scientific Eq	3	4		(2)	100% -331%	(3)		5	1	8	2	100% 31%	4	0% 43%	1 8	64%
511110	Fuel	_	0		0	100%	(5)		_	0	-	0	0%		0%	°	0%
511120	Clothing	5	3	1	(2)	-81%	(4)	-261%	13	31	29	18	59%	16	55%	34	38%
511125	Food/Event Supplies	0		0	2	96%	0	72%	27	28	10	1	4%	(17)	-173%	30	88%
511130	Weapons Munitions & Supplies	-	1	1	1	100%	1	100%	5	8	4	4	45%	(1)	-15%	9	50%
511145	Small Tools & Minor Equipment	0	2	0	2	100%	0	97%	2	17	12	15	90%	10	85%	18	10%
511150	Miscellaneous Parts & Supplies	1	1	0	1	46%	(0)	-148%	12	14	9	2	12%	(3)	-39%	15	81%
		101	97	96	(4)	-4%	(4)	-5%	887	1,068	1,208	181	17%	321	27%	1,165	76%
		_							_			_		_			_

For the Period July 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019

			Cui	rrent Mo	onth (Preli	imina	ary)				١	/TD				FY:	19
		FY19	FY19	FY18		Vari	ance		FY19	FY19	FY18		Vari	iance		FY19	% Year
									July 1-May 31,		July 1- May						
		May 2019	Budget	May 2018	Budget - Actual	%	FY19 - FY18	%	2019	Budget	31, 2018	Vs. Budget	%	Vs. FY18	%	Budget V3	Completed
Serv	rices:																
520100	Temporary Personnel Services	-	-	2	-		2	100%	2	-	19	(2)	0%	18	91%	-	0%
520105	Accounting & Auditing Svcs	3	4	3	0	10%	0	1%	39	42	36	2	6%	(3)	-8%	46	86%
520106	Architectural Svcs	-	4	-	4	100%	-		-	46	-	46	0%	-	0%	50	0%
520107	Computer Info/Contracting Svcs	-	2	-	2	100%	-		5	18	0	13	71%	(5)	-48557%	20	26%
520109	Medical Dental & Laboratory Ser	71	80	10	10	12%	(61)	-635%	732	884	90	152	17%	(642)	-715%	965	76%
520110	Management Consulting Services	6	13	5	7	54%	(1)	-14%	136	138	283	2	1%	147	52%	150	91%
520112	Banking Services	0	0	1	0	39%	0	60%	4	5	3	2	29%	(1)	-23%	6	65%
520113	Photographic Services	-	0	-	0	100%	-		-	1	-	1	100%	-	0%	1	0%
520114	Misc Support Serv Recruit Relo	2	10	10	8	78%	7	77%	27	108	103	81	75%	76	74%	118	23%
520115	Real Estate Rental	50	93	84	43	46%	34	41%	1,017	1,018	895	1	0%	(122)	-14%	1,111	92%
520118	Refuse Disposal	2	3		1	38%	(2)		30	34	2	4	12%	(28)	-1349%	37	80%
520119	Computer Equip/Software Maint.	39	84	108	45	53%	69	64%	921	925	910	5	1%	(10)	-1%	1,010	91%
520121	IT Application Services	36	8	10	(27)	-323%	(26)	-255%	90	93	110	3	3%	19	0%	102	89%
520123	Vehicle & Motor Equip. Services	-	0		0	100%				3		3	100%		0%	3	0%
520124	Other Equipment Services	5	22	48	17	76%	42	89%	223	247	319	25	10%	96	30%	270	83%
520143	Credit/Bank Card Svcs	-	0	-	0	100%	-		-	0	0	0	100%	0	100%	0	0%
520145	Criminal Intelligence Services	-	-	-	į.		-				-	_	0%	-	0%		0%
520520	Printing & Reproduction Serv.	-	1	-	1	100%	-		4	11	3	7	63%	(1)	-23%	12	34%
520605	Public Information Svcs	-	2	5	2	100%	5	100%	6	17	14	11	66%	8	58%	18	31%
520705	Insurance (Non-Medical)	10	10	8	0	0%	(2)	-23%	107	110	93	2	2%	(14)	-15%	120	90%
520760	Contributions	-	-	-	-		-		- 07		-	-		-	0%		0%
520765	Membership & Prof. Fees	2 44	3	2	1 (05)	40%	1 (22)	30%	27	28	23 142	18	3%	(4)	-18%	30	89%
520805	Education & Training		19	11	(25)	-133%	(33)	-290%	191	209	43		8%	(50)	-35%	228	84%
520815	Tuition Reimbursement	2	4	14 15	13	51%	12	87%	16	43	158	27 50	63%	27	63%	46	34%
520905	Travel - Training Related	5	16	2		80%	12	79%	130 29	179	138	3	28%	29	18%	195	66%
520910	Travel - Non-training Related	0	3	11	(2)	-82%	(4) 10	-195%	14	32	45	9	10%	(16) 30	-124%	35	83%
521405 521505	Building Maintenance Services Utilities	0	2	0	0	86% 24%	(0)	97% -7%	4	23	45	(0)	39%	(0)	68% -1%	25	56%
		23	0	10	(6)		(13)		182	•	70	4	-5% 2%	(112)		4	96%
521605	Data Services	8	17	2	(2)	-38%	(6)	-127%	46	186	52	17	27%	6	-159%	203	90% 67%
521610 521705	Voice Services, Equip & Labor Vehicle/Equipment Rental/Lease	-	6	2	0	-37%	(0)	-260%	40	64 0	32	0	0%		11% 0%	69	0%
521705	Other Rental Fees	4	3	2	(1)	100% -17%	(1)	-62%	34	34	33	(0)	-1%	(1)	-3%	37	92%
521725	Parking Space Rental	23	18	23	(4)	-17%	0	0%	195	202	158	7	4%	(37)	-23%	221	88%
521730	Legal Services	0	10	-	4	93%	(0)	0%	43	46	43	3	6%	(0)	0%	50	87%
522205	Metro Commuter Passes	5	-	5	0	3%	(0)	-9%	57	62	55	5	7%	(2)	-4%	67	85%
522305	Shipping and Freight	1	1	1	1	47%	1	41%	14	16	15	2	14%	2	11%	17	79%
522430	Misc. Other Services & Chrgs	0		9	8	98%	9	98%	44	87	136	43	50%	92	68%	95	46%
522720	Insurance - General & Professional			-		3070		3070		-		_	0%	-	0%		0%
523100	Civilian Payroll	73	90	84	17	19%	12	14%	752	986	1,320	234	24%	568	43%	1,075	70%
523200	Classified Payroll	49	63	93	14	22%	44	47%	486	693	1,285	207	30%	799	62%	756	64%
523300	Supplies	-	1	-	1	100%		,3	-	16		16	100%		0%	17	0%
523400	Services	2	2	2	0	20%	(0)	-22%	14	26	24	12	45%	10	40%	29	50%
523000	Sub-Contractor (COH-HPD) Total	124	156	179	33	21%	56	31%	1,253	1,721	2,629	468	27%	1,376	52%	1,877	67%
22000	Total Services	469	603	581	134	22%	112	19%	5,622	6.636	6,501	1,014	15%	879	14%	7,239	78%
	. S.ai Gei vides	409	003	301	134	22 /0	112	15/0	3,022	0,030	0,501	1,014	13/6	013	14/0	1,239	10/8

For the Period July 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019

			Cui	rrent Mo	onth (Preli	mina	ary)				١	/TD				FY:	19
		FY19	FY19	FY18		Vari	iance		FY19	FY19	FY18		Var	iance		FY19	% Year
		May 2019	Budget	May 2018	Budget - Actual	%	FY19 - FY18	%	July 1-May 31, 2019	Budget	July 1- May 31, 2018	Vs. Budget	%	Vs. FY18	%	Budget V3	Completed
Non	-Capital Expenditures																
551010	Furniture and Fixtures	(4)	8	3	12	146%	7	223%	83	93	33	10	11%	(50)	-152%	102	81%
551015	Computer Hardware/SW	14	13	47	(2)	-15%	33	69%	59	138	191	79	57%	132	69%	150	39%
551025	Scientific/Foren Eqmt	-	1	2	1	100%	2	100%	3	14	14	11	78%	10	76%	16	20%
	Total Non-Capital Expenditures	11	22	52	12	53%	42	80%	145	245	237	101	41%	92	39%	268	54%
Сар	ital Expenditures																
170140	Improvements	-	-	-	-		-		(107)	-	-	107	0%	107	0%	-	0%
170210	Furniture & Fixtures	-	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
170230	Computer Hardware/SW	-	-	-	-		-		51	-	230	(51)	0%	179	78%	-	0%
170240	Scientific/Foren Eqmt	-	38	60	38	100%	60	100%	(150)	413	187	563	136%	337	180%	450	-33%
170270	500 Jefferson - Intangible	-	-	-	-	0%	-	0%	31,328	-	-	(31,328)	0%	(31,328)	0%		
170980	Const in Progress	197	-	-	(197)		(197)		423		445	(423)	0%	22	5%		
	Total Capital Expenditures	197	38	60	(159)	-425%	(137)	-228%	31,544	413	862	(31,132)	-7547%	(30,682)	-3559%	450	7010%
Total Expense and	Capital Before Depreciation	2,173	2,243	2,029	69	3%	(144)	-7%	53,711	24,668	22,080	(29,044)	-118%	(31,631)	-143%	26,910	200%
561230	Depreciation	127	40	42	(87)	-219%	(85)	-201%	711	437	446	(274)	-63%	(265)	-59%	477	149%
570505	FA Gain/Loss	-	-		(91)	0%			74	-	-	(74)	0%	-	0%	-	0%
531085	Interest Expense	91	-	-	-				181	-		(181)	0%		0%		
610000	City of Houston Direct Overhead	122	122	122	-	0%	-	0%	1,338	1,338	1,338	-	0%	-	0%	1,460	92%
	Grant and Training Expense	-	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-		-	0%		
Total Expense and	Capital After Depreciation	2,513	2,404	2,193	(109)	-5%	(229)	-10%	56,017	26,443	23,864	(29,573)	-112%	(32,152)	-135%	28,847	194%
Net	Ordinary Income less capital spending	(2,386)	(193)	(2,065)	(1,976)	1026%	(230)	11%	(30,722)	(2,119)	597	(28,603)	1350%	(31,319)	-5244%	(2,311)	1329%

# HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER, INC. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION By Quarter

(in '000's)

	Pro	eliminary				
	0	As of 5/31/19	 As of 03/31/19	1	As of 2/31/18	As of 9/30/18
ASSETS			 _			 
Cash and Cash Equivalents Bank of Texas-Operating	\$	2,419	\$ 6,665	\$	12,652	\$ 17,249
Total Current Assets		2,419	 6,665		12,652	 17,249
Accounts Receivable		495 495	 127 127		16 16	 27 27
Capital Assets Net of Depreciation Capital Assets Accumulated Depreciation		37,762 (2,154)	 38,188 (2,005)		6,218 (1,887)	 6,194 (1,761)
Total Net Capital Assets		35,607	 36,182		4,331	 4,433
Other Assets Prepaid - HR Prepaid - Insurance Prepaid - Service Agreements Prepaid - Other		(2) 20 160 2	 2 61 131 136		0 88 226 61	 (4) 128 292 86
Total Other Assets		180	 330		375	 502
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	38,701	\$ 43,304	\$	17,374	\$ 22,212
LIABILITIES						
Accounts Payables Payroll Tax Liability Other Liabilities, Including Fund 2213 Billing 500 Jefferson Lease Liability Deferred - Others Total Liabilities	\$	83 510 188 32,030 6 32,817	\$ (0) 562 63 32,024 6 32,656	\$	147 500 260 248 1,155	\$ 87 490 313 6 897
NET POSITION/FUND BALANCE			 			 
Unrestricted/Unassigned Temporarily Restricted - SAFE Funds		2,307	6,490		11,888	16,881
Net Investment in Capital Assets  Total Net Position		3,577 5,884	4,158 10,648		4,331 16,219	4,433 21,315
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION	\$	38,701	\$ 43,304	\$	17,374	\$ 22,212

**Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc. Finance Division List of Grant Contracts** As of May 2019

#### **Awarded**

Awarding Agency: USDOJ-OJP-NIJ

Name of Project: NIJ FY 16 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program

**Start and End Dates:** 01/01/2017 - 12/31/2018

Contact: Alissa Genovese

Current Award Number: 2016-DN-BX-0142 Awarded Invoiced Receivable

Amount of Award: \$ 741,000 **Grant Inception to date:** (537,337) 435,495 101,842 **Grant Balance:** 203,663

Status: Awarded

Awarding Agency: USDOJ-OJP-NIJ

Name of Project: NIJ FY 17 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction

Program

Start and End Dates: 01/01/2018 - 12/31/2019

Contact: Monte Evans

Current Award Number: 2017-DN-BX-0027 Awarded Invoiced Receivable

> Amount of Award: \$ 867,755

**Grant Inception to date:** (558,846) 468,072 90,774 308,909

**Grant Balance:** Status: Awarded

Awarding Agency: USDOJ-OJP-NIJ

Name of Project: Cap Enhancement for Drug and DNA Testing in Sexual Assault Cases

Start and End Dates: 01/01/2018 - 12/31/2020

Contact: Monte Evans

Current **Awarded** Invoiced Award Number: 2017-DN-BX-0176 Receivable

Amount of Award: \$ 114,000 HESC Match 38,000 **Grant Inception to date:** (999)

**Grant Balance:** 151,001 Status: Awarded

Awarding Agency: University of Virginia

Name of Project: Quality Blind Testing Research Start and End Dates: 11/26/2018 - 05/31/2019

Contact: Lynn Boyter

Current Awarded Invoiced Award Number: 2018 CSAFE Receivable

Amount of Award: \$ 59,000 **Grant Inception to date:** (25,869) 23,600 2,269

**Grant Balance:** 33,131 Status: Sub Award

Awarding Agency: USDOJ-OJP-NIJ

Name of Project:  $$\operatorname{NIJ}$  FY 18 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction  $\operatorname{Program}$ 

Start and End Dates: 01/01/2019 - 12/31/2020

Contact: Shelia Anderson

Expenditure Current Award Bal. Award Number: 2018-DN-BX-0096 Reported Receivable

Contact: **Charles Heurich** Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0116

1,530,927 Amount of Award: Grant Inception to date: (108,662)2,008 106,654

**Grant Balance:** 1,422,265

Status: Sub - Award

#### **Solicitation**

Awarding Agency: USDOJ-OJP-NIJ Discipline: Seized Drugs

Primary Recipient: RTI

Name of Project: Applied Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal

**Justice Purposes** 

HFSC will work with RTI to provide technology evaluation for seized materials at our laboratory. This will help ensure RTI is

Purpose: able to fully evaluate the use of near infrared (NIR)

spectroscopy for the detection of drugs from seized material

during the course of the project.

Collaboration: HFSC

Start and End Dates: Start 01/01/2019

Contact: Katherine Moore / Megan Grabenauer

Solicitation Number: NIJ-2018-13600

**Amount Requested:** Letter of Support

Status:

Awarding Agency: NIJ

Discipline: Seized Drugs

**Primary Recipient: HFSC** 

Research and Evaluation for the Testing and Interpretation of

Name of Project: Physical Evidence in Publicly Funded Forensic Laboratories -Establishing Sufficiency Thresholds for Assessing the Quality of Mass

This study proposes to initiate and test the development of a sufficiency standard that can be used as a model for the

nationalized mass spectral standard. In addition, both results and methodology from this project should have direct

extension to other forensic disciplines using mass spectral

data, such as Toxicology and Trace Analysis.

Collaboration: Ohio University **Start and End Dates:** 01/01/2019 - 12/31/2022

Contact: Peter Harrington Solicitation Number: NIJ-2018-13900

> Amount Requested: \$ 773,000 HFSC Requested \$ 355,322

Submitted

Status:

Awarding Agency: NIJ Discipline: Seized Drugs

**Primary Recipient:** Texas Southern University

Name of Project: W.E.B. Du Bois Scholars in Race and Crime Research Assessing the Impact of the No Lab, No Plea Policy

This research serves to evaluate the No Lab, No Plea policy instituted in Harris County, Texas and to gauge how it impacts

Purpose: racial disproportionalities in the handling of drug offense cases. We also aim to determine whether reduced forensic

turnaround times and the analysis of forensic evidence are

related to sentencing outcomes.

Collaboration: Texas Southern University/HFSC Start and End Dates: 01/01/2019 - 12/31/2022 Contact: Howard Henderson

Solicitation Number: NIJ-2018-14220

Total Amount Requested: \$ 455.249.00 HFSC Requested Funds: \$ 112,357.00

Status: Submitted Awarding Agency: NIJ

**Discipline:** Latent Prints

Primary Recipient: RTI

Name of Project: Applied Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal Justice Purposes

HFSC fully intends to collaborate and provide the resources to assist RTI in creating and validating the fingerprint database. Purpose: We are able to assist in this research effort by providing the time and expertise of 10 of our latent print examiners for the

Selection and AFIS Team. We will also assist in recruiting 20

latent prints donors as part of the Detection Team.

Collaboration: HFSC

Start and End Dates: Start 01/01/2019 Contact: Heidi Eldridge Solicitation Number: NIJ-2018-13600

**Total Amount Requested:** 

Status: Letter of Support

Awarding Agency: NIJ

Discipline: Seized Drugs Primary Recipient: TSU/US/SHSU

"Applied Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal

Name of Project: Justice Purposes"

The Houston Forensic Science Center (HFSC) is pleased to offer our support to Texas Southern University with University of Purpose: Houston and Sam Houston State University (the Partnership)

for their proposal to develop a mobile sensor for multiplex

detection of "fentalogs" in street drugs.

Collaboration: HFSC

Start and End Dates: Start 01/01/2019

Contact: Ashraf Mozayani

Solicitation Number: NIJ-2018-13600

**Total Amount Requested:** 

Status: Letter of Support

FY19 Original Budget Reallocations V3

		FY19 Current Approved Budget	Adjustments to FY19 Budget V3	FY19 Proposed Budget
			Grants Non Grants	
Revenues:				
411000	City of Houston-Appropriations	\$ 24,160,344		\$ 24,160,344
415000	City of Houston Direct OH-Appro	1,460,000		1,460,000
420000	Donations	8,300		8,300
426000	Training Services	5,000		5,000
440000	Grants	890,000		890,000
450000	Forensic Services	8,700		8,700
490002	Interest Income	3,800		3,800
Total Income		26,536,144		26,536,144
Expenses:				
	sonnel:	14,322,877	42,586	14,365,463
500010 501070	Salary Base - Civilian Pension - Civilian	796,183	1,972	798,156
502010	FICA - Civilian	1,041,159	3,174	1,044,333
503010	Health Insurance - Active Civil	1,337,063	800	1,337,863
503015	Basic Life Ins - Active Civil	120,530	136	120,666
503090	Workers Comp - Civilian Adm	78,010	100	78,010
504031	Unemployment Taxes - Admin	44,176	-	44,176
004001	Onemployment raxes Admin	17,739,998	48,669 -	17,788,667
Sup	plies:			
511010	Chemical Gases & Special Fluids	14,094	6,000	20,094
511045	Computer Supplies	38,954		38,954
511050	Paper & Printing Supplies	25,041		25,041
511055	Publications & Printed Material	14,070		14,070
511060	Postage	1,341		1,341
511070	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	89,648	21,000	110,648
511080	General Laboratory Supply	838,590		838,590
511090	Medical & Surgical Supplies	750		750
511095	Small Technical & Scientific Eq	7,666		7,666
511110	Fuel	227		227
511120	Clothing	34,172		34,172
511125	Food/Event Supplies	14,337	16,000	30,337
511130	Weapons Munitions & Supplies	9,253		9,253
511145	Small Tools & Minor Equipment	18,365		18,365
511150	Miscellaneous Parts & Supplies	15,167		15,167
		1,121,742	- 43,000	1,164,742

FY19 Original Budget Reallocations V3

		FY19 Current Approved Budget	Adjustment Budge		FY19 Proposed Budget
			Grants	Non Grants	
Cam.	uta a c				
520105	vices:	35,505		10,000	45,505
520105	Accounting & Auditing Svcs Architectural Svcs	50,000		10,000	50,000
	Computer Info/Contracting Svcs	19,907			19,907
520107	Medical Dental & Laboratory Ser	535,000	129,845	300,000	964,845
520109 520110	•	120,000	123,043	30,000	150,000
520110 520112	Management Consulting Services  Banking Services	5,970		30,000	5,970
	•	643			643
520113	Photographic Services	118,268			118,268
520114 520115	Misc Support Serv Recruit Relo Real Estate Rental	1,010,905		100,000	1,110,905
520115	Refuse Disposal	28,712		8,000	36,712
	•	759,555	_	250,000	1,009,555
520119	Computer Equip/Software Maint.	101,512	_	250,000	101,512
520121	IT Application Services	2,977			2,977
520123	Vehicle & Motor Equip. Services	249,553		20,000	269,553
520124	Other Equipment Services	249,333		20,000	209,333
520143	Credit/Bank Card Svcs	12,158			12,158
520520	Printing & Reproduction Serv.	18,367			18,367
520605	Public Information Svcs	107,581		12,000	119,581
520705	Insurance (Non-Medical)	25,097	100	5,000	30,197
520765	Membership & Prof. Fees	193,494	34,586	3,000	228,080
520805	Education & Training	,	34,300		·
520815	Tuition Reimbursement	46,422 194,182	1,220		46,422 195,403
520905	Travel - Training Related	20,051	1,220	15,000	•
520910	Travel - Non-training Related			13,000	35,051
521405	Building Maintenance Services	25,437			25,437
521505	Utilities	3,979			3,979
521605	Data Services	203,072			203,072
521610	Voice Services, Equip & Labor	69,457			69,457
521705	Vehicle/Equipment Rental/Lease	463 32,157		E 000	463
521725	Other Rental Fees	•		5,000 10,000	37,157
521730	Parking Space Rental	210,544		10,000	220,544
521905	Legal Services	50,000			50,000
522205	Metro Commuter Passes	67,374			67,374
522305	Freight	17,400			17,400
522430	Misc. Other Services & Chrgs	94,832 2,577,353		(700,000)	94,832 1 877 353
532000	Sub-Contractor (COH)		405		1,877,353
Tota	al Services	7,008,152	165,752	65,000	7,238,904
	Total HFSC Services	4,430,799	165,752	765,000	5,361,551

FY19 Original Budget Reallocations V3

		FY19 Current Approved Budget	-	nts to FY19 get V3	FY19 Proposed Budget
			Grants	Non Grants	
Non	-Capital Expenditures				
551010	Furniture and Fixtures	100,000	66,930	(65,000)	101,930
551015	Computer Equipment	173,085		(23,000)	150,085
551025	Scientific/Medical Equipment	35,735		(20,000)	15,735
	Total Non-Capital Expenditures	308,820	66,930	(108,000)	267,750
Сар	ital Expenditures				
170230	Computer Hardware/SW	-			-
170240	Scientific/Foren Eqmt	450,000			450,000
170980	Const in Progress	-			-
	Total Capital Expenditures	450,000			450,000
Total Expense Before	Depreciation	26,628,712	281,351	-	26,910,063
561230	Depreciation	477,202			477,202
669000	Reconciliation Discrepancies	-			-
Total Expense After De	•	27,105,914	281,351	-	27,387,265
		-			-
Net	Ordinary Income	(569,769)	(281,351)	-	(851,121)
Other Expense:		_			_
610000	City of Houston Direct Overhead	1,460,000			1,460,000
<del>-</del>	Grant and Training Expense	519,445	(281,351)		238,094
		-	,		-
		(2,549,215)	-	-	(2,549,215)

# Operations Report

June 14, 2019



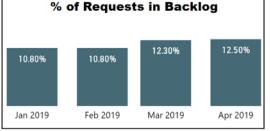
### Highlights

- Changes to operations report
- Forensic biology/DNA update: mixture software (STRMix) implementation and plan for cross-trained staff



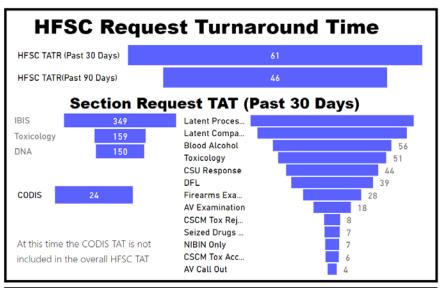
### **April 2019 Company Overview**

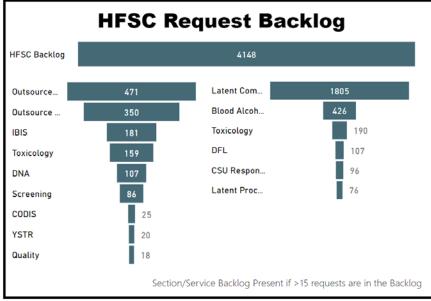




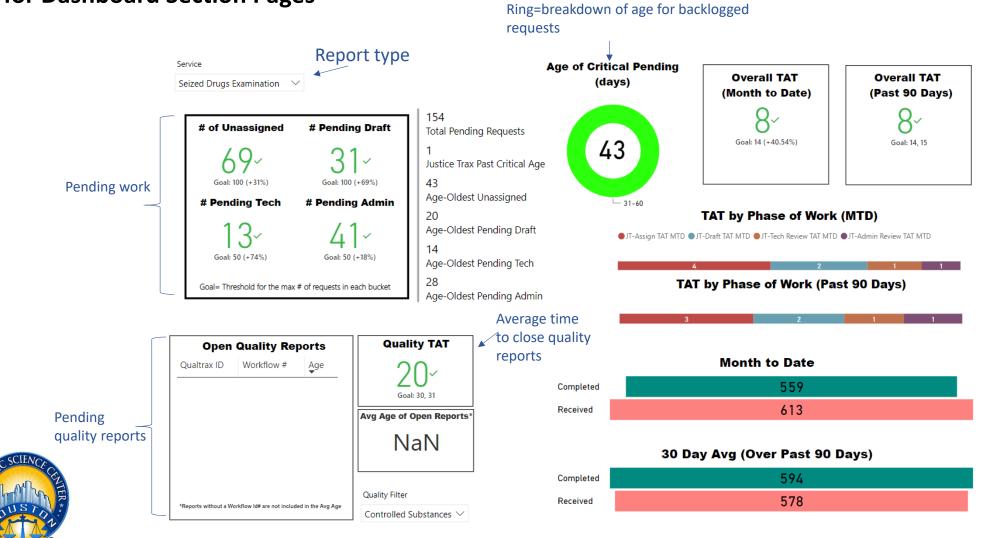


Data Captured on 4/30/2019





### **Key for Dashboard Section Pages**



Center of ring=average age of backlog

TAT= Turnaround Time MTD= Month to date Critical age=30 days Critical pending=requests open over 30 days

## Mixture interpretation software rollout

- HFSC is using STRmix for mixture interpretation
- Validation finalized by July 1
- Standard operating procedures to be approved by July 1
- Training, review and approval (3 months)
  - Required reading
  - Assessment questions
  - Practice
  - Competency
  - Oral exam



## Mixture interpretation software rollout

- Who has to complete training? EVERYONE who does DNA interpretation (over ½ section)
  - Group 1: Manager, supervisors, CODIS administrator, assistant CODIS administrator, assistant technical lead, training coordinator, operations coordinator, DNA analysts
  - Group 2: DNA analyst trainees
  - 22 total staff
  - Technical lead, manager, quality director all must approve each staff member to begin using software
  - Target completion Sept. 30, 2019
  - DNA analyst training extended from July 31 to Oct. 31, 2019

### Outsourcing extended

- Original plan: stop outsourcing in July, send partial shipment
- New plan:
  - Full shipment in July and August
  - August 6-October 4: in-house work resumes
  - Lab shuts down from October 7 to November 11 for facility move
    - outsource one month of sexual assault kits in October to offset lab shutdown
  - Grant will be modified to add \$155,000 to current outsourcing allocation bringing total to \$970,000



### Forensic Biology Training

■ Evidence Processing Training

Target completion July 31, 2019



**DNA Lab Processing Training** 

Analysts completed training

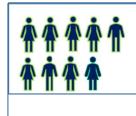


Support staff member in training

**DNA Report Writing Training** 

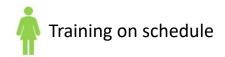
Target completion July 31, 2019 (w/out STRmix)
Target completion October 31, 2019\* with STRmix













Delay in training schedule

# Crime Scene and Multimedia

June 14, 2019



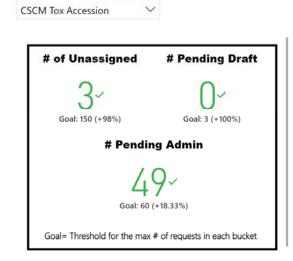
### Crime Scene Unit

- Quality Director Lori Wilson will be embedded in CSU in the months leading up to her retirement
- CSU will focus in upcoming months on training:
  - Technical
  - Management
  - Quality



# Detail data (all HFSC Dashboard data collected on 5/31/19)

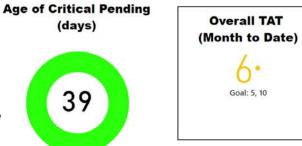




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Service





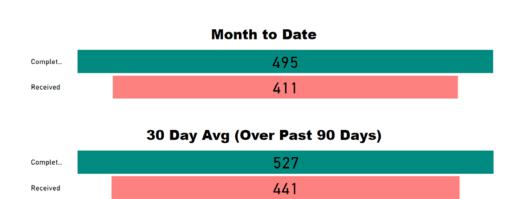
**□** 31-60















Service









**O**° Goal: 5, 10

#### TAT by Phase of Work (MTD)



Overall TAT

(Month to Date)

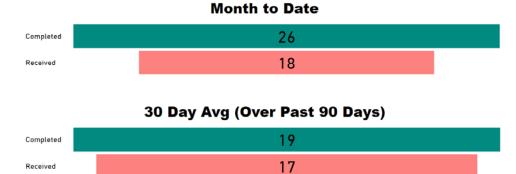
Goal: 5, 10

#### TAT by Phase of Work (Past 90 Days)

0 3





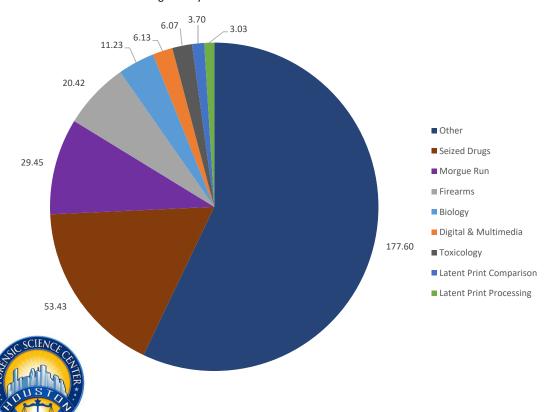




# CS/CM – May

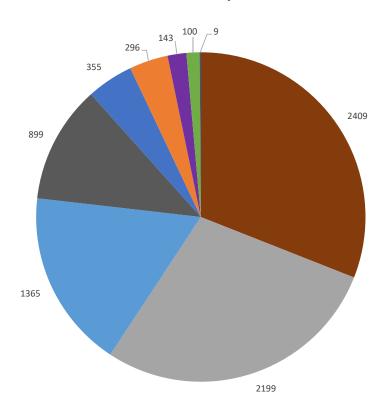
### Total Time by Section (Hours)

See Time Categories by Section slide for breakdown



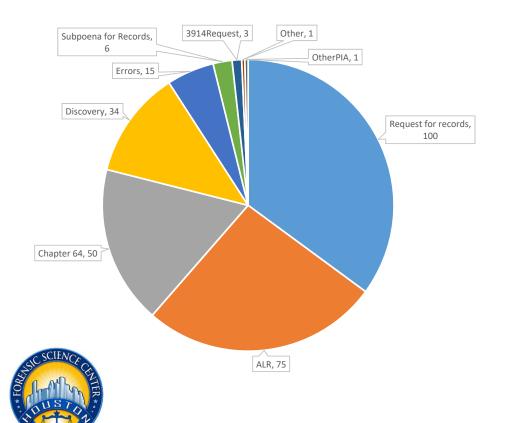
## Evidence Handling

### **Total Items by Section**



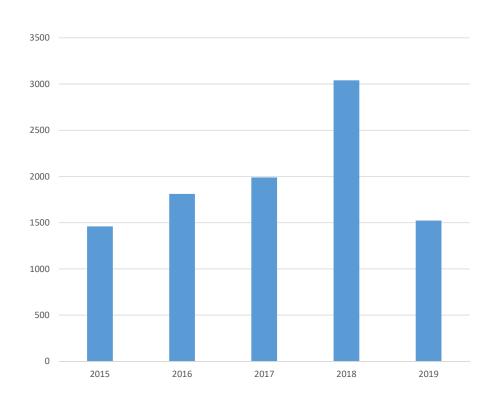
# CS/CM – May

### Requests by Type



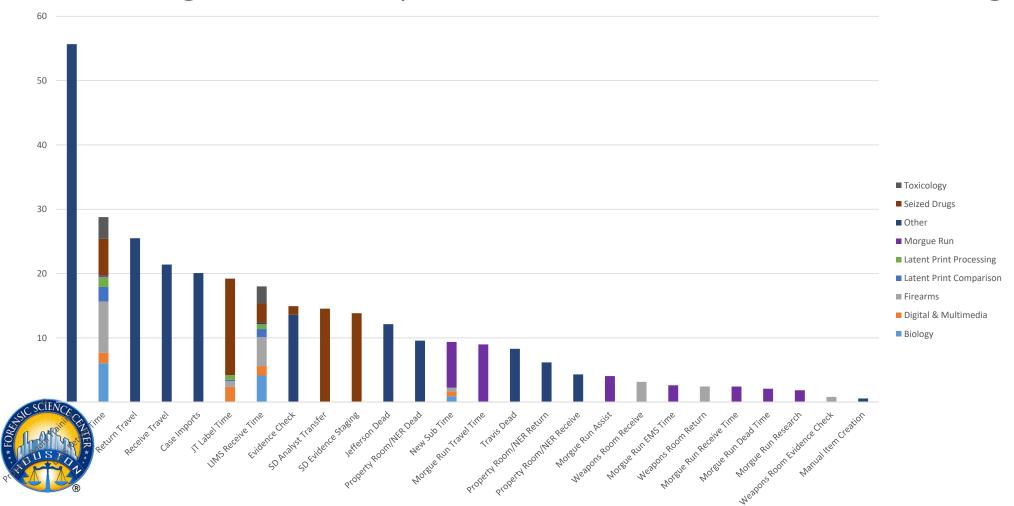
### Administrative

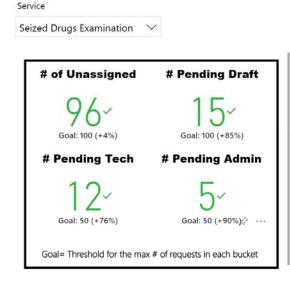
### All Record Requests – 2015 to date



### Time Categories - May

### **Evidence Handling**







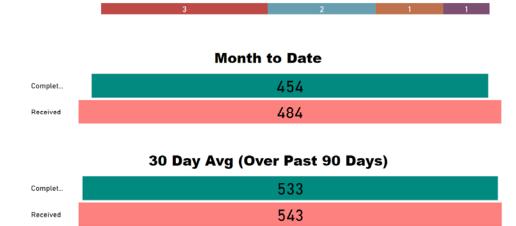






Controlled Substances  $\vee$ 

\*Reports without a Workflow Id# are not included in the Avg Age



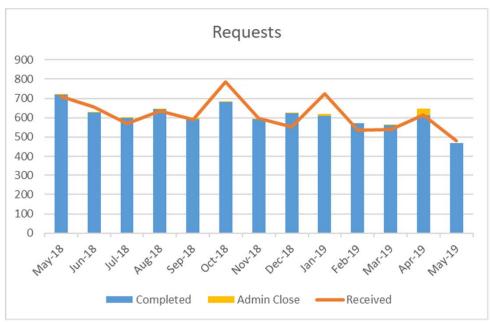
TAT by Phase of Work (MTD)

TAT by Phase of Work (Past 90 Days)

●JT-Assign TAT MTD ●JT-Draft TAT MTD ●JT-Tech Review TAT MTD ●JT-Admin Review TAT MTD



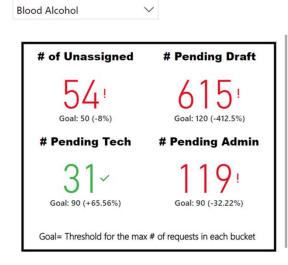
# Seized Drugs





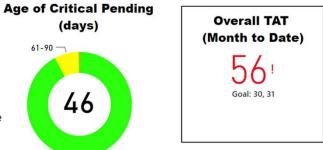


<sup>☐</sup> Orange bar indicates TAT target limit of 14 days.



Service

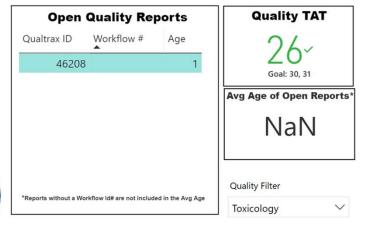


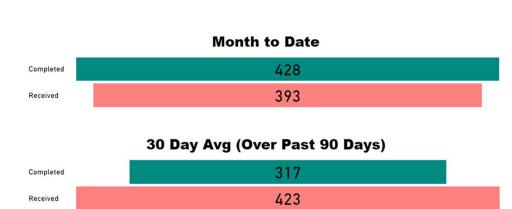


**31-60** 

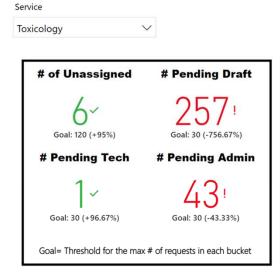


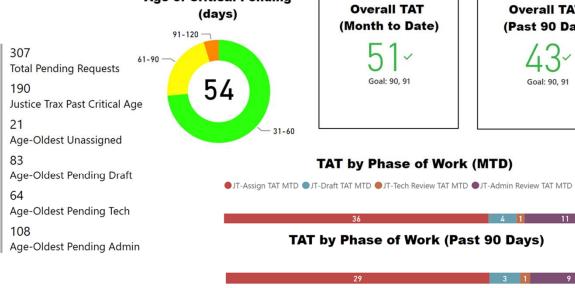






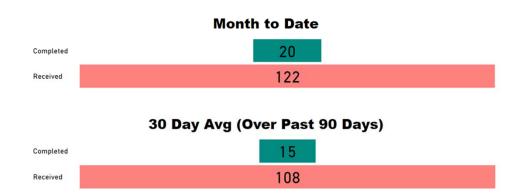






**Age of Critical Pending** 

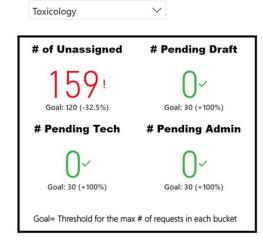




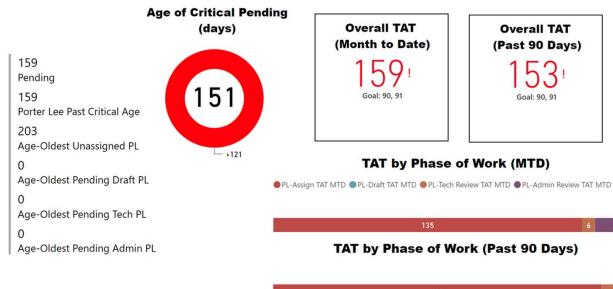
**Overall TAT** 

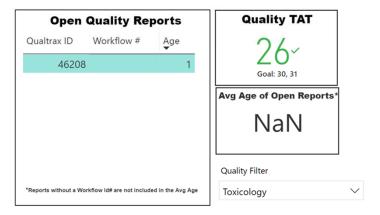
(Past 90 Days)





Section



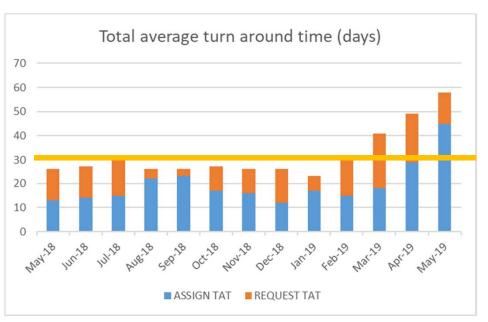




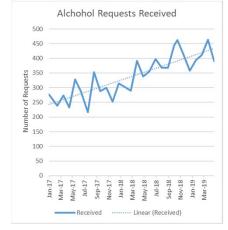


### Toxicology: Alcohol



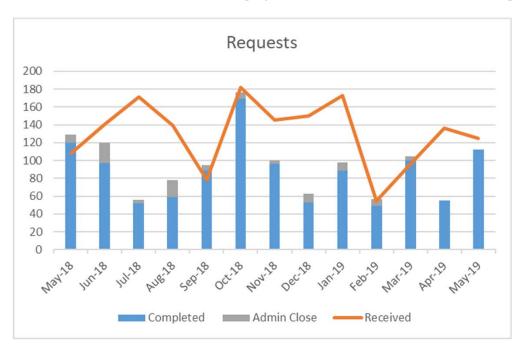


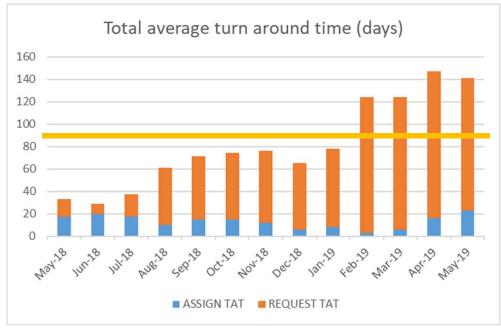




### Toxicology: Other Drugs

In June of 2018 the toxicology section went live with drug analysis in house, due to instrumentation challenges and limitations, the expected TAT is 90 days until LC-QQQ can be brought on line.

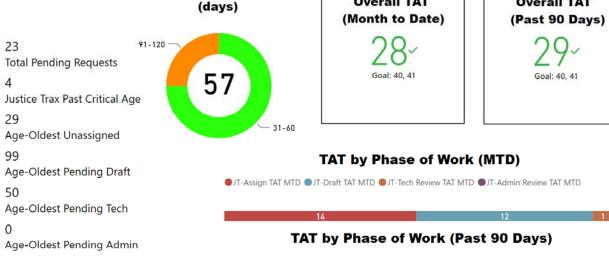








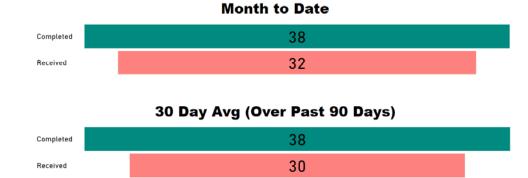
Service



**Age of Critical Pending** 

Qualtrax ID	Workflow #	Age
28533	2018-057	219
34318	2018-082	175
43394	2019-024	38





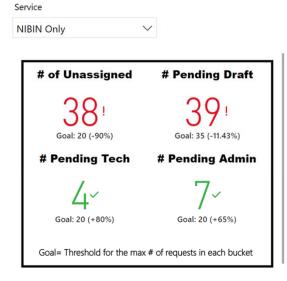
**Overall TAT** 

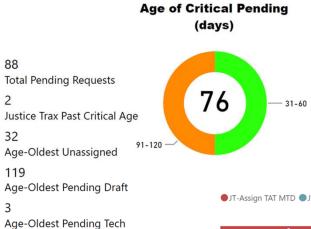
**Overall TAT** 

Goal: 40, 41



### **Current NIBIN Casework**





Received

**Overall TAT** (Month to Date) Goal: 7, 8

**Overall TAT** (Past 90 Days) Goal: 7, 8

#### TAT by Phase of Work (MTD)







Age-Oldest Pending Admin

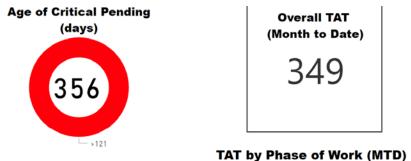




### **Historical NIBIN**



181
Pending
181
Porter Lee Past Critical Age
385
Age-Oldest Unassigned PL
382
Age-Oldest Pending Draft PL
410
Age-Oldest Pending Tech PL
382
Age-Oldest Pending Admin PL



● PL-Assign TAT MTD ● PL-Draft TAT MTD ● PL-Tech Review TAT MTD ● PL-Admin Review TAT MTD

#### TAT by Phase of Work (Past 90 Days)





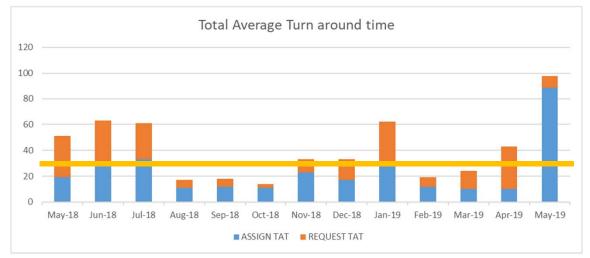




# **Firearms**

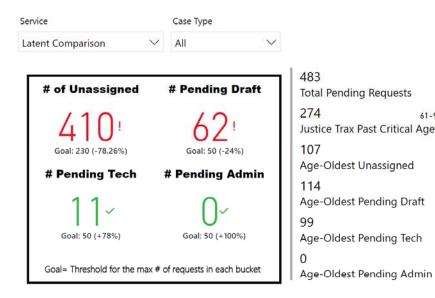


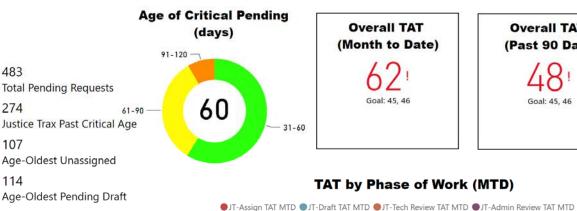






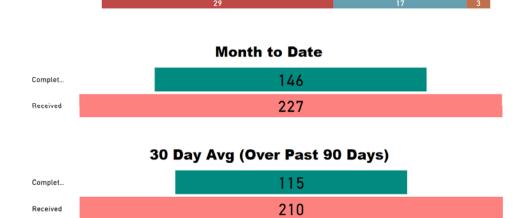
#### Requests Received after 2/1/2019 (to allow for targets on incoming requests vs historical backlog)











TAT by Phase of Work (Past 90 Days)

**Overall TAT** 

(Past 90 Days)

#### Requests Received prior to 2/1/2019 (to allow for targets on incoming requests vs historical backlog)





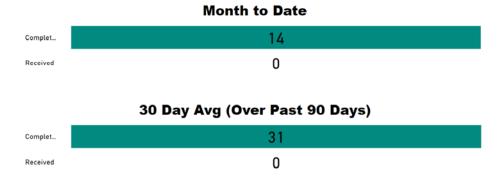




TAT by Phase of W	ork (MTD)
●JT-Assign TAT MTD ●JT-Draft TAT MTD ●JT-Tech Review TA	T MTD   JT-Admin Review TAT MTD
95	65
TAT by Phase of Work	(Past 90 Days)



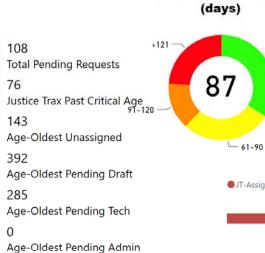








Service



**Age of Critical Pending** 

Overall TAT (Month to Date)

78!

Goal: 30, 31

Overall TAT (Past 90 Days)

75 |
Goal: 30, 31

#### TAT by Phase of Work (MTD)

●JT-Assign TAT MTD ●JT-Draft TAT MTD ●JT-Tech Review TAT MTD ●JT-Admin Review TAT MTD

#### TAT by Phase of Work (Past 90 Days)

49 21 4

# Open Quality Reports Qualtrax ID Workflow # Age 45202 14 45547 8 41982 2019-017 56 44261 2019-026 25 44789 2019-028 19 45463 2019-032 10 \*Reports without a Workflow Id# are not included in the Avg Age

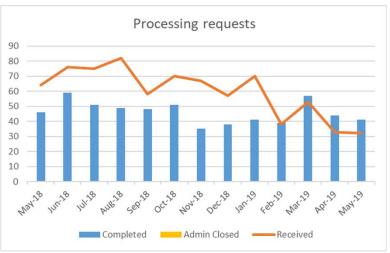
Quality TAT  16  Goal: 40, 41
Avg Age of Open Reports*
28
Quality Filter
Latent Prints

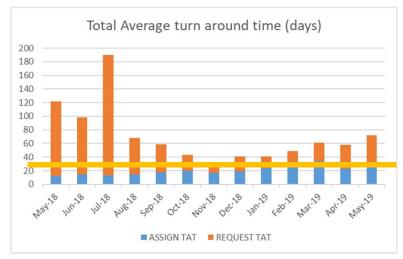




# Latents

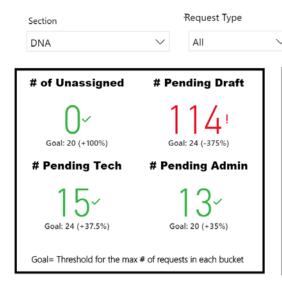


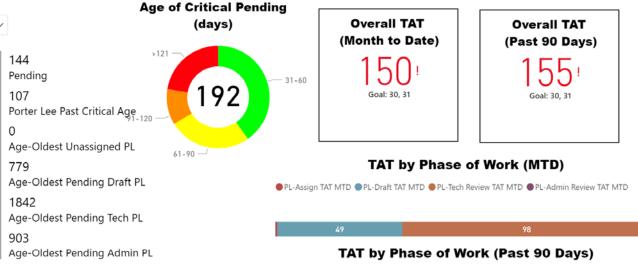






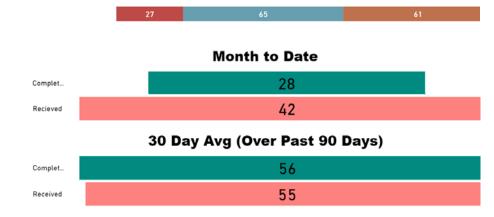
Latents Live in Justice Trax on 12/18/17, metrics from Porter Lee but estimated due to time in Jtrax in December







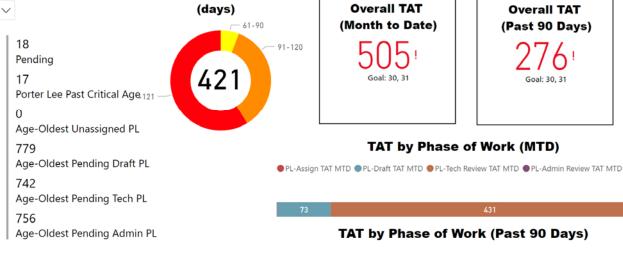








Request Type



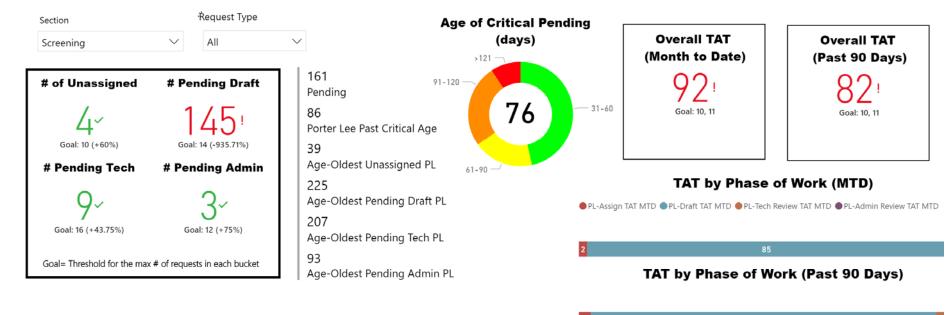
**Age of Critical Pending** 



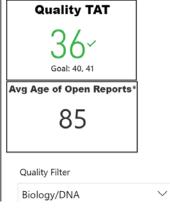










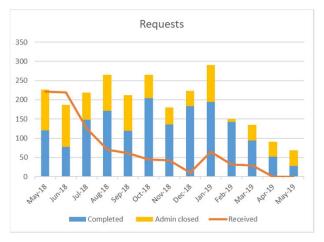


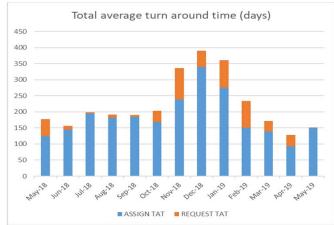


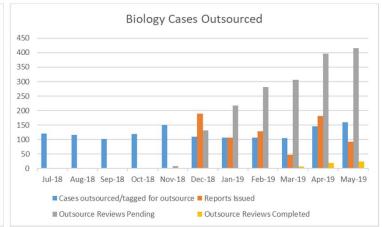


# Forensic Biology -- Total

Note: In July of 2018 the number received will be impacted by the number of cases outsourced, once a case is outsourced it moves from received by Bio to Outsourced









# Forensic Biology-Outsourcing

Total Cases Shipped

1224

**Cases Returned** 

784

**Cases Reviewed** 

49

**SAKs shipped: 828** 

**SAKs completed: 467** 

Non-SAKs shipped: 396

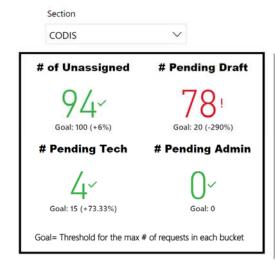
Non-SAKs completed: 317

#### **Critical issues**

- The in-house review of all outsourced casework
- Bode delayed turnaround time for SAKs
- Current turnaround time ~120 days

- Original project timeline: August 2018 to September 2019
- Ahead of schedule on internal backlog
- 415 outsourced cases pending
- Next focus: STRmix training and outsource reviews









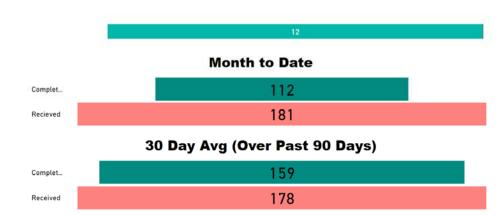


# ● PL-Assign TAT MTD ● PL-Draft TAT MTD ● PL-Tech Review TAT MTD

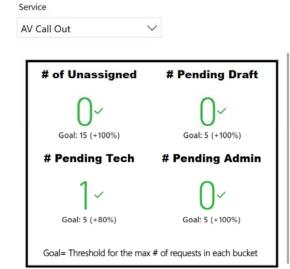
TAT by Phase of Work (Past 90 Days)

2018-085	188
	100
2018-094	170
2019-007	82
2019-023	44
2019-029	12
2019-031	12
	2018-094 2019-007 2019-023 2019-029 2019-031

Quality TAT	
36~ Goal: 40, 41	
Avg Age of Open Reports*	
85	
Quality Filter	









Age-Oldest Pending Admin

**Age of Critical Pending** 

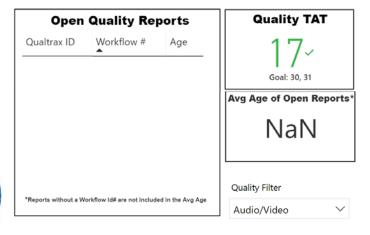
(days)

N...







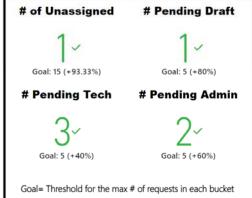








Service







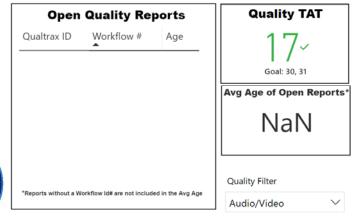
**Age of Critical Pending** 

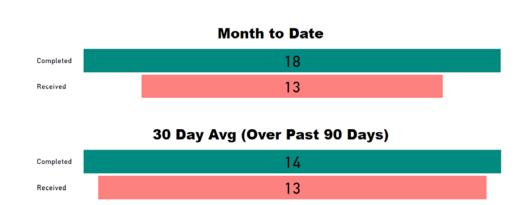
(days)



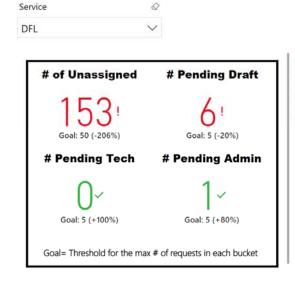


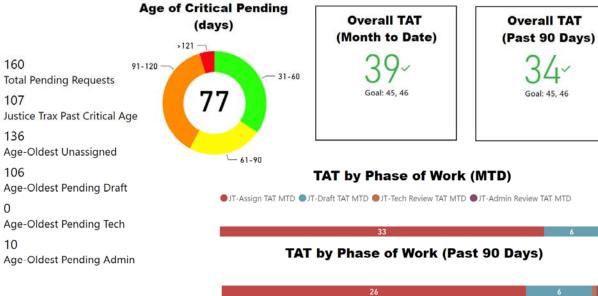


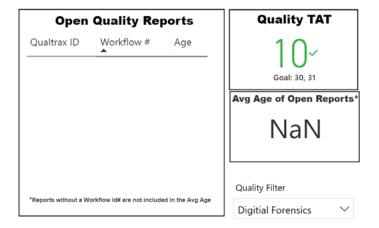


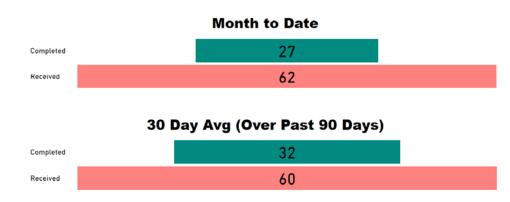






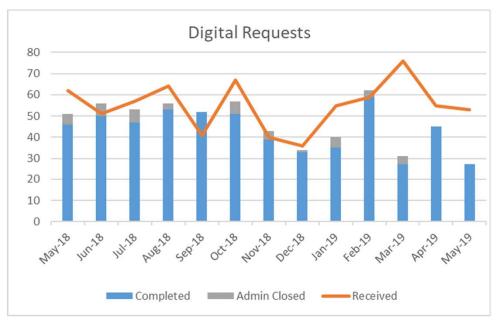


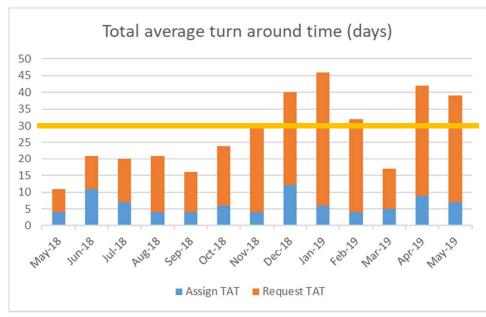






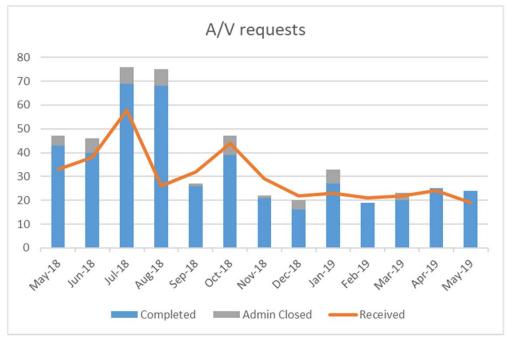
# DME -- Digital

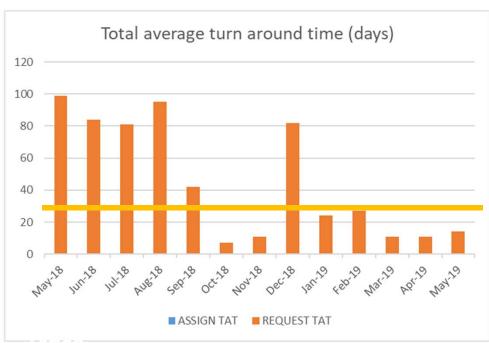






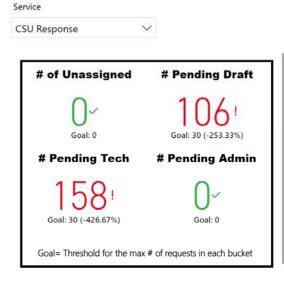
# DME -- A/V

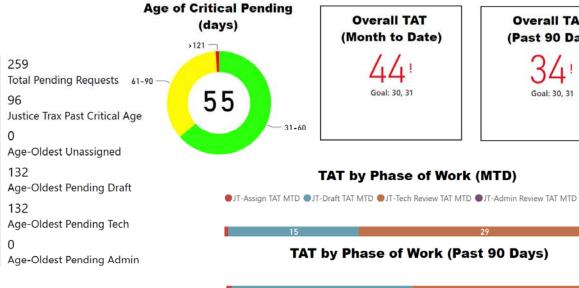




Starting December 2017: A/V and A/V call out metrics reported together

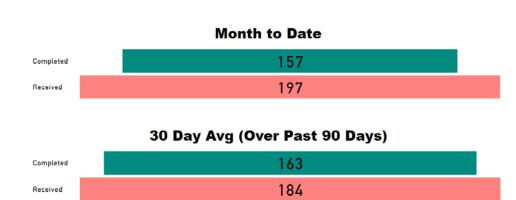












**Overall TAT** 

(Past 90 Days)



# **CSU**

Call outs

Critical issues

O

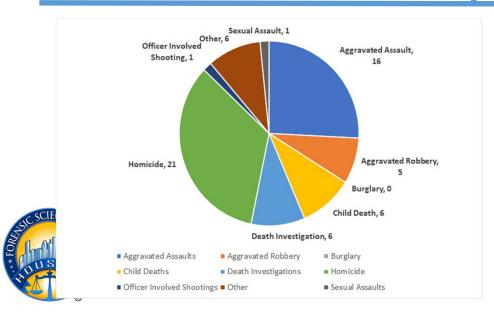
CSU callouts: 62

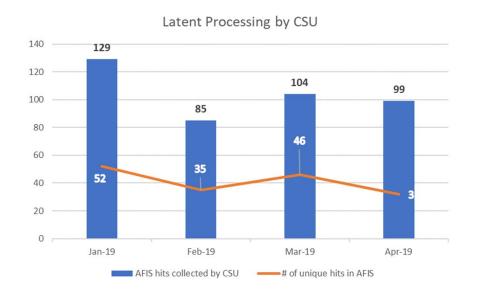
Cars processed at VEB: 49

Items of evidence collected: 1,869

Hours spent at scenes: 485hrs = 15.6hrs/day

- •CSI Sarah Lambert received her Crime Scene Analyst Certification from the IAI
- Hired a Certified Crime Scene Analyst
- •Completed the move to 500 Jefferson 34 staff
- •The last 9 CSIs received the 40-hour Death Investigation Training
- •FARO Training Internal (5 CSIs)
- Presentation at DeKaney H.S (to 60 students)





#### 500 Jefferson Office/Lab Project, 6/14/19 HFSC Board Update

#### <u>Agenda</u>

- Update on project status since 4/12/19 HFSC Board meeting
- Request delegation to HFSC CEO to enter into an agreement with Full Spectrum Analytics Inc. (with sub-contractors) to disassemble, move, reassemble, test/verify HFSC lab instruments for a total agreement value not to exceed \$250,000

#### **Project Update**

#### **Recent Project Actions**

- Excellent progress, all major milestones met, project on schedule
- All four May moves successfully completed (case files, case file cabinets, 2 large office moves, 87 staff/equipment). All staff operational one/two days after move, good teamwork/focus
- 500 Jefferson 2<sup>nd</sup> floor fenced/gated parking completed, fully operational, HFSC vehicles moved
- CODIS, FBI server/workstations successfully installed at 500
   Jefferson 5/8/19, fully operational 5/9/19
- Shooting tank successfully moved to 500 Jefferson basement 6/8/19, All American Rigging Company did outstanding job, tank moved under freight elevator, multiple pre-meetings/mock-up
- Lab furniture order placed, electrical/IT ceiling panels to arrive 8/1/19, furniture delivery 9/2/19, two weeks installation
- Basement permit received. 18<sup>th</sup> floor lab construction commenced: studs, drywall, electrical, HVAC, etc. Construction on schedule, all long lead-time items ordered
- Fannin exit completed 4/10/19, well ahead of 4/30/19 lease expiry, no close-out costs (removes \$87k/month HFSC cost)

- Returned 50% of HFSC Travis space to HPD, plus 14 of 17 parking spaces
- 500 Jefferson fire drill successfully conducted 5/8/19, good fire warden/staff performance, positive feedback from Fire Marshall
- Good project performance to-date: project planning/leadership, focused weekly landlord/HFSC meetings/minutes, pre-identified key project deliverables/issues/contingency plans, applied lessons learned (each move got better/more efficient), clear roles and responsibilities, resources, teamwork
- However, most critical/complex part of project now, October/
   November lab/basement move. Multiple workshops held, action plans developed/being finalized/will continually updated

#### **Project Move Status**

- 65% of HFSC staff now at 500 Jefferson, including CEO, COO, CSU, Latent Prints, Digital and Multimedia, Biology Analysts/CODIS, R&D, CS/CM, IT, Quality, Finance, HR, Admin
- Currently remaining at Travis:
  - ➤ Latent Prints, Seized Drugs, Toxicology, Biology, Quality labs, Supply Room. Travis part 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>, full 26<sup>th</sup> floors
  - ➤ All operations move 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr 2019, Lab/Basement delivery to HFSC 10/1/19
  - ➤ 500 Jefferson provided temporary/interim basement space for CSU evidence handling/packaging
- 10<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> (all part floors) returned to HPD 5/9/19 and 5/16/19, in line with original plans (all office related floors). 14 of 17 Travis parking spaces also returned to HPD 5/10/19
- HFSC CFO held discussions with City Finance. City/Andy Icken agreed HFSC no longer responsible for rent on handed back space (27ksf Travis space returned in May, saving HFSC \$56k/month)

#### **Project Future Key Deliverables**

- Major monthly deliverables:
  - ➤ June/July 2019: Full Spectrum/sub-contractors agreement, Comfort Systems fume hood move agreement, HFSC move case work implications/communications, evidence move plan, chemicals/etc. move agreements, firearms reference guns/ammo storage and move plans, piping plan
  - ➤ August 2019: Lab furniture electrical/IT ceiling panels delivery, owned fume hoods/glue chamber move, Landlord lifts generator/air handlers onto building roof
  - > September 2019: Lab furniture delivery/installation
  - ➤ October/November 2019: 3 instrument moves, 2 staff moves, piping install, chemicals/appliances/glassware/ evidence moves, NIBIN install, lab clean(s), instrument performance checks/progress return to case work operations, deliver/install 2 new Toxicology LCQQQ
  - ➤ Hand-back remaining Travis space: target 2<sup>nd</sup> half November 2019
- Implementing bi-weekly HFSC Steering Committee meetings, several sub-teams, scorecard monitoring

#### **Budget Status**

- Project budget estimate \$1.0M
- Staff/equipment/instrument moves, IT/security, shooting tank, project management, change orders, other, contingency
- To-date: committed/quotes/estimates \$650k, invoiced \$174k, costs on target
- Budget estimate excludes lab furniture, committed \$335k, invoiced \$67k (funded via grant/landlord)

#### HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER, INC.

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

June 14, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

agreement with Full Spectrum Analytics Inc. for the purchase of services relating to the move, testing, and verification of Corporate lab instruments, for a total contract amount, not to exceed \$250,000, and possible related action.  Subject:  Authorizing Dr. Stout to sign a service agreement relating to the move of HFSC lab instruments from 1200 Travis to 500 Jefferson, not to exceed \$250,000.  Background:  HFSC must remain on schedule to complete the move of its lab to 500 Jefferson to avoid unanticipated delays in casework and other logistical issues. HFSC desires to enter into an agreement with Full Spectrum Analytics, Inc. ("Full Spectrum") to move, test, verify, and reassemble lab instruments, which is imperative for HFSC operations. HFSC also has a standing relationship with Full Spectrum to service HFSC lab instruments.  Executive  Summary:  HFSC is currently obtaining final estimates from Full Spectrum. The current estimate for service is \$185,000, which is within Dr. Stout's existing authority pursuant to Board Resolution 2015-001. If the total cost of the work does not exceed \$200,000, Dr. Stout has authority to approve the expenditure and execute all related agreements.  However, HFSC anticipates the final cost of services will exceed Dr. Stout's
total contract amount, not to exceed \$250,000, and possible related action.  Subject:  Authorizing Dr. Stout to sign a service agreement relating to the move of HFSC lab instruments from 1200 Travis to 500 Jefferson, not to exceed \$250,000.  Background:  HFSC must remain on schedule to complete the move of its lab to 500 Jefferson to avoid unanticipated delays in casework and other logistical issues. HFSC desires to enter into an agreement with Full Spectrum Analytics, Inc. ("Full Spectrum") to move, test, verify, and reassemble lab instruments, which is imperative for HFSC operations. HFSC also has a standing relationship with Full Spectrum to service HFSC lab instruments.  Executive  Summary:  HFSC is currently obtaining final estimates from Full Spectrum. The current estimate for service is \$185,000, which is within Dr. Stout's existing authority pursuant to Board Resolution 2015-001. If the total cost of the work does not exceed \$200,000, Dr. Stout has authority to approve the expenditure and execute all related agreements.
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execute all related agreements.
However, HFSC anticipates the final cost of services will exceed Dr. Stout's
existing authority (\$200,000). HFSC is currently negotiating with Full Spectrum to approve the final list of sub-contractors and estimates, thus the total cost of the agreement is likely to increase.
HFSC proposes a maximum budget of \$250,000 for the work based on the
remaining lab instruments, which are not included in the current estimate.
Upon obtaining a final cost from Full Spectrum, Dr. Stout cannot finalize terms
of the agreement, unless the Board delegates its authority to Dr. Stout, up to the
proposed total cost of \$250,000.
Fiscal Impact: Anticipated costs will fit within existing budget line items.
Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends approval.
By: Charles Evans, Director of Business Development
Legal review by General Counsel

# 500 Jefferson Office/Lab Project, Instrument Move Agreement Terms of Reference

#### **Board approval requested**

 Delegate authority to HFSC CEO to enter into an agreement with Full Spectrum Analytics Inc. (with sub-contractors) to disassemble, move, reassemble, test/verify HFSC lab instruments for a total agreement value not to exceed \$250,000

#### Agreement status/"not to exceed" action reasoning

- Current agreement pricing is around \$185,000 (competitive when comparing quotes from individual suppliers). This amount is within HFSC's CEO authority
- HFSC needs to finalize negotiations/scope, add 2 sub-contractors, provide provision for potential issues during move. This will take amount over \$200,000 (requiring HFSC Board approval)
- HFSC is, therefore, requesting HFSC CEO approval for costs not to exceed \$250,000
- HFSC proposes to sign agreement immediately on completion of negotiations, to ensure scope is placed on contractor/subcontractor work schedules, in line with HFSC needs
- HFSC will update Board at next Board meeting on status/ finalization of agreement, including scope/timetable/cost
- Funding included in HFSC's 500 Jefferson \$1 million move budget

#### Agreement scope

- Full Spectrum, with sub-contractors, will:
  - ➤ Test/verify instruments are working at 1200 Travis
  - Disassemble instruments and pack instruments for move
  - ➤ Move instruments to 500 Jefferson

- Un-pack and reassemble instruments
- > Test/verify instruments are working at 500 Jefferson
- Full Spectrum will move 44 instruments, 2 light sources and 34 associated bench tables (finalizing scope):
  - ➤ 28 forensic biology instruments, 2 light sources and 6 bench tables
  - ➤ 11 seized drugs instruments and 12 bench tables
  - > 5 toxicology instruments and 16 bench tables
- Moves are proposed in two phases:
  - > 10/14-16/19: forensic biology (plus latent prints)
  - ➤ 11/4-6/19: seized drugs, toxicology (plus firearms)
- Full Spectrum will be lead contractor. Instrument suppliers will be sub-contractors to provide additional expertise and maintain equipment warranties. Sub-contractors will include:
  - Agilent, Hamilton, Tecan; adding Qiagen, Thermofisher
- Not included in scope:
  - ➤ Performance check of instruments (once verified working at 500 Jefferson), required to place instruments back into service for case work. This work will be completed by HFSC Section analysts, overseen by management and quality
  - ➤ Move of section microscopes (firearms, biology, seized drugs), to be conducted by contractor that currently services microscopes, separate agreement within HFSC authority

#### **Background**

- Efficient/effective/safe instrument move critical, need to minimize risk and case work downtime
- Therefore, HFSC leveraging existing relationships: instrument suppliers, instrument service agreements

- Full Spectrum currently services many of HFSC's instruments, is knowledgeable of HFSC's processes, uniquely qualified to conduct this work (reduced risk, one lead contractor efficient, one-point contact for HFSC)
- Use of instrument suppliers (sub-contractors) provides another layer of reduced risk and maximizes instrument knowledge if/as issues arise, protects critical instrument warranties
- HFSC commenced discussions with Full Spectrum and individual instrument suppliers in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2018. Multiple discussions/ reviews have taken place
- Progressive quotes, terms and conditions and insurance certificates have been received, need to finalize documents
- Multiple internal HFSC workshops were conducted over the last 2-4 weeks, developing lab/basement move actions. These workshops have finalized HFSC's proposed move scope, timing, schedule
- HFSC is now positioned to negotiate/finalize the Full Spectrum/ sub-contractor agreement
- To ensure HFSC's move timing will be met, HFSC is looking to sign an agreement on completion of negotiations, rather than wait for the next HFSC Board meeting to complete. HFSC needs to ensure its project needs are on contractors' schedule asap
- Funding is available within HFSC's project budget

<u>enter into an agreement with Full Spectrum (with sub-contractors)</u>
<u>to disassemble, move, reassemble, test/verify HFSC lab</u>
instruments for a total agreement value not to exceed \$250,000

HFSC will update Board at next Board meeting on the status/ finalization of this agreement



# CANNABIS SATIVA L. IS IT MARIHUANA OR NOT

The rules have changed...

 Discuss the impact of recent legislative changes related to marihuana and hemp

 Start with background information before these changes went into effect

- Marihuana was defined in the Health and Safety Code as...the plant Cannabis sativa L., whether growing or not, the seeds of that plant, and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of that plant or its seeds. The term does not include:
  - (A) the resin extracted from a part of the plant or a compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the resin;
  - (B) the mature stalks of the plant or fiber produced from the stalks;
  - (C) oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant;
  - (D) a compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the mature stalks, fiber, oil, or cake; or
  - (E) the sterilized seeds of the plant that are incapable of beginning germination

When we received plant samples suspected of being marihuana we would go through a process to remove the excluded parts if present



# Drying to remove moisture



# Removal of mature stalks and roots



- Remaining parts to test for marihuana on the right
- Excluded parts on the left ("hemp")



- "Hemp" was not legally defined
  - It was not marihuana
  - It also was not smoked because there was not enough of the active ingredient delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) to get a person high
  - It could be used to make legal products such as clothing, rope, bags, cosmetics, oils, etc.
  - The tricky part was you couldn't grow the plant legally in the US to get hemp so it was imported from other countries

- December 2018 Federal Farm Bill was passed
  - Created a pathway for states to establish a hemp production program
  - any part of that plant, including the seeds of the plant and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers, whether growing or not, with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis.

- Since this was a legislative year in Texas, the timing was right for the introduction of a hemp production bill in Texas.
  - □ HB 1325
  - Passed both House and Senate with more than a 2/3 majority
  - □ Signed by Governor on June 10, 2019
  - Became effective immediately

- This bill changed the definition of marihuana to exclude hemp so now marihuana is ...the plant Cannabis sativa L., whether growing or not, the seeds of that plant, and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of that plant or its seeds. The term does not include:
  - (A) the resin extracted from a part of the plant or a compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the resin;
  - (B) the mature stalks of the plant or fiber produced from the stalks;
  - (C) oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant;
  - (D) a compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the mature stalks, fiber, oil, or cake; or
  - (E) the sterilized seeds of the plant that are incapable of beginning germination
  - (F) hemp, as that term is defined by Section 121.001, Agriculture Code

- Agriculture Code definition of hemp follows the federal definition
  - Hemp means...the plant Cannabis sativa L. and any part of that plant, including the seeds of the plant and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers, whether growing or not, with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis.

- To satisfy this new exclusion for hemp, labs will have to conduct testing on the portions of the Cannabis sativa L. plant suspected of being marihuana to determine how much delta-9 THC is present
  - □ If there is not more than 0.3% then it is hemp
  - □ If there is more than 0.3% then it is marihuana

- Our lab is not currently capable of performing this type of testing
- We can still identify Cannabis sativa L. but we cannot do the testing necessary to meet this new exclusion and distinguish between marihuana and hemp
- We have suspended testing of suspected marihuana and related products until our reports can be modified to include this limitation in our testing
- We expect to be able to resume testing next week



- Comments
- Questions



#### Proposed changes related to the adoption of HB1325 (6/13/19):

- 1. HB 1325 became effective on 6/10/19
- 2. Analysis of suspected marihuana and related products has been suspended until changes can be implemented.
- 3. Plant substance analysis will be the same as in the past (microscopic and chemical screening with additional testing as necessary). This includes drying and separating the mature stalks and roots from plant submissions. Positive results will no longer be reported as marihuana but will instead be reported as Cannabis sativa L.
- 4. An automatic footnote will be added to reports for Cannabis sativa L.
- 5. For dates of offense prior to June 10, 2019, an additional footnote will be added stating the testing is sufficient to meet the definition of marihuana in effect at that time.
- 6. We will report out all cannabinoids identified in products including delta-8-THC, delta-9-THC, cannabidiol, and cannabinol.
- 7. An automatic footnote will be added to reports for delta-9-THC.
- 8. The SOP and related documents will be updated to reflect reporting of Cannabis sativa L. instead of marihuana.

Reported Result	Footnote		
Cannabis sativa L. (offense on or after June 10, 2019)	Cannabis sativa L.: testing to determine the concentration of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol in accordance with the definition of marihuana per Texas HSC 481.002.26 and the definition of hemp per Agriculture Code 121.001 is not performed by this laboratory.		
Cannabis sativa L. (offense before June 10, 2019)	Cannabis sativa L.: testing to determine the concentration of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol in accordance with the definition of marihuana per Texas HSC 481.002.26 and the definition of hemp per Agriculture Code 121.001 is not performed by this laboratory.  Additional footnote to be added - Testing is sufficient to meet the definition of marihuana per Texas HSC 481.002.26 on the date of offense.		
Contains delta-9- tetrahydrocannabinol	Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol: testing to determine the concentration of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol in accordance with Texas HSC 481.002.5 and the definition of hemp per Agriculture Code 121.001 is not performed by this laboratory.		

# WORK PRODUCT EVIDENCE RETURN Process Improvement Project Summary



Paula Evans, ASQ SSBB

Project Engineer

Lean Six Sigma Development Group (LSSDG)

June 14, 2019



## **Project Overview**

#### Problem

- Over 200,000 DNA extracts and test fires stored at HFSC
- More created everyday, limited space for storage
- No process to return evidence to submitting agency

#### Business Case

- HFSC could not move work product evidence to 500 Jefferson: lack of storage, freezer space
- Right answer at the right time when responding to post-conviction request

#### Project Goals

- Achieve a complete and accurate inventory of work product evidence
- Decrease amount of evidence stored at HFSC
- Develop a process to return/inventory work product to prevent reoccurrence





## **Project Team**

#### Team (left to right):

- Joaho Zamora, HPD Property Room
- Peter Stout, CEO/champion
- Chris Milledge, Firearms
- Carisa Martinez, Quality
- Paula Evans, LSSDG/Team leader
- Ashley Henry, CS/CM
- Marcel Weigel, Biology
- Courtney Head, Biology
- Tim Schmahl, Latent prints

Not pictured:

Kathleen Sill, CSSMBB/Project Coach





## Firearms Test Fires – Before & After Project





- ➤ Returned over 23,000 test fires to the property room
- ➤ Recycled over 16,800 nonevidence test fires
- ➤ All test fires are inventoried in the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) as they are returned

## Firearms Test Fires – Before & After Project





- To date historical backlog of test fires reduced by 68%
- ➤ All test fires will be returned before section moves to Jefferson

## DNA Extracts - Before & After Project





- Created a master inventory for DNA extracts that can be searched and is easy to access
- ➤ Inventoried over 41,670 extracts
- ➤ Will complete before section moves to Jefferson

## DNA Extracts - Before & After Project





- ➤ 26% of historical extracts inventoried
- ➤ Hundreds of envelopes containing DNA Extracts returned

## **Project Improvements**



- ✓ Created processes for inventory and return
  - > Test fires are returned in containers to the property room
  - DNA Extracts are inventoried as work is performed
- ✓ Optimized space in firearms vault and in biology freezer storage
- ✓ Made improvements without compromising quality
  - > Audit shows no defects
- ✓ Created a plan to resolve historical work product

## **Lessons Learned**

- ➤ Stakeholder collaboration is key
  - Working with key stakeholders early on created critical buy in and cooperation
- ➤ 5S is a powerful tool
  - The team organized and standardized the way DNA extracts were stored making evidence easy to locate in seconds



## Recommendations



- Document, document, document
  - Keep electronic documentation for quick searching
  - Keep evidence logs/outsourcing information/change logs in centralized repository
  - Risk assessment of documentation practices with 10-year focus
- Optimize LIMS to handle known workflow occurrences
  - (i.e. controls associated with multiple cases, evidence return/barcoding)
- Explore options for storing DNA extracts at room temperature



## Return On Investment (ROI)

# SCIENCE CENTRAL STATES

#### **Cost of Poor Quality**

- Previous process required tribal knowledge to find
- To inventory historical DNA extracts = >3,000 hours
- To return historical test fires = ~700 hours

Total cost of poor quality =  $^{\$}120,000$ 

#### Project cost \$16,285

- Created new processes to prevents historical issues from reoccurring
- Test fires are returned when work is complete
- DNA extracts are inventoried during process (in seconds)
- DNA extracts are found in seconds
- Knowing history won't repeat itself priceless



## Questions?







LSSDG@HOUSTONFORENSICSCIENCE.ORG

## Multidisciplinary Request Process Improvement Project Summary



Aimee Grimaldi, MS, ASQ SSBB

Project Engineer Lean Six Sigma Development Group

June 14, 2019

## The project

#### **Problem Statement:**

Process for completing analysis on evidence items that have more than one discipline request is inefficient, lacks visibility across sections, have slower turnaround time

#### **Business Case:**

Improvements will increase efficiency in the process while better maintaining the integrity of the evidence

#### **Project Goals:**

Improve transfer time between sections, maintain evidence integrity and reduce the risk for errors



## The project team



Kathi Sill Project Coach



Aimee Grimaldi Project Engineer



Lori Wilson Project Champion



Jeffrey Frye CS/CM Supervisor



Carina Haynes CSU Supervisor



Brook Knapp Seized Drugs Analyst



Preston Coleman

DME Examiner



Preshious Rearden R&D Director



Juli Rehfuss FBIO Production Lead



Adam Whitman Lead Processor - Latent Prints



Kimberly Zeller Firearms Supervisor



Kelly Freeman Forensic Biology Analyst

## Improvements made

## **Improved Visibility**

- Implemented a daily meeting
- Created a report in Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS)

## **Proactive evidence preservation**

- Implemented a gun magazine reference collection
- Implemented gun magazine preservation policy
- Increased evidence preservation

### Improved efficiency

- Prioritize multidisciplinary requests
- Firearms collected by CSU bypass property room





## Quality metrics

Process improvements did not compromise the quality of the work

No missed requests or transfer errors since improved process implemented on Dec. 13, 2018





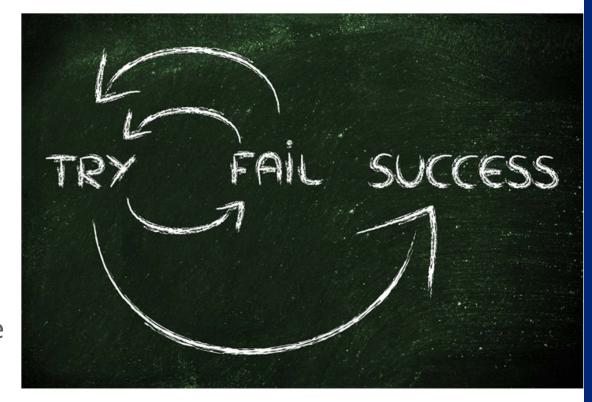
## **Production metrics**

- Turnaround time of latent print processing multidisciplinary requests dropped from 20 days to 5 days
- Turnaround time of forensic biology cases dropped from 18 to 10 days
- Adoption by the Houston Police Department of the gun magazine preservation policy continues to increase



## Project lessons learned

- Project team was composed of right people
- MDR team was together during portal and JT changes to identify and mitigate gaps and risks associated with the process
- Increased communication and visibility was key to make MDR process proactive

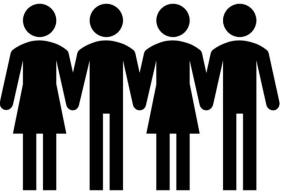




## Project recommendations

- Form more working groups with staff members from multiple sections
- Evidence intake from stakeholder would provide better evidence preservation
- Expand the scope of CSU response to control collection







### Return on investment

- Project cost the company \$32,000
  - 694 man hours
- New process eliminated potential risks
  - TFSC disclosure
  - Time spent working on quality events
  - Failing to aide investigation
- New process gets stakeholders "right answer at the right time"
  - Reduce time associated with "waiting" on a section
  - Removed 5-day hold associated with CSU NIBIN evidence
  - Aides the disruption in gun violence
    - Pro-active workflow to identify requests

      Quality evidence preservation

## Next steps – testing policy to remove 5-day hold





Implement testing policy for firearms NOT collected by the Crime Scene Unit

The magazine will be handled in a manner that preserves future analysis. The body of the firearm will not be tested for contact DNA. The 5-day hold can be lifted and the firearm can now go straight to the firearms section.





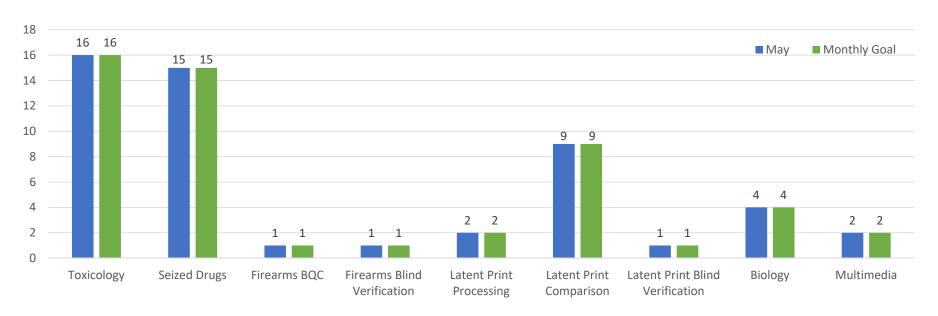


LSSDG@HoustonForensicScience.org

## Quality Division Report June 14, 2019



## BQCs Submitted in May





## Blind Quality: Accomplishments and Challenges

- Firearm blind discovered by assigned examiner
- Biology blind discovered before being assigned to an analyst
- Universal Latent Workstation (ULW) software
  - The software assigns a "quality score" to latent prints, indicating the probability a print will get a "hit" in the database
  - HFSC is investigating whether using the software on prints created for the blind program will better ensure they truly reflect actual casework

Forensic Discipline	Cases Completed in May
Toxicology – BAC	13
Seized Drugs	11
Biology	0 (DNA)
ыоюбу	3 (screening)
Firearms – Blind	2
Verification (BV)	
Firearms – Blind Quality  Control (BQC)	1
Latent Print Processing	0
<b>Latent Print Comparison</b>	6
Latent Print - Blind Verification (BV)	3
Multimedia	2



## Audits/Disclosures/Corrective Actions

#### Firearms:

- Report being finalized for disclosure to Texas Forensic Science Commission (TFSC)
  - Audit of casework that resulted from the nonconformance was done based on TFSC recommendations for how to sample for statistical significance
- This nonconformance involves an investigative lead report from the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) that was reported with an incorrect case number
- Review completed: 461 cases reviewed from sample size 3,096
- Audit findings: 95% confidence level this type of error occurs in no more than 1% of NIBIN cases
  - Five administrative errors in 461 case records (error rate 1.1%)



## 2019 Proficiency Testing (PT)

Discipline		Tests in Progress	Tests Completed	Comments
Seized Drugs		6	-	
Toxicology		3	4	
Firearms		2	1	
Crime Scene		1	-	
Latent Prints		3	3	
Multimedia	Audio/Video	-	-	
	Digital	3	-	
Forensic Biology		12	8	



## 2019 Testimony Data

- 36 analysts have testified this year
- 33 of 36 have been monitored
  - 3 testified for work done prior to HFSC employment no monitoring needed
- Quarterly transcript review
  - First round of transcripts are in the final evaluation phase to be discussed with analysts
    - First time identifying information redacted from reviewers
  - Second round of transcripts will be requested in June
- In 2018, evaluations not completed for three testifying staff members
  - Process completed transcript evaluations being discussed with analysts



## Detailed Data



#### **Quality Division Notifications**

Incidents, Corrective and Preventive Actions

	<b>Quality Notified</b>	Summary of Notification	Comments
Biology			
2019-029 CAR	5/13/2019	Two Forensic Biology reports are being amended because the presumptive semen results could not be reproduced. An item of evidence in each case was reported as being positive for the presumptive test for semen but are now being amended to indicate that the presumptive test for semen is inconclusive.	
2019-031 IR	5/13/2019	Reference samples were processed on an instrument before the post-maintenance performance check was completed. The instrument had preventive maintenance performed and the Forensic Biology SOP requires that a performance check then be performed before the instrument is placed back into service.	
Crime Scene			
2019-033 CAR	5/23/2019	A Crime Scene Investigator (CSI) processed a vehicle at the Vehicle Examination Building (VEB) but did not collect several gloves from inside the vehicle. Because the vehicle has been released the gloves are nonrecoverable.	
Latent Prints	;		
2019-028 CAR	5/2/2019	Several technical and administrative errors were identified during a Latent Print quality check of a case that had previously been technically and administratively reviewed.	
2019-032 CAR	5/15/2019	A Latent Print processor saved digital images with an incorrect file name. The images were saved in the Mideo software and to DVD using the incorrect case number in the naming scheme.	
Managemen	t		
2019-030 IR	5/8/2019	A staff member improperly documented a missed electronic transfer because the HFSC quality manual revision published on February 11, 2019 does not provide instruction on how to properly document electronic chain of custody transfers in LIMS that do not accurately depict the physical transfers. This language was in the previous version of the manual but had been omitted from the current one.	

HFSC's Quality Division investigates nonconforming work and helps develop solutions in compliance with accreditation and legal standards.

With regard to the items listed above, the Division has not detected any use of inaccurate results in a criminal proceeding.