### Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc.

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

*July 12, 2019* 



Position 1 - Dr. Stacey Mitchell, Board Chair

Position 2 - Anna Vasquez

Position 3 - Philip Hilder

Position 4 - Francisco Medina

Position 5 - Janet Blancett

Position 6 - Dr. Robert McPherson

Position 7 - Vacant

Position 8 - Mary Lentschke

Position 9 - Sandra Guerra Thompson, Vice Chair

Ex-Officio - Tracy Calabrese

### Table of Contents

| • | AgendaP                                       | age 3     |
|---|---|-----------|
| • | June 14, 2019 Draft Minutes F                 | age 6     |
| • | President's Report F                          | age 10    |
| • | Annual Priorities & Performance Objectives    | Page 18   |
| • | House Bill 1325 Update                        | Page 20   |
| • | Blood Vial Recall Update                      | Page 23   |
| • | Lease Agreement (Agilent Technologies)        | Page 25   |
| • | Operations Report                             | Page 26   |
| • | Crime Scene & Digital Multimedia Units Update | Page 35   |
| • | Facility Project Update                       | Page 73   |
| • | Quality Report                                | . Page 75 |



#### HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER, INC.

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING July 12, 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. Reading of draft minutes of June 14, 2019 Board meeting. Consideration of proposed corrections, if any. Approval of minutes.
- 4. Public comment.
- 5. Report from Dr. Stacey Mitchell, board chair, including a monthly update of activities and other announcements.

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

- 6. Report from Dr. Stout, president and CEO, including technical updates, outreach efforts, staffing changes and other corporate business items.
  - a. Presentation of president and CEO's annual priorities and performance objectives for the Board's consideration, and possible related action.
  - b. Update on implications of HB 1325, recent legislation providing for the legalization of hemp production in Texas and amending the definition of marihuana.
  - c. Update on a manufacturer recall of vials used in the collection of blood samples for intoxication offenses.
- 7. Request from Dr. Stout to enter into a lease agreement, with an option to purchase, with Agilent Technologies for one LC-QQQ device, related components, service and training, in the total contract amount of \$359,969.60 and possible related action.
- 8. Report from Mr. David Leach, treasurer and CFO, regarding company financials and other fiscal updates.
- 9. Monthly operations report from Dr. Amy Castillo, vice president and COO, including a review of turnaround times and backlogs.

#### Reports and presentations by staff

- 10. Report from Mr. Jerry Pena, director of CSU and digital multimedia evidence, on evidence collection, turnaround times and other updates.
- 11. Report from Mr. Charles Evans, director of business development, regarding the status of the Corporation's facility project and move to 500 Jefferson.
- 12. Report from Ms. Erika Ziemak, assistant quality director, regarding quality assurance, including review of testimony monitoring, proficiency tests and corrective actions.
- 13. Executive session in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Section 551.074, personnel matters, discussion or deliberation regarding the president and CEO's annual performance evaluation.
- 14. Reconvene into open session and consider any action deemed necessary as a result of the executive session regarding personnel matters.
- 15. 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 9th day of July, 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 9th day of July 2019.

Jordan Benton

#### Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc.

## MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES June 14, 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 June 14, 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 June 11, 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 June 14, 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, Sandra Guerra Thompson, Anthony Graves, Philip Hilder, Francisco Medina, Janet Blancett, Dr. Robert "Bob" H. McPherson, Dr. Stacey Mitchell, Mary Lentschke and Ms. Tracy Calabrese

No directors were absent

Chairwoman Cásarez declared a quorum was present

- E. Chairwoman Cásarez requested the board vote to reappoint the Corporation's officers. Chairwoman Cásarez moved to reappoint Dr. Peter Stout as HFSC's president. Vice Chair Thompson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Chairwoman Cásarez moved to reappoint Dr. Amy Castillo as the Corporation's vice president. Vice Chair Thompson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Chairwoman Cásarez moved to reappoint Mr. David Leach as HFSC's treasurer. Vice Chair Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Chairwoman Cásarez moved to reappoint Ms. Jordan Benton as the Corporation's secretary. Vice Chair Thompson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- F. Chairwoman Cásarez asked if any changes were needed for the April 12, 2019 board meeting minutes. Dr. Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Medina seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- G. Chairwoman Cásarez asked if members of the public wished to address the board. No one addressed the board.
- H. Chairwoman Cásarez presented a chair's report. Ms. Cásarez said that, as arranged with Mayor Sylvester Tuner, she had resigned as chair effective July 1, 2019. Ms. Casarez reminded the board she had agreed to serve an additional year as chair to help HFSC secure a new facility. Houston's City Council voted to approve Mayor Turner's nomination of Dr. Stacey Mitchell to replace Ms. Cásarez as board chair on July 1. Ms. Cásarez thanked the board and HFSC staff for all they have done and gave special thanks to Vice Chair Thompson and Mr. Graves for their support. Ms. Cásarez said Mr. Graves had also resigned his position after nearly four years of service. Ms. Anna Vasquez, also an exoneree, will fill Director Graves' position. The Chair said she and Vice Chair Thompson will travel to Friedberg, Germany in July to present a co-written article about HFSC's blind testing program at the International Conference on Evidence Law and Forensic Science.
- I. Ms. Akilah Mance, general counsel, said Vice Chair Thompson disclosed a possible conflict of interest regarding a pending grant that HFSC had applied for and Ms. Thompson is seeking to join as a subrecipient under her employer, the University of Houston. The grant would provide training to improve forensic testimony in the justice system. Ms. Mance shared that the Vice Chair, as required by the local government code Chapters 171 and 176 and HFSC policy, fulfilled legal obligations to disclose the possible conflict. Ms. Mance said the matter was being brought to the board per HFSC policy to determine whether the grant and Vice Chair Thompson's participation in it are in HFSC's best interests. The Chairwoman made a motion that no further action is needed. Ms. Blancett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and Dr. McPherson and Vice Chair Thompson abstained from voting.
- J. Chairwoman Cásarez made a motion to extend the deadline to review Dr. Stout's annual evaluation. Vice Chair Thompson seconded the motion. With none opposed, the motion passed.
- K. Dr. Peter Stout, president and CEO, presented the president's report. He thanked Mr. Graves and Ms. Cásarez for their support of the lab. Dr. Stout reviewed HFSC's overall turnaround time and requests for May 2019. Dr. Stout reminded the board that turnaround times will continue to be impacted due to the lab-wide move to 500 Jefferson. Dr. Stout said staffing and funding continue to be significant issues for the toxicology section and further action may be necessary as the year progresses. Dr. Stout also gave a staffing update. He reviewed recent outreach events, including a tour of the lab with Rep. Gina Calanni. Dr. Stout shared that a team of 10 from HFSC made an appearance at CrimeCon 2019, an event held in New Orleans for about 3,500 true crime fans. He said CrimeCon travel and other costs were covered for HFSC to create a mock crime scene for VIP conference goers and two presentations. Dr. Stout gave the board an update summarizing bills passed by the Texas legislature that impacts forensics.

- L. Mr. David Leach, chief financial officer and treasurer, requested approval to reallocate funds in the FY18 budget to better reflect actual spending, including the use of grant dollars. Vice Chair Thompson made a motion to approve the budget reallocations. Dr. McPherson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- M. Mr. Leach gave a financial update. Mr. Leach thanked the Chairwoman for serving on the board. He said the budget is on track and that the FY20 budget was pending approval by the City of Houston and HFSC's funding should be received in July. Mr. Leach said the City of Houston's finance department agreed that HFSC will be reimbursed for space in the 1200 Travis building that has already been handed over to the Houston Police Department (HPD.)
- N. Dr. Amy Castillo, vice president and chief operations officer, presented an operations report. Dr. Castillo thanked the Chairwoman for her service to HFSC. Dr. Castillo walked the board through changes she had made to the operations report, which now includes images from HFSC's new management dashboard to present production data. Dr. Castillo reviewed May data, including open quality reports, backlog data and turnaround times. Dr. Castillo updated the board on the DNA outsourcing project. HFSC expected to stop outsourcing by the end of July, however, additional training and a transition to probabilistic genotyping means the section will need another three months of training. Outsourcing will continue during that time.
- O. Mr. Jerry Pena, director of the crime scene (CSU) and digital multimedia units, began his report by thanking the Chairwoman for her support. He said Lori Wilson, quality director, will work directly with the crime scene unit until she retires in August and had moved her office to sit in the same area as CSU. Mr. Pena said her CSU and quality experience will help the unit improve further.
- P. Mr. Charles Evans, director of business development, updated the board about the lab's ongoing move to 500 Jefferson. Mr. Evans said the May moves were successful, including a timely move of the unit that oversees the DNA database. Mr. Evans said the firearms shooting tank had been successfully lowered into the basement. HFSC has ordered lab furniture for the 18<sup>th</sup> floor and the lab's ceiling panels will arrive in August. Mr. Evans said construction is on schedule. He said HFSC had handed over 50 percent of the space it had previously occupied in HPD headquarters at 1200 Travis. Mr. Evans said HFSC is now focused on the October and November lab moves
- Q. Mr. Evans requested the board authorize Dr. Stout to enter into a service agreement with Full Spectrum Analytics Inc., a company that will move lab instruments for a total contract amount not to exceed \$250,000. Dr. McPherson made a motion to delegate the authority to Dr. Stout. Mr. Hilder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- R. Mr. James Miller, manager of seized drugs, presented to the board about the implication of a new Texas law that legalizes hemp production in the state and changes the definition of marijuana. Mr. Miller said the change in law has broad implications for HFSC and other crime labs in the state. Mr. Miller said HB 1325 brings Texas in line with the federal Hemp Farming Act approved in December 2018 by stating that a cannabis sativa L plant that has no more than 0.3 percent tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) is hemp. Anything with a higher concentration of THC will now be considered marijuana. However, until now, Mr. Miller told the board, crime labs in Texas, HFSC included, have not had to determine the concentration of THC in

suspected marijuana plants. To meet the new requirement, HFSC will have to purchase additional instrumentation, validate methods and possibly hire additional staff at a cost of several million dollars. Crime labs statewide are facing a similar issue, he said. HFSC halted testing immediately after the law went into effect on June 10 and will resume analysis once it finalizes verbiage on its reports that explain the limitations of current testing and the inability to differentiate between hemp and marijuana. Dr. Stout promised to update the board further as the situation unfolds.

- S. Ms. Paula Evans, project engineer, updated the board on a project focused on HFSC returning to the HPD Property Room evidence created during analysis. Ms. Evans said HFSC has already returned over 23,000 test fires to the property room and recycled over 16,800 non-evidence test fires. Ms. Evans said the project team learned that returned evidence created by the DNA process was not possible and had instead created an organized inventory of extracts so staff can more easily find and access the evidence when needed. Ms. Evans said quality has not been compromised, and the projects outcomes will prevent similar issues in the future.
- T. Ms. Aimee Grimaldi, project engineer, updated the board on a project that sought to improve the process for accepting and analyzing evidence that moves through more than one forensic discipline. She said the improvements increase efficiency in the overall process while maintaining the integrity of evidence. Ms. Grimaldi said sections now meet daily to prioritize multidisciplinary requests and discuss the evidence handling. She said the team also implemented a policy to prevent destruction of potential latent print and DNA evidence on firearms. As part of the improvements, CSU is bypassing the property room and delivering firearms collected at scenes directly to HFSC. Turnaround times on latent print multidisciplinary requests has dropped 20 to five days. Requests that also go to the DNA sections are being completed in an average of 10 days, down from 18.
- U. 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 latent print section is working to see if an FBI software, Universal Latent Workstation (ULW,) can help the quality division determine whether the blind quality controls it creates are reflective of the section's routine casework.
- V. Chairwoman Casarez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Thompson seconded the motion. The meeting ADJOURNED at approximately 11:56 a.m.

| By:                     |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Jordan Benton Secretary |  |

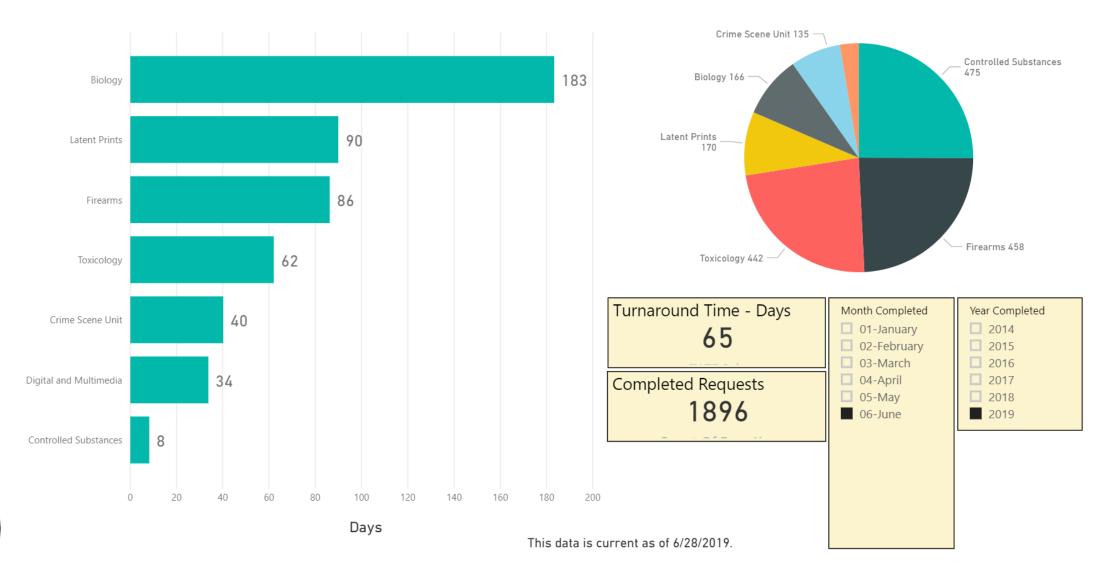
# Presidents Report

July 12, 2019



#### Requests Completed by Section

#### Average Turnaround Time for June 2019





## Staffing – July 12, 2019

- 194 staff members
  - 7 City of Houston civilians
  - 187 HFSC employees
- 12 open positions, 7 offers accepted
  - 2 forensic analysts toxicology
  - 3 latent print examiner trainees
  - 1 NIBIN tech (internal transfer)
  - 1 quality specialist

- 5 active vacancies
  - 1 CS/CM evidence specialist
  - 2 crime scene investigators
  - 1 forensic analyst toxicology
  - 1 postdoctoral research associate



### Certifications

- Sarah Lambert Certified Crime Scene Analyst
  - International Association for Identification (IAI)
- Mary Hall Diplomate, Molecular Biology
  - American Board of Criminalists (ABC)



### Outreach

- Tour with forensic students from the University of Central Lancashire in Britain
- Sexual Assault Task Force meeting
- Meeting with Sen. Perry's staff to discuss implications of hemp legalization
- Tour with editorial board members from the Houston Chronicle
- Dr. Amy Castillo and Akilah Mance, general counsel, presented about HFSC with Board Vice Chair Sandra Thompson to the Northwestern University School of Law in Illinois
- Staff from forensic biology/DNA, firearms, latent prints and crime scene spoke about proper evidence handling at the Houston Police Department Training Academy



# The Big Move

July 12, 2019

















#### HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER, INC.

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

July 12, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

| Agenda Action<br>Item No.: | <b>6a.</b> Presentation of president and CEO's annual priorities and performance objectives for the Board's consideration and possible related action.   |
|----------------------------|--|
| Subject:                   | Consider approval of the president and CEO's annual priorities and performance objectives.   |
| Background:                | On January 13, 2017, the Board offered, and Dr. Peter Stout accepted, an Agreement of Employment as both president and CEO of HFSC. Pursuant to Dr. Stout's Agreement of Employment, the president and CEO shall submit an annual list of priorities and performance objectives to the Board, on or before June 1 <sup>st</sup> of each year. On June 14, 2019, the Board voted to extend the June 1, 2019 deadline for Dr. Stout to submit his proposed list to the Board.  |
| Executive<br>Summary:      | Pursuant to the agreement of employment, Dr. Stout, in consultation with the Board Chair, shall develop and submit for the Board's consideration and approval a list of annual priorities and performance objectives for HFSC. The proposed list must fit within the Board's goals for the corporation. If approved by the Board, the priorities and performance objectives shall be part of the Board's annual performance evaluation of Dr. Stout. Additionally, the submitted list of performance objectives, shall be in accordance with the Board's policies and state and federal law. |
| Fiscal Impact:             | No anticipated additional fiscal impact.   |
| Staff<br>Recommendation:   | Staff recommends approval.   |
| By:                        | Dr. Peter Stout, President and CEO<br>Legal review by General Counsel  |

# 2019 HFSC Company Goals

- Lab average TAT for the year of 45 days, 90% of support requests completed within
- Designated TAT, and backlog no more than 12% of received requests for the year.
- No repeated quality findings in internal or external audits.
- 88% retention (12% voluntary turnover, currently 6%)
- 75% completion of quarterly one-on-ones, semi-annual review
- All training plans (including management training, onboarding) have defined timelines, and ensure current trainees on schedule in the first year
- Complete move of all HFSC staff members to the new Jefferson location, delivering the required lab/office functionality to ensure safe, secure, efficient, effective operations. Each scheduled move shall be completed as scheduled with the entire move completed within budget.

# Hemp vs. Marijuana

July 12, 2019



### Hemp vs. Marijuana

- Harris County District Attorney's Office will not accept any misdemeanor charges for marijuana (4 oz or less) without quantification. Felony charges to be considered on a case-bycase basis
- HFSC may have a short-term solution for plant material, still months of validation needed
  - Conduct a qualitative GC-MS analysis at HFSC
  - Outsource the quant to one of 2 accredited commercial labs.
    - One lab uses a non mass spectral method ~\$90 still some questions
    - One commercial lab can do this at about \$400-\$600/sample but almost no capacity
- No solution for extracts, including edibles and oils
- Longer term is an LC-MS or MSMS method





### Recalled blood vials

- Vendor of blood vials used nationally for DWI testing recalled a lot of 240,000 tubes in late May-early June due to failing to add preservative into reportedly 300 tubes, about 101 of which made it out to market.
- The preservative
  - Prevents clotting
  - Helps stabilize alcohol concentration in blood
- Unclear where the 101 impacted tubes ended up after distribution, which began in August 2018
- FOR HFSC: about 2,400 impacted kits from this lot distributed, got back nearly 1,000
- Places all DWI cases in which blood drawn into vials in that lot in question



## Recalled blood vials: Response

- Notified Houston Police Department, HCDAO and others
- Collected as many tubes from that lot as possible
- Had 3,000 new tubes in house for July 4 holiday weekend
- Communicating with vendor, BD, to ensure discovery, subpoena handled properly
- Texas Forensic Science Commission issued a statewide memo on issue with input from HFSC, TACLD, DPS and HCDAO



#### HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER, INC.

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

July 12, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

| Agenda Action   | 7. Consider authorizing the President and CEO to enter into a lease agreement     |
|-----------------|---|
| Item No.:       | (with option to purchase,) with Agilent Technologies for one LC-QQQ device,       |
|                 | related components, service, and training, in the amount of \$359,969.60 (total   |
|                 | contract amount,) and possible related action.                                    |
|                 |   |
| Subject:        | Authorizing the President and CEO to sign a lease agreement to acquire a LC-      |
|                 | QQQ for use in lab's toxicology section.  |
| Background:     | As previously discussed, HFSC needs two new LC-QQQ devices to                     |
|                 | immediately increase capacity within the lab's toxicology section and meet the    |
|                 | growing needs of our stakeholders. During the April Board meeting, staff          |
|                 | sought and received approval to lease one of the two required LC-QQQ              |
|                 | devices, which is the most feasible financial option for HFSC. Staff now          |
|                 | requests approval to lease the second LC-QQQ after further analysis of HFSC's     |
|                 | operational needs and the forecasted financial position of the corporation.       |
|                 | Approval of this purchase will maximize efficiency in the toxicology section by   |
|                 | concurrently operating both devices and mitigate the risk of moving older, less   |
|                 | stable equipment to 500 Jefferson.  |
| Executive       | Before the agreement can be signed, the Board must approve the total              |
| <b>Summary:</b> | expenditure (\$359,969.60) of the lease agreement over the 60-month term,         |
|                 | which includes the LC-QQQ, components, service, maintenance and staff             |
|                 | training. Pursuant to Board Resolution No.2015-001 and the Corporation's          |
|                 | financial procurement policies, any expenditure over \$200,000 shall be           |
|                 | approved by the Chair of the Board, President and CEO, as well as Chief           |
|                 | Financial Officer and Treasurer. The Board may also delegate its authority to     |
|                 | the President and CEO to enter into this agreement. The proposed lease            |
|                 | agreement fits within HFSC's existing budget and will improve operations          |
|                 | within the toxicology section.  |
|                 |   |
|                 | The components for the acquired LC-QQQ are sole source and will                   |
|                 | subsequently be identified as such in any future purchases.                       |
| Fiscal Impact:  | Anticipated costs will fit within existing budget line items and will be included |
| •               | in subsequent budgets, for the duration of the lease agreement.                   |
| G . 40          |   |
| Staff           | Staff recommends approval.  |
| Recommendation: |   |
| By:             | Dr. Peter Stout, President and CEO  |
|                 | Legal review by General Counsel   |
|                 | I   |

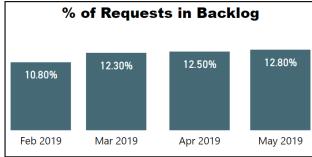
# Operations Report

July 12, 2019

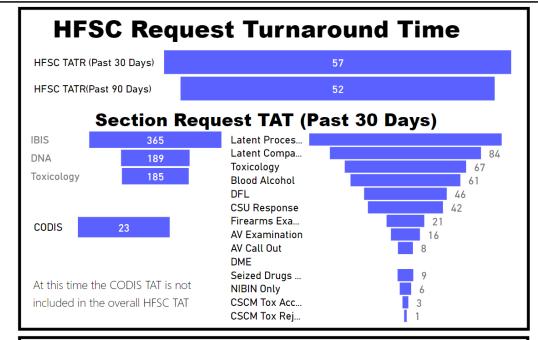


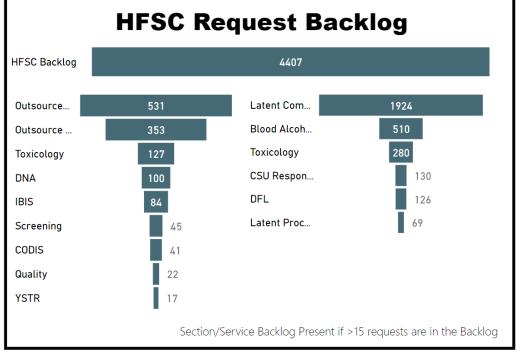
### **June 2019 Company Overview**









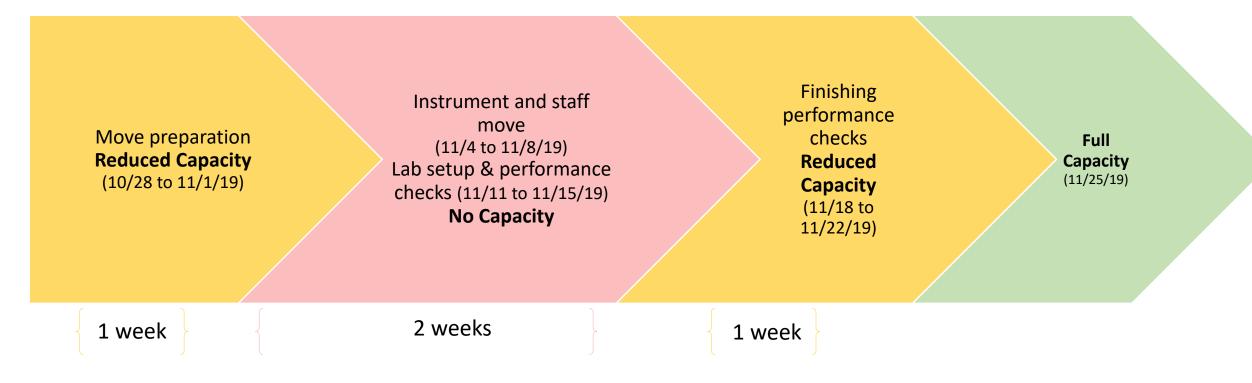


## Highlights

Projected impact of laboratory move on casework



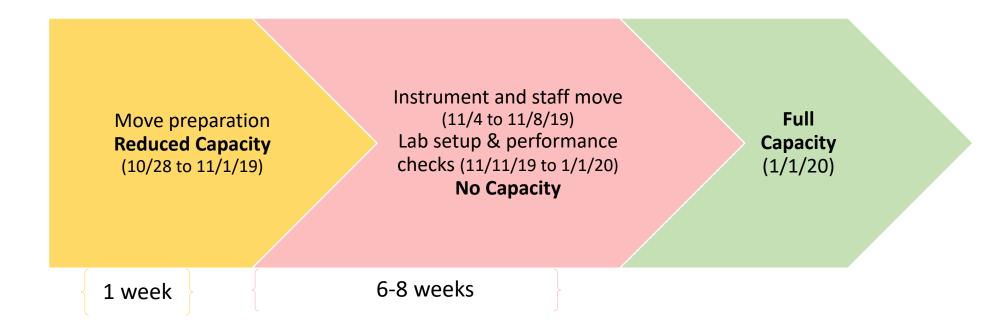
## Seized Drugs





Projected section will be back to normal operations by April 1, 2020

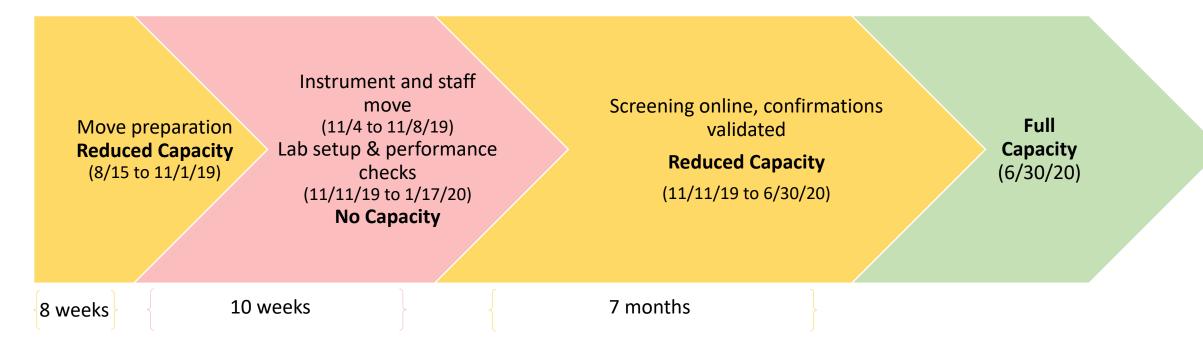
## Toxicology: Blood Alcohol





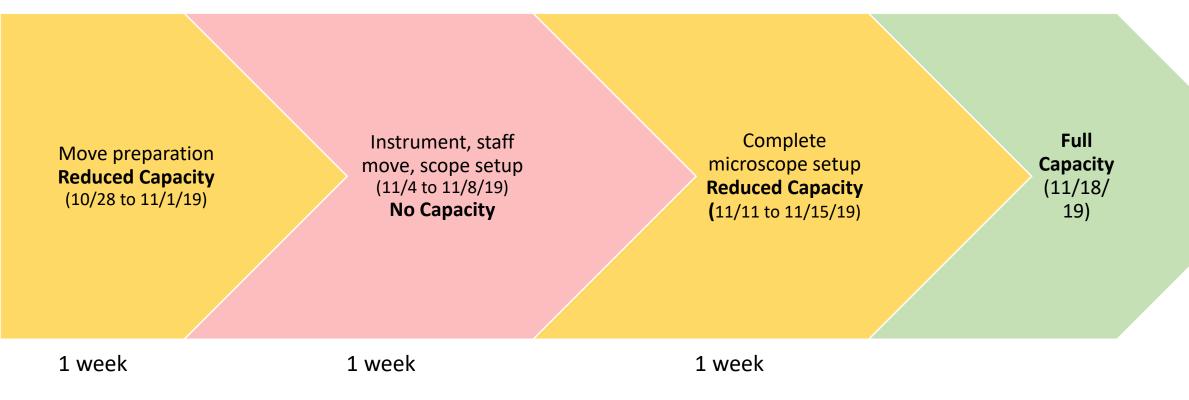
Projected section will be back to normal operations by April 1, 2020

## Toxicology: Drugs



HFSC is outsourcing drug confirmations. This will continue until new instruments (LC-QQQ) are validated, projected to be completed 6/30/20

### Firearms



Projected section will be back to normal operations by March 1, 2020



## Forensic Biology

Move preparation Reduced Capacity (9/30 to 10/4/19) Instrument and staff move (10/8 to 10/19/19)
Lab setup & performance checks (10/21/19 to 11/29/19)

No Capacity

Full Capacity (12/2/19)

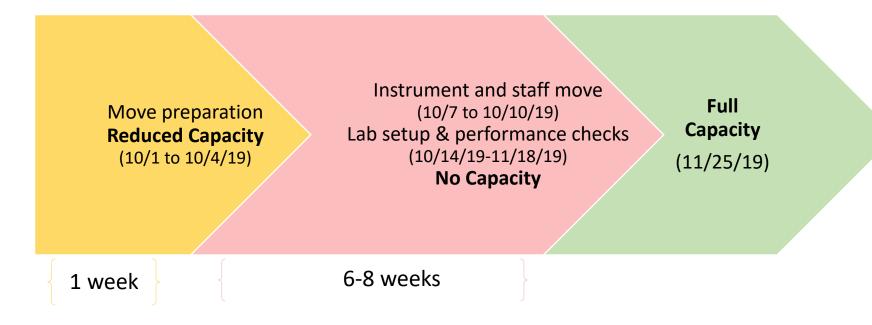
1 week

6-8 weeks

HFSC will outsource sexual assault kits while lab is at no capacity. Projected section will be fully operational on non-sexual assault kits by January 1, 2020



## Latent Print Processing



Projected section will be back to normal operations by Jan. 30, 2020



## Crime Scene and Multimedia

July 12, 2019



### Multimedia Lab

- Cross-training ongoing for multimedia staff, audio/video and digital, to increase section efficiency
- Digital caseload increasing
- Past six months, HFSC has been unable to unlock 65 Apple and 48 Android phones
  - HFSC currently uses Graykey software at a cost of \$15,000 to unlock iPhones for investigations
  - Graykey software can only be used for iPhones, limited capability
  - Another software, Cellebrite UFED Premium, would provide HFSC with far greater capability, including unlocking Android devices, at a cost of between \$80,000 to \$150,000
  - HFSC pays \$2,000/phone for devices it cannot unlock inhouse, so it would have cost \$226,000 to unlock all devices in past six months. Cellebrite UFED resolves this problem

# Crime Scene Unit

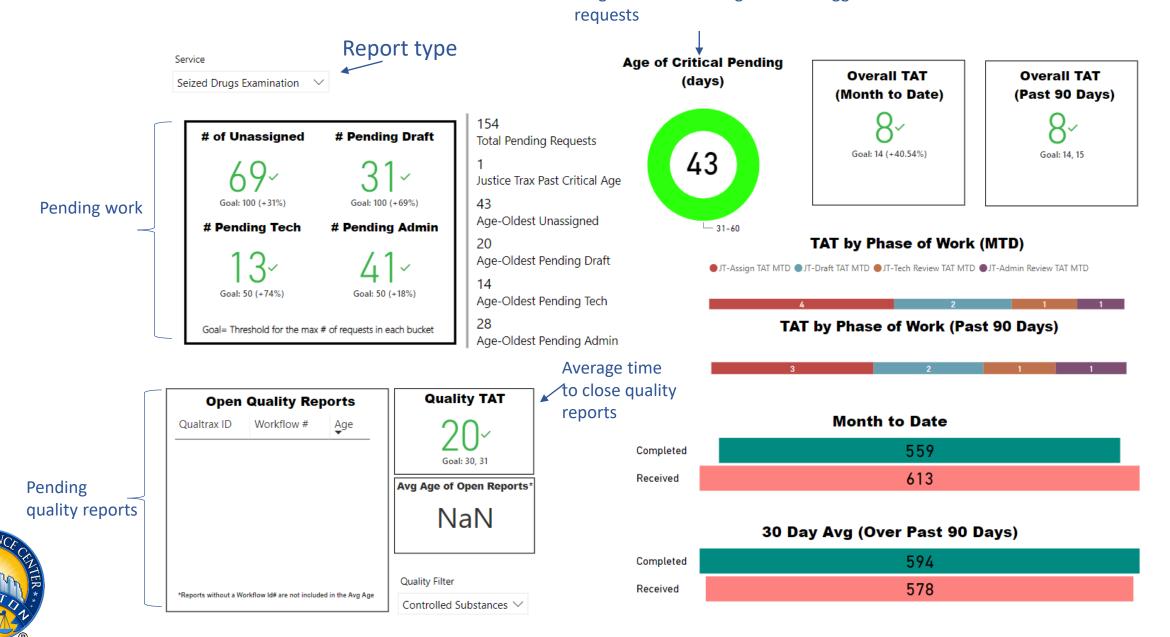
- Fleet replacement
  - Purchasing two pickup trucks to replace Suburban SUVs
  - Better price point
- Updating Standard Operation Procedures (SOP)
  - CSIs have different experience levels, leading to inconsistent SOP interpretations
  - HFSC creating a CSI working group to review SOPs, recommend changes to SOPs that will lead to more consistent interpretation



# Detail data (all HFSC Dashboard data collected on 6/30/19)



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



Center of ring=average age of backlog Ring=breakdown of age for backlogged

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

Goal= Threshold for the max # of requests in each bucket

Service

### Age of Critical Pending (days)

N...

Received

### Overall TAT (Month to Date)

3~ Goal: 5, 10 Overall TAT (Past 90 Days)

Goal: 5, 10

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

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

TAT by Phase of Work (Past 90 Days)

2 0 3

#### **Open Quality Reports**

 Qualtrax ID
 Workflow #
 Age

 47021
 2019-041
 9

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

Quality TAT

18

Goal: 30, 31

52

**Total Pending Requests** 

Age-Oldest Unassigned

Age-Oldest Pending Draft

Age-Oldest Pending Tech

Age-Oldest Pending Admin

Justice Trax Past Critical Age

Avg Age of Open Reports\*

9

Quality Filter

Client Services/Case Manag... ∨

Month to Date

Complet... 405

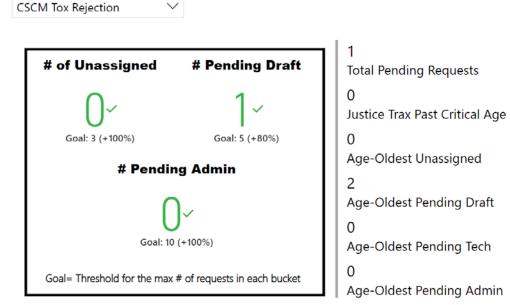
403

#### 30 Day Avg (Over Past 90 Days)

 Complet...
 473

 Received
 431















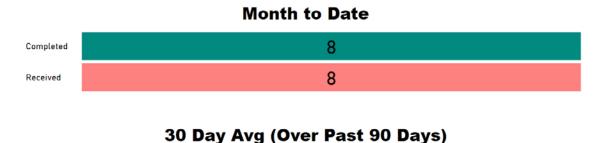
0 4

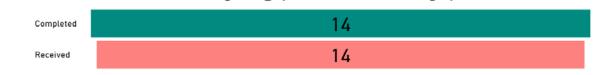


\*Reports without a Workflow Id# are not included in the Avg Age

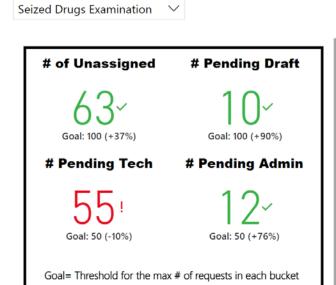
Service



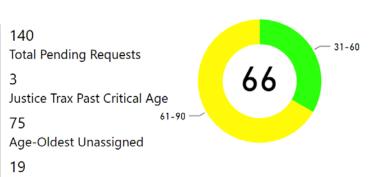








Service



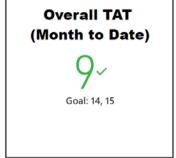
Age-Oldest Pending Draft

Age-Oldest Pending Tech

Age-Oldest Pending Admin

**Age of Critical Pending** 

(days)









# Qualtrax ID Workflow # Age

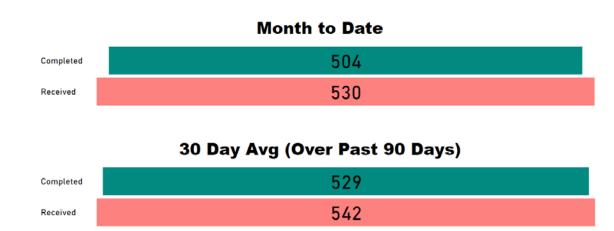
\*Reports without a Workflow Id# are not included in the Avg Age



Controlled Substances ∨

26

18



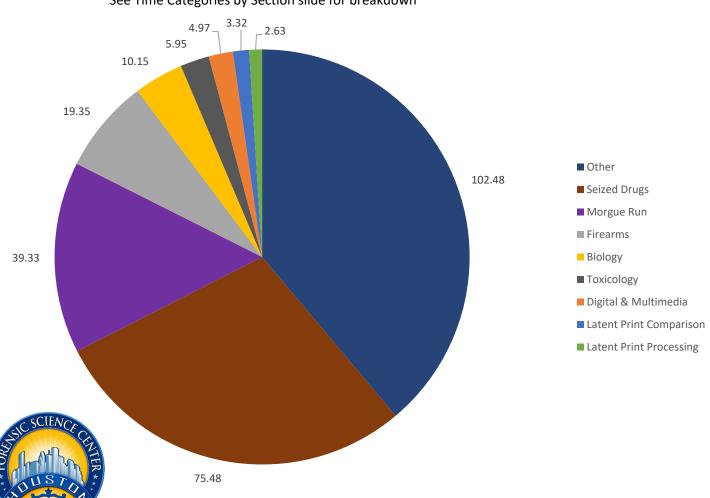


# CS/CM – June

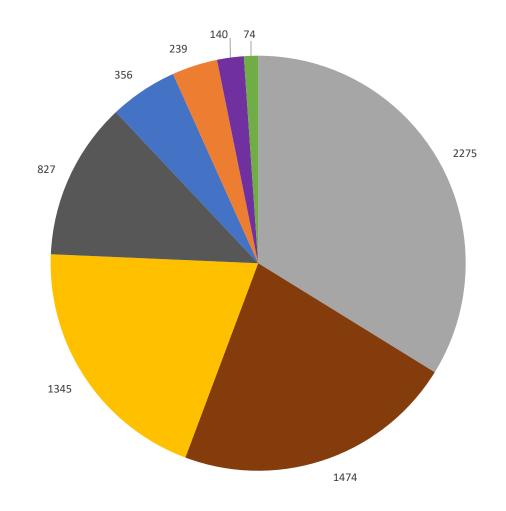
# **Evidence Handling**

#### Total Time by Section (Hours)

See Time Categories by Section slide for breakdown



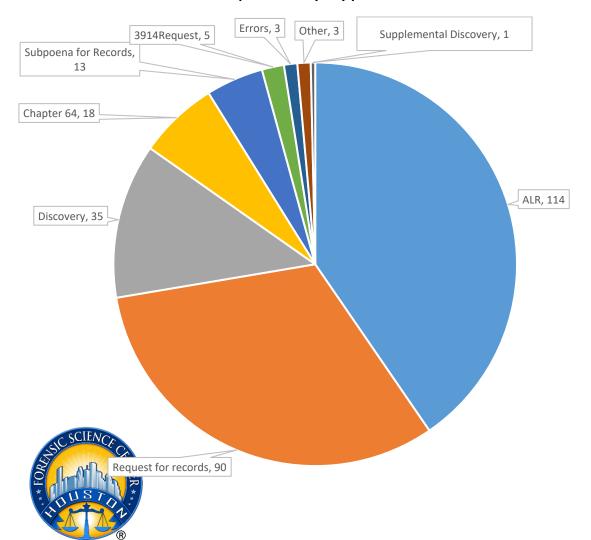
#### Total Items by Section



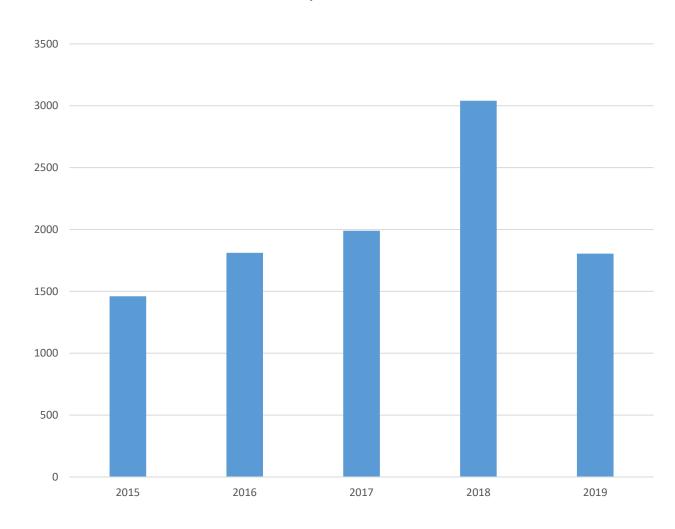
# CS/CM – June

# Administrative

#### Requests by Type

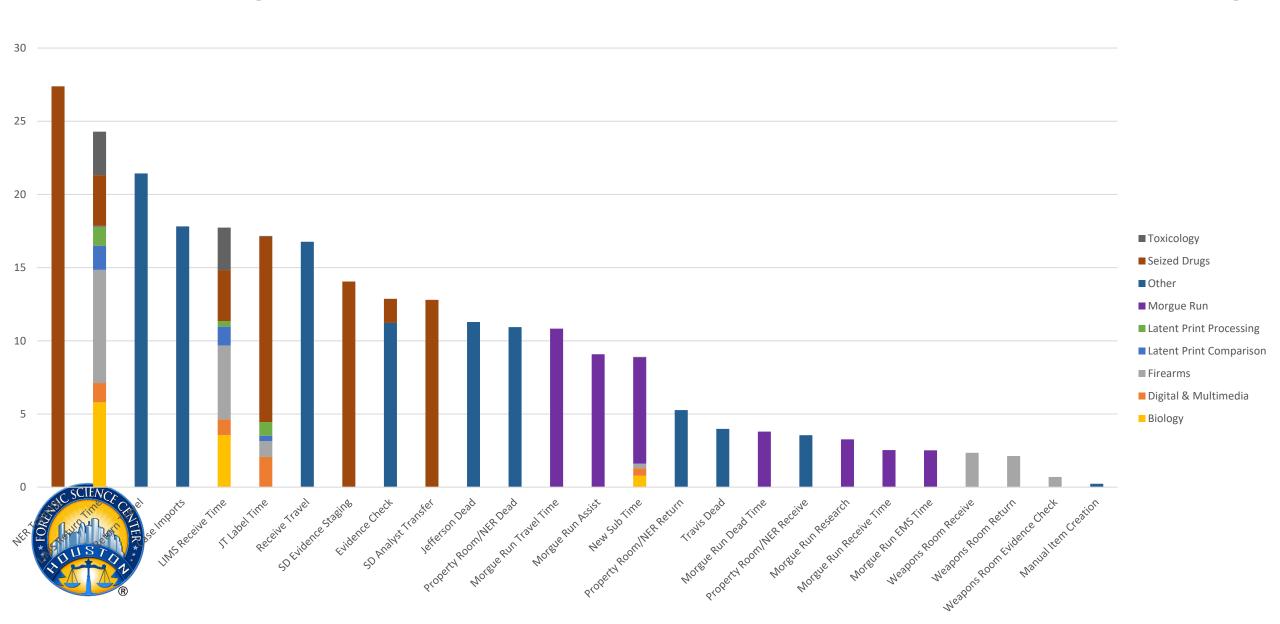


#### All Record Requests – 2015 to date

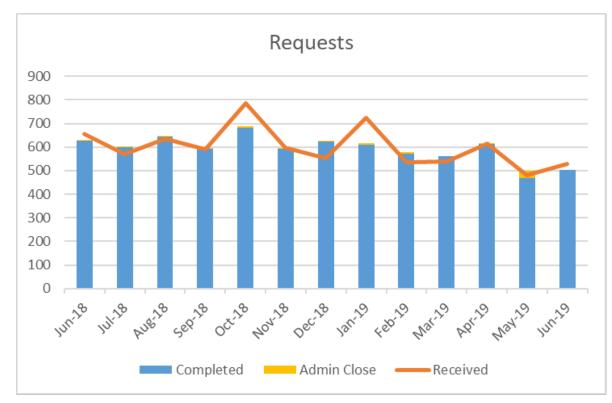


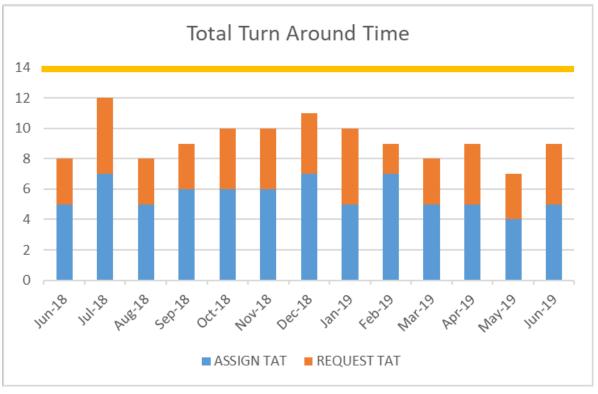
# Time Categories - June

# **Evidence Handling**



# Seized Drugs



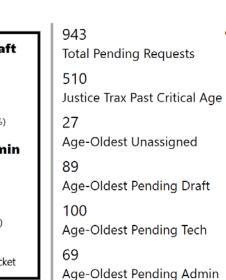


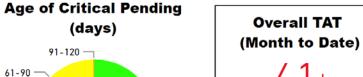


# of Unassigned # Pending Draft Goal: 50 (-70%) Goal: 120 (-559.17%) # Pending Tech # Pending Admin Goal: 90 (+82.22%) Goal: 90 (+27.78%) Goal= Threshold for the max # of requests in each bucket

Service

Blood Alcohol





- 31-60

50

Goal: 30, 31

**Overall TAT** (Past 90 Days)

Goal: 30, 31

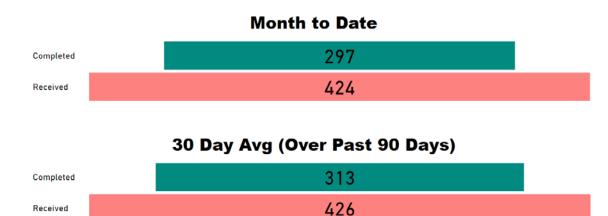
#### TAT by Phase of Work (MTD)



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

#### **Open Quality Reports** Qualtrax ID Workflow # Age 46208 21 47027 \*Reports without a Workflow Id# are not included in the Avg Age

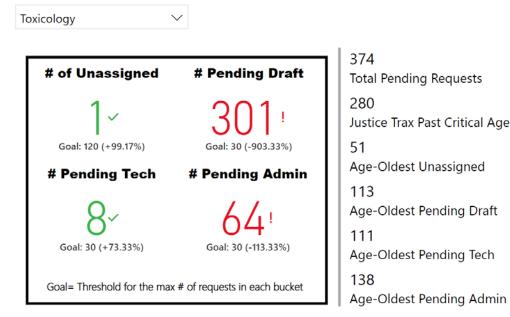
#### **Quality TAT** Goal: 30, 31 Avg Age of Open Reports\* NaN **Quality Filter** Toxicology $\vee$

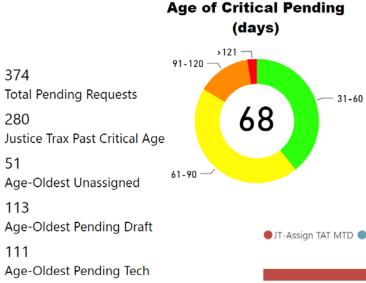




#### Current Toxicology Reports in Justice Trax LIMS

Service







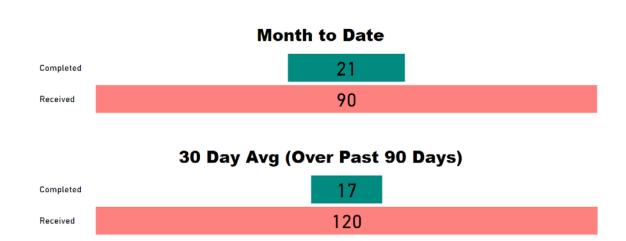




TAT by Phase of Work (MTD)

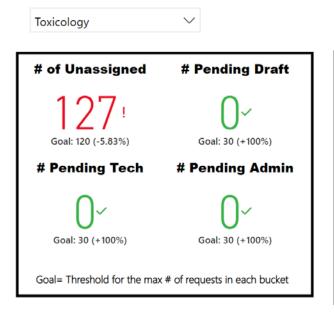






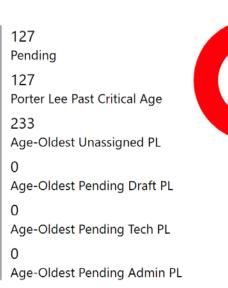


#### Backlogged Toxicology Requests in Porter Lee LIMS (to be cleared out by August 2019)



 $\Diamond$ 

Section



**Age of Critical Pending** 

(days)

**□** >121





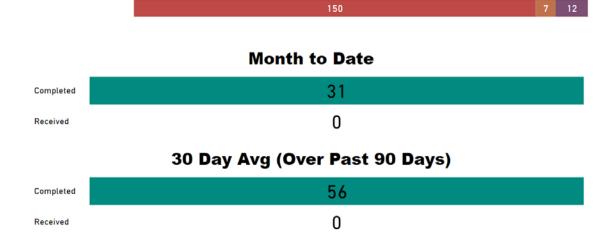
# ● PL-Assign TAT MTD ● PL-Draft TAT MTD ● PL-Tech Review TAT MTD ● PL-Admin Review TAT MTD 181

TAT by Phase of Work (MTD)

TAT by Phase of Work (Past 90 Days)

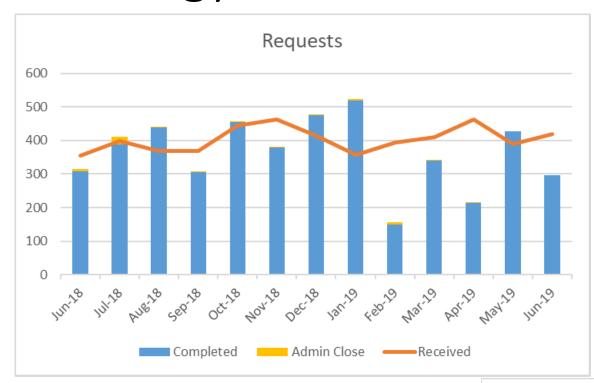
# Open Quality Reports Qualtrax ID Workflow # Age 46208 21 47027 9

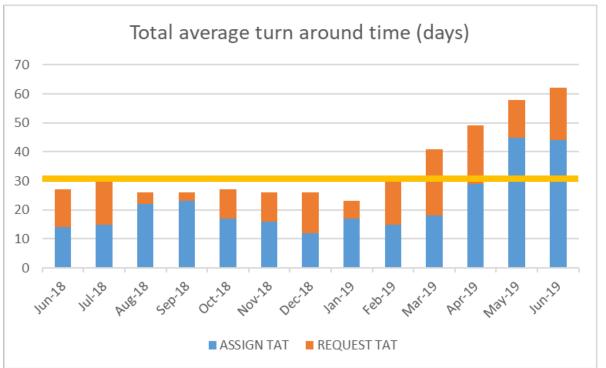




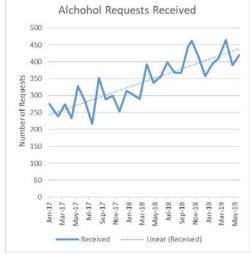


# Toxicology: Alcohol



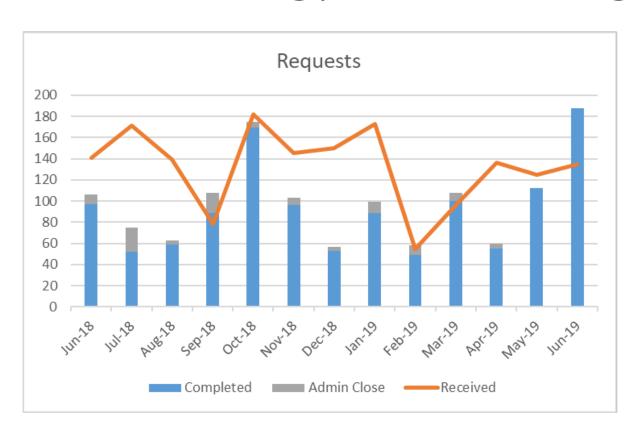


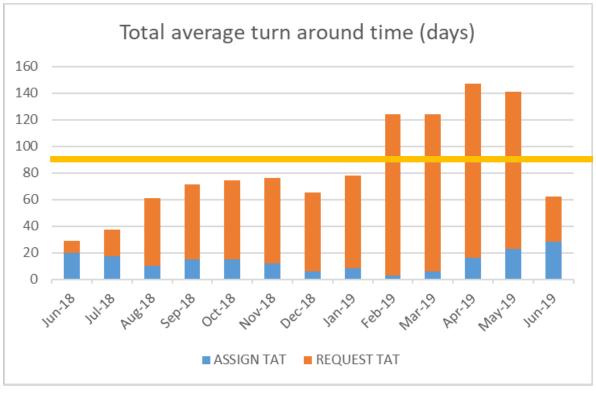




# Toxicology: Other Drugs

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.







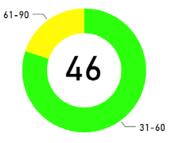


Service

Firearms Examination



#### **Age of Critical Pending** (days)



#### **Overall TAT** (Month to Date)

Goal: 40, 41

**Overall TAT** (Past 90 Days)

Goal: 40, 41

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



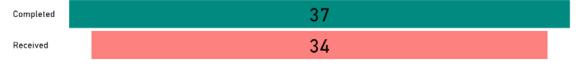
#### **Open Quality Reports** Workflow # Qualtrax ID Age 28533 2018-057 239 34318 2018-082 195 58 43394 2019-024 46823 12 47138 47160 47184 \*Reports without a Workflow Id# are not included in the Avg Age



#### **Month to Date**

| Completed | 36 |
|-----------|----|
| Received  | 39 |
|           |    |

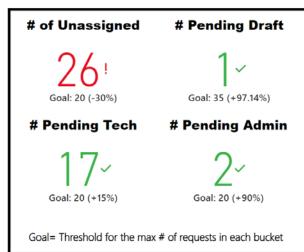
#### 30 Day Avg (Over Past 90 Days)



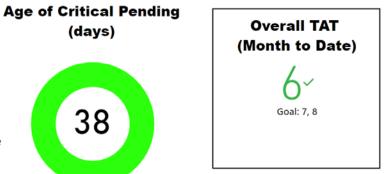


#### **Current NIBIN Casework**









**□** 31-60

Received



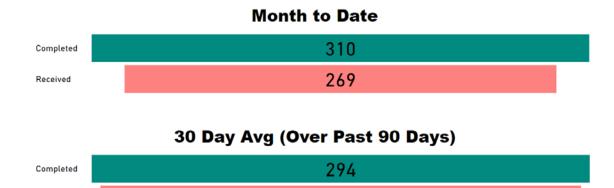
| 2                                   | 2 | 1 | 1 |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|
| TAT by Phase of Work (Past 90 Days) |   |   |   |  |  |

TAT by Phase of Work (MTD)



| Quality IAI              |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| 37!<br>Goal: 30, 31      |  |  |  |
| Avg Age of Open Reports* |  |  |  |
| 164                      |  |  |  |
| Quality Filter           |  |  |  |
| Firearms                 |  |  |  |

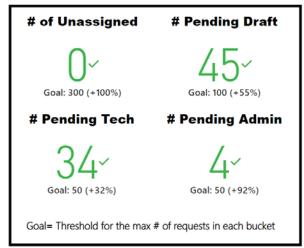
Quality TAT



284



#### **Historical NIBIN**



Pending

83
Porter Lee Past Critical Age

0
Age-Oldest Unassigned PL

415
Age-Oldest Pending Draft PL

440
Age-Oldest Pending Tech PL

440
Age-Oldest Pending Admin PL



Overall TAT (Month to Date)

366

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

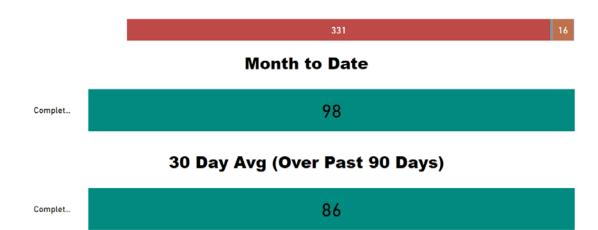
TAT by Phase of Work (Past 90 Days)

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

344





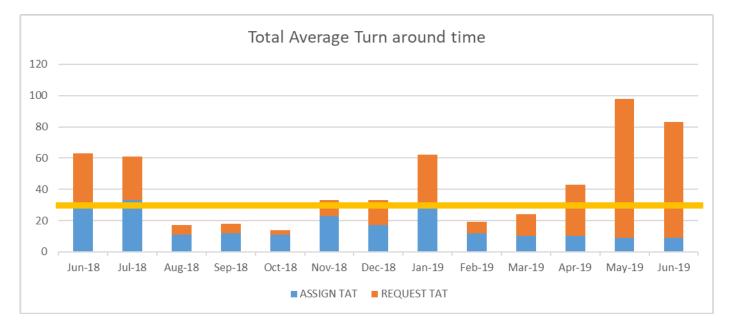




Firearms

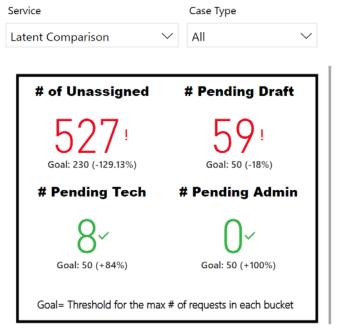


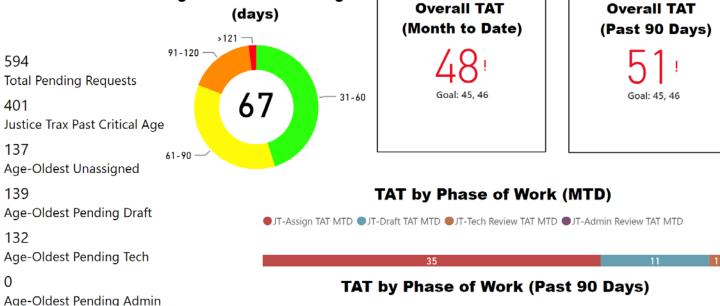






#### Requests Received after 2/1/2019 (to allow for targets on incoming requests vs historical backlog)

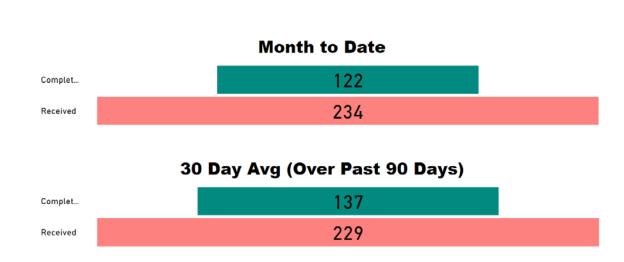




**Age of Critical Pending** 



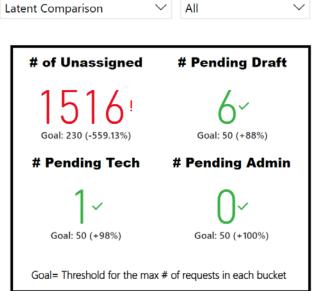




33



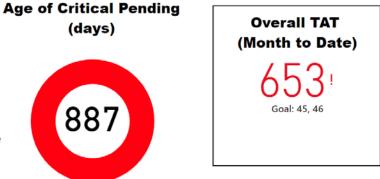
#### Requests Received prior to 2/1/2019 (to allow for targets on incoming requests vs historical backlog)



Case Type

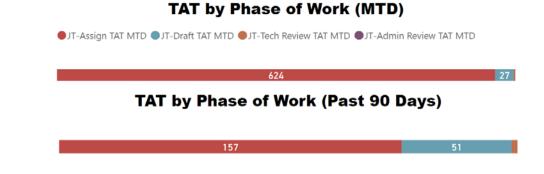
Service





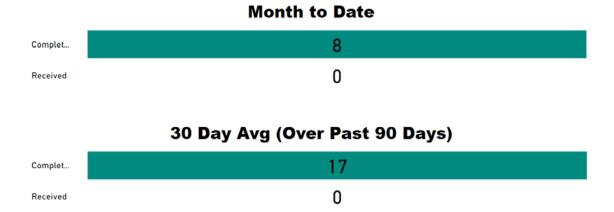
**□** >121



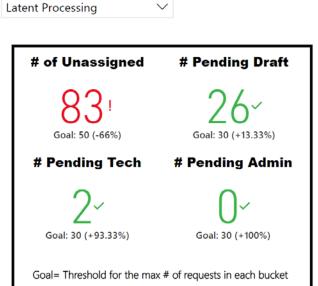




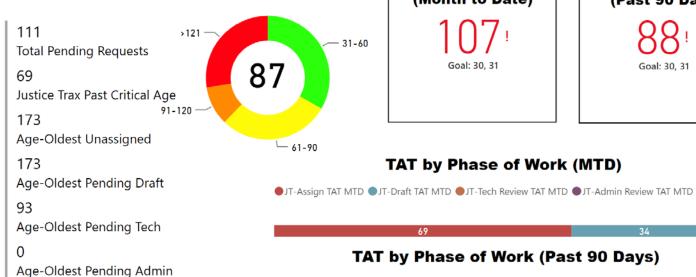








Service



**Age of Critical Pending** 

(days)

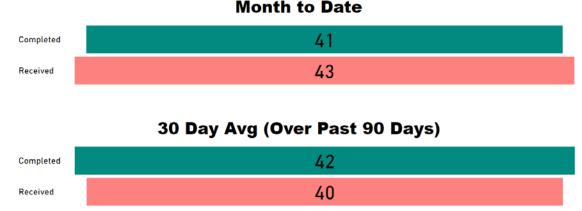


TAT by Phase of Work (MTD)



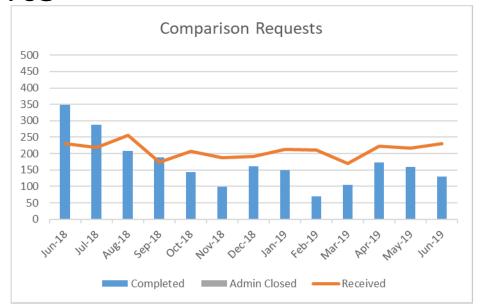


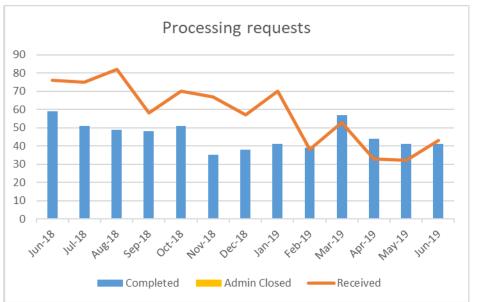


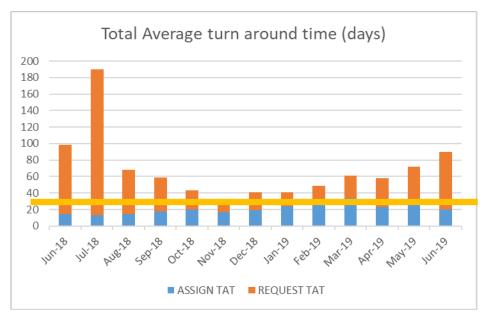




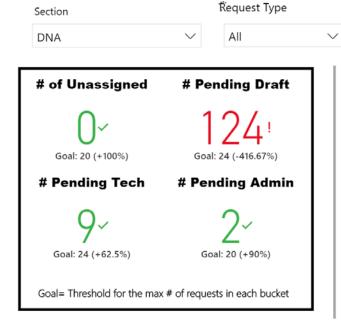
# Latents



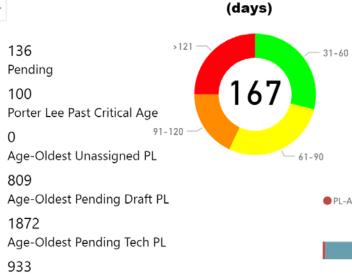








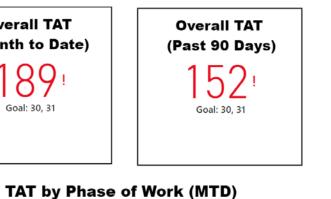
\*Reports without a Workflow Id# are not included in the Avg Age



**Age of Critical Pending** 

Received





14

6

TAT by Phase of Work (Past 90 Days)

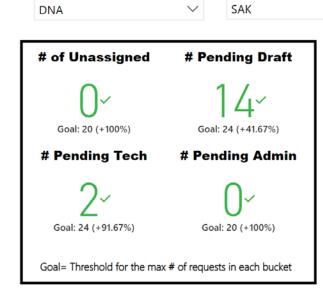
● PL-Assign TAT MTD ● PL-Draft TAT MTD ● PL-Tech Review TAT MTD ● PL-Admin Review TAT MTD

**Quality TAT Open Quality Reports** Qualtrax ID Workflow # Age **Month to Date** 33435 2018-085 208 37 Completed Goal: 40, 41 34624 2018-094 190 Avg Age of Open Reports\* 38 Recieved 39886 2019-007 102 42893 2019-023 64 73 30 Day Avg (Over Past 90 Days) 45353 2019-029 32 39 Completed 32 45346 2019-031 13 46758 2019-035 Quality Filter 47

Biology/DNA

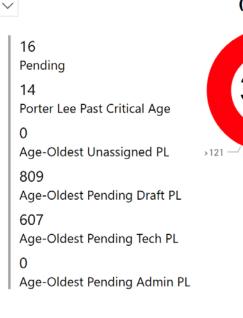
Age-Oldest Pending Admin PL





Section

Request Type



Age of Critical Pending (days)

Overall TAT (Month to Date)

311

Goal: 30, 31

Overall TAT (Past 90 Days)

526!
Goal: 30, 31

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

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

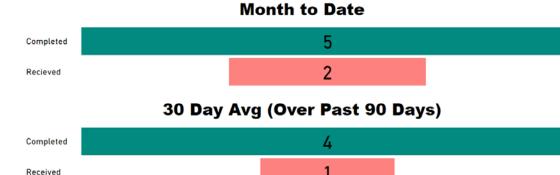
6 543

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

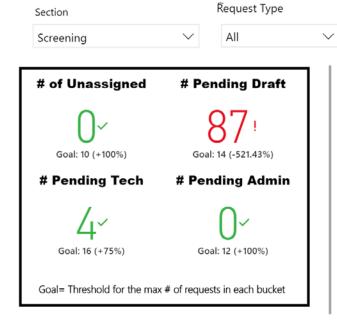
58 463

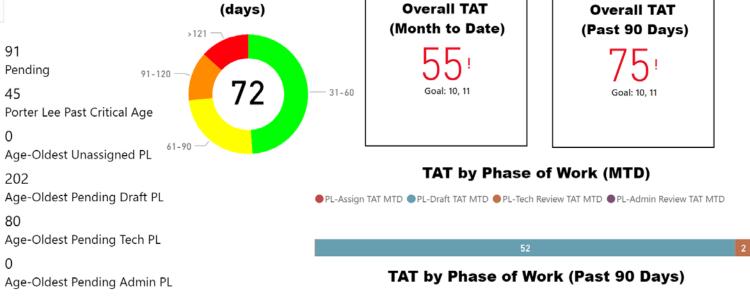
#### **Open Quality Reports** Workflow # Qualtrax ID Age 33435 2018-085 208 34624 2018-094 190 102 39886 2019-007 42893 2019-023 64 45353 2019-029 32 45346 2019-031 32 46758 2019-035 13 \*Reports without a Workflow Id# are not included in the Avg Age







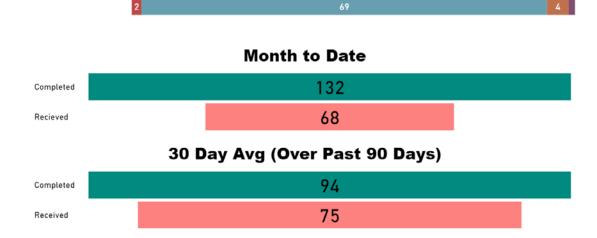




**Age of Critical Pending** 





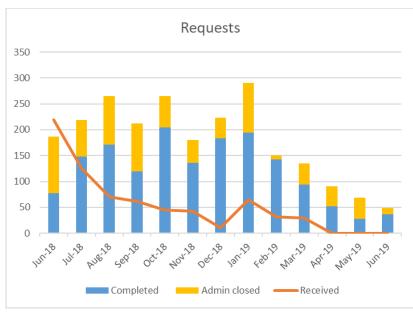


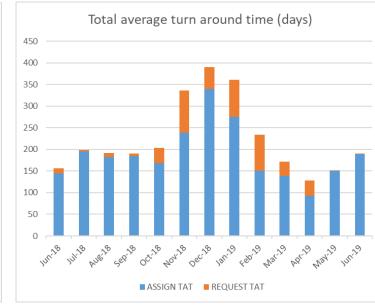


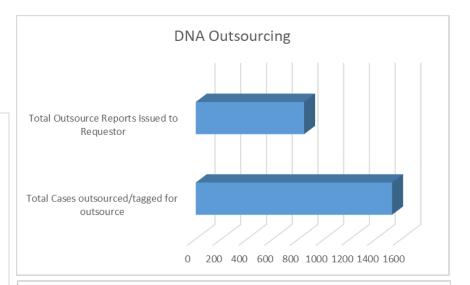
# Forensic Biology -- Total

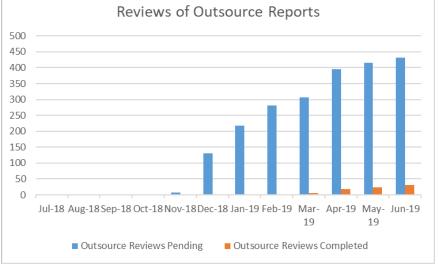
Note: In July of 2018 the number received will be impacted by the number of cases outsourced, once a case is outsourced it moves from received by Bio to Outsourced

#### In House Case Work











# Forensic Biology-Outsourcing

Total Cases Shipped

1375

**Cases Returned** 

885

**Cases Reviewed** 

82

**SAKs shipped: 911** 

**SAKs completed: 529** 

Non-SAKs shipped: 464

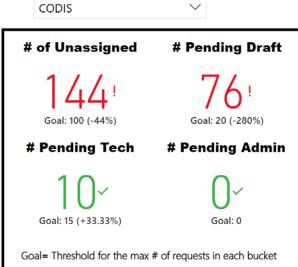
Non-SAKs completed: 356

#### **Critical issues**

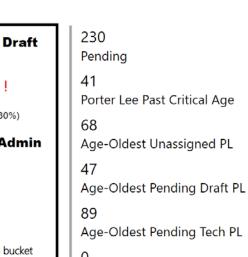
- The in-house review of all outsourced casework
- Bode delayed turnaround time for SAKs
- Current turnaround time ~120 days
- Outsource extension needed due to STRmix implementation and training

- Original project timeline: August 2018 to September 2019
- 424 outsourced cases pending CODIS review (154 in process)
- 430 outsourced cases pending @ Bode
- Next focus: STRmix training and outsource reviews

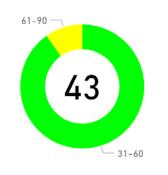




Section



# Age of Critical Pending (days)



# Overall TAT (Month to Date)

23~ Goal: 30, 31 Overall TAT (Past 90 Days)

21 ×

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

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

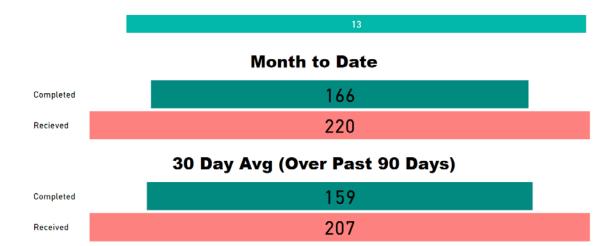
- 1

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

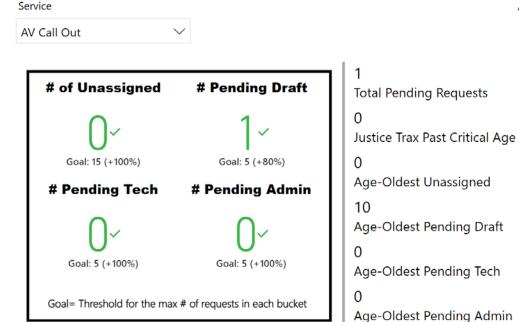


|   | Quality TAT              |   |
|---|--------------------------|---|
|   | 28~<br>Goal: 40, 41      |   |
|   | Avg Age of Open Reports* |   |
|   | 73                       |   |
| l |                          | ] |
| l | Quality Filter           |   |
| ١ | Biology/DNA              | \ |

Age-Oldest Pending Admin PL









N...

Completed

Received

# Overall TAT (Month to Date)

8! Goal: 5, 6

6

Overall TAT (Past 90 Days)

> 5. Goal: 5, 6

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)

#### Open Quality Reports

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

Qualtrax ID

Workflow #

Age

**Quality TAT** 

17~
Goal: 30, 31

Avg Age of Open Reports\*

NaN

Quality Filter

Audio/Video



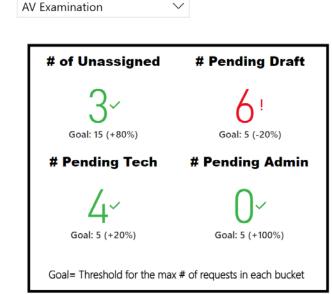
7

7

30 Day Avg (Over Past 90 Days)

Completed 7
Received 7





Service



Age-Oldest Pending Tech

Age-Oldest Pending Admin

209

**Age of Critical Pending** 

(days)

**□** →121

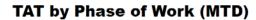


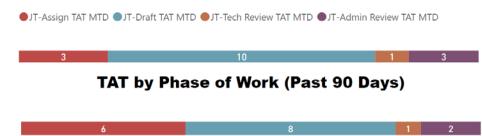
Goal: 45, 46

Overall TAT
(Past 90 Days)

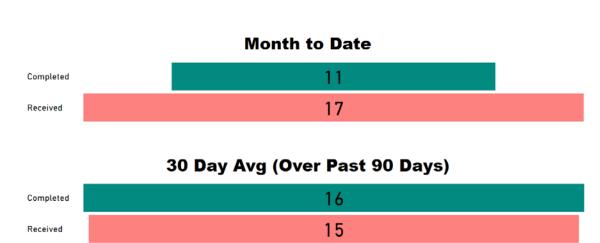
18

Goal: 45, 46

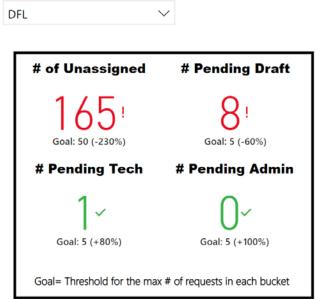




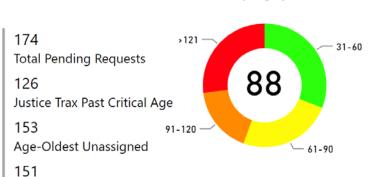
# Open Quality Reports Quality TAT 17 Goal: 30, 31 Avg Age of Open Reports\* NaN Quality Filter \*Reports without a Workflow Id# are not included in the Avg Age Audio/Video







Service



Received

Age-Oldest Pending Draft

Age-Oldest Pending Tech

Age-Oldest Pending Admin

**Age of Critical Pending** 

(days)

Overall TAT (Month to Date)

> 40° Goal: 45, 46

Goal: 45, 46

**Overall TAT** 

(Past 90 Days)

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)

# Open Quality Reports Qualtrax ID Workflow # Age

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

Quality TAT

10

Goal: 30, 31

Avg Age of Open Reports\*

NaN

Quality Filter

Digitial Forensics

Month to Date

Completed 32

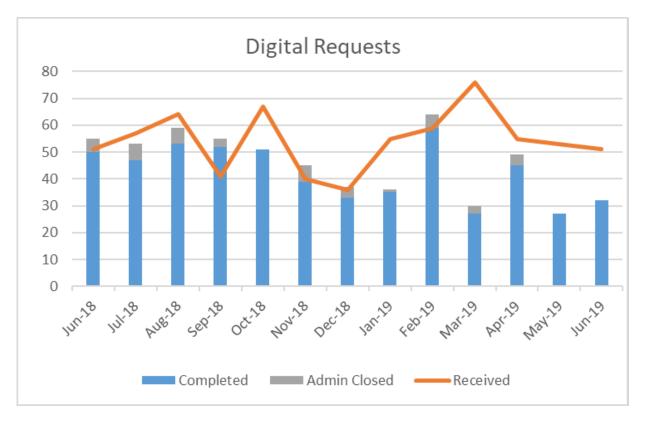
54

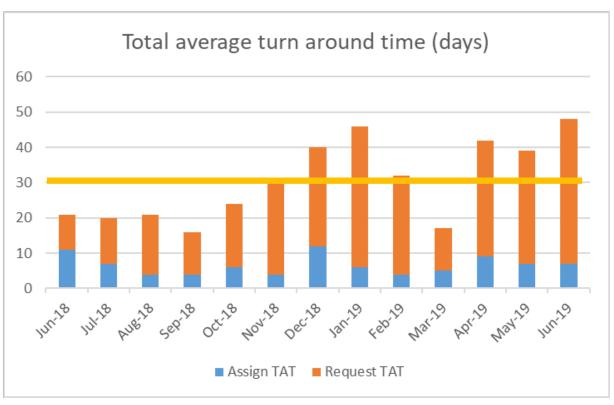
30 Day Avg (Over Past 90 Days)

Completed 35
Received 59



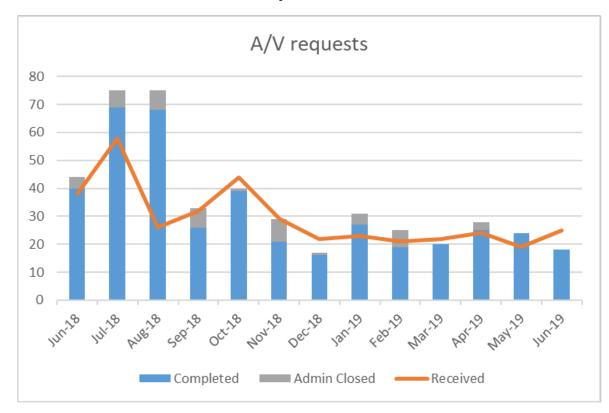
# DME -- Digital

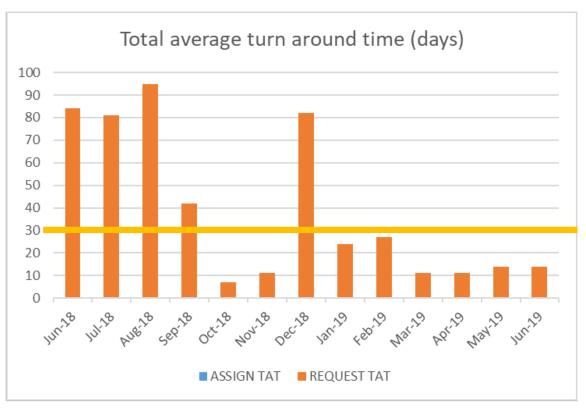






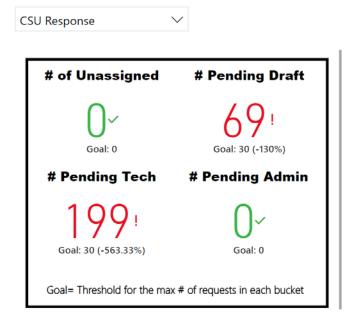
# DME -- A/V



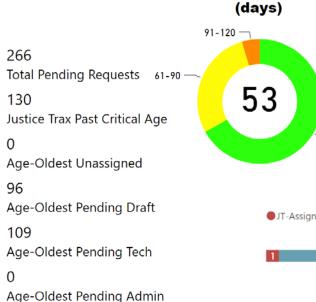


Starting December 2017: A/V and A/V call out metrics reported together





Service



**Age of Critical Pending** 

**— 31-60** 



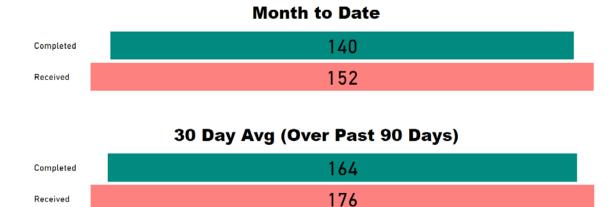




TAT by Phase of Work (Past 90 Days)









# **CSU**

Call outs
62

Critical issues

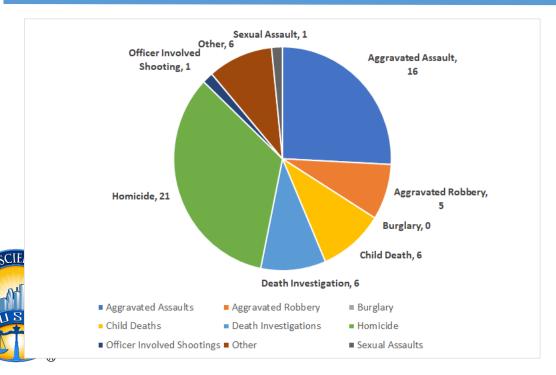
• CSU callouts: 62

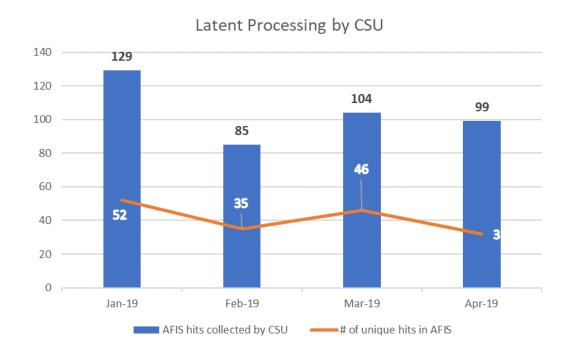
Cars processed at VEB: 49

• 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, 7/12/19 HFSC Board Update

#### **Project Actions**

- Lab/basement move most critical part of project, detailed work plans developed, continue to update/enhance
- HFSC/landlord/construction team continues to meet weekly to ensure alignment, issues addressed timely, excellent teamwork
- Project now:
  - 11 weeks to completed lab/basement handover to HFSC
  - ➤ 18 weeks to all staff/operations in 500 Jefferson (install/ performance checks on some instruments still ongoing, including two new toxicology LCQQQs)
- Implemented internal HFSC bi-weekly project steering committee meetings (2 meetings held):
  - Leadership, section managers, project staff attend
  - Discuss detailed workplan, agreement status, lab inventory/ evidence moves, caseload downtime/communications
- Close to signing Full Spectrum/sub-contractors instrument move agreement: final quote received, transportation being arranged, quote aligned with 6/14/19 HFSC Board terms of reference
- Microscopes move agreement signed
- Designed firearms gun and ammo storage requirements, POs placed
- 18<sup>th</sup> floor construction on schedule: drywall, electrical, HVAC, sprinklers, all long lead-time items ordered.
- Basement construction commenced: HVAC

#### **Key Future Deliverables**

- **July 2019**: Remaining items: sign Full Spectrum agreement, Comfort Systems fume hood final move timing, chemicals/ cabinets move agreement, final lab move plans, piping plan
- August 2019: Lab furniture electrical/IT ceiling panels delivery 8/1, owned fume hoods/glue chamber move 8/15, landlord generator/air handlers lift onto roof around 8/17
- **September 2019**: Lab furniture delivery/installation 9/3-13
- October/November 2019:
  - 3 instrument moves (10/14-16, 11/4-6, 11/5-6)
  - > 2 staff moves (10/8-15, 11/5-12)
  - Piping install, chemicals/appliances/glassware/evidence moves, NIBIN install, lab clean(s)
  - Instrument performance checks/progress return to case work operations (varies by section)
  - Deliver/install two new toxicology LCQQQ (8-month validation)
  - ➤ Hand-back remaining Travis space: target 2<sup>nd</sup> half November 2019

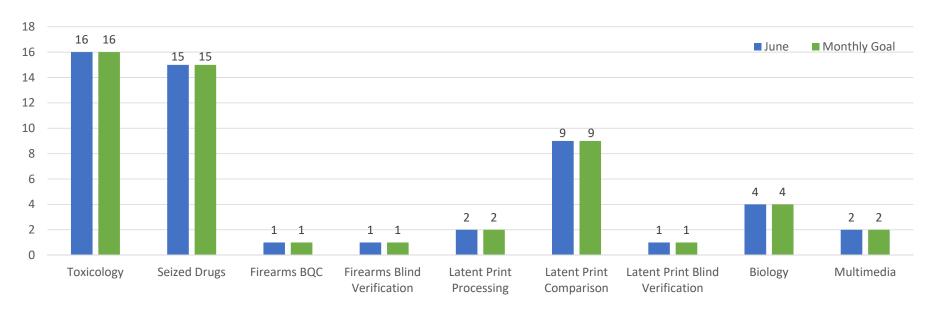
#### **Budget Status**

- Project budget \$1 million: moves, IT/security, shooting tank, project management, change orders, other
- To date: committed/estimates \$675,000, invoiced \$231,000, on target
- Excludes lab furniture, committed \$335,000, invoiced \$67,000 (funded via grant/landlord)

# Quality Division Report July 12, 2019



# BQCs Submitted in June





# Blind Quality: Accomplishments and Challenges

- Latent print processing blind discovered due to fingerprints being "too good"
- Talks initiated with the ATF to allow blind cases to be entered into firearms database
  - This will allow firearms blinds to appear "normal" to the examiners
- Quality specialist starting on July 15

| Forensic Discipline            | Cases Completed in June |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
|                                |                         |
| Toxicology – BAC               | 13                      |
| Seized Drugs                   | 15                      |
| Biology                        | 4 (DNA)                 |
| ыоюду                          | 10 (screening)          |
| Firearms – Blind               | 0                       |
| Verification (BV)              | 0                       |
| Firearms – Blind Quality       | 4                       |
| Control (BQC)                  | 1                       |
| <b>Latent Print Processing</b> | 1                       |
| <b>Latent Print Comparison</b> | 7                       |
| <b>Latent Print - Blind</b>    | 0                       |
| Verification (BV)              | 0                       |
| Multimedia                     | 1                       |



# Audits/Disclosures/Corrective Actions

First round of internal audits held June 17 to June 21

- Multimedia, latent prints and the crime scene unit
  - 0 nonconformances in multimedia
  - 3 nonconformances in latent prints
  - 4 nonconformances in the crime scene unit

Second round of internal audits will be held July 15 to July 19



# 2019 Proficiency Testing (PT)

| Discipline       |             | Tests in Progress | Tests Completed | Comments                         |
|------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Seized Drugs     |             | 6                 | -               | two tests are being investigated |
| Toxicology       |             | 0                 | 7               |                                  |
| Firearms         |             | 2                 | 1               |                                  |
| Crime Scene      |             | 2                 | -               |                                  |
| Latent Prints    |             | 3                 | 3               |                                  |
| Multimedia       | Audio/Video | 6                 | -               |                                  |
| Multimedia       | Digital     | 3                 | -               |                                  |
| Forensic Biology |             | 13                | 8               |                                  |



# Detailed Data



# 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



1:37:32 PM Page 1 of 2

|                             | Quality Notified | Summary of Notification  | Comments |
|-----------------------------|------------------|--|----------|
| Biology                     |                  |  |          |
| 2019-034<br>IR              | 6/14/2019        | A Forensic Biology staff member violated the Biology SOP when she examined a reference item prior to an evidence item.   |          |
| 2019-035<br>CAR             | 6/11/2019        | The Forensic Biology Screening Supervisor did not initial and date the changes she made to case files as part of technical/administrative review. This is a violation of the Biology SOP and the Quality Manual. |          |
| 2019-036<br>IR              | 6/14/2019        | A Forensic Biology screener's DNA profile was found in an item of evidence that he processed in 2017. This screener is no longer employed at HFSC.   |          |
| Client Service<br>Managemen |                  |  |          |
| 2019-041<br>IR              | 6/18/2019        | During accessioning, a CS/CM specialist did not reject a<br>Toxicology kit that had an inconsistency in the subject's<br>middle name on the outer packaging and the inner<br>contents.                           |          |
| Crime Scene                 | •                |  |          |
| 2019-037<br>IR              | 6/23/2019        | A miscommunication between the lead and assistant CSIs resulted in a casing accidentally not being collected at a night crime scene.   |          |
| 2019-040<br>IR              | 6/25/2019        | A CSI discovered a paper bag in a CSU response vehicle that contained what appeared to be possible drug evidence.  |          |
| 2019-IA-02<br>IR            | 6/27/2019        | The audit team discovered in the 2019 Crime Scene Unit internal audit that two crime scene investigators (CSIs) did not complete the mandatory Ethics training in 2018.  |          |

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.

Monday, July 1, 2019

#### **Quality Division Notifications**

Incidents, Corrective and Preventive Actions

1:37:36 PM Page 2 of 2

|                   | Quality Notified | Summary of Notification   | Comments |
|-------------------|------------------|---|----------|
| 2019-IA-03<br>IR  | 6/27/2019        | The 2019 internal audit team discovered that the minimum distance required between stored items and the ceiling was not maintained in the temporary basement storage room (B145 at 500 Jefferson St. building). |          |
| 2019-IA-04<br>IR  | 6/27/2019        | The 2019 internal audit team discovered that while verbal authorization was given to a CSU Supervisor to take photos at a crime scene, this authorization was not properly documented.                          |          |
| 2019-IA-05<br>IR  | 6/27/2019        | A CSI was authorized to perform independent case work in November of 2018, but his competency test did not include a mock court. This is a violation of the Quality Manual.                                     |          |
| Latent Prints     |                  |   |          |
| 2019-IA-01<br>CAR | 6/21/2019        | During the 2019 Latent Print internal audit, the audit team discovered that a report did not contain the results of the analysis.   |          |

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.