Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting January 12, 2018



HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER, INC.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING January 12, 2018

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 previous meetings (December 8, 2017); consideration of proposed corrections, if any; approval of Minutes.
- 4. Public Comment.
- 5. Chair's Report.
- 6. Operations report from Vice President and COO.
- 7. Discussion and update on blind quality controls.
- 8. Discussion of FY18 budget reallocations and related items.
- 9. Treasurer's Report.
- 10. Report from Ms. Lori Wilson regarding quality assurance.
- 11. Executive session in accordance with Section 551.001, et seq. of the Texas Government Code for consultation with attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation or other legal matters.
- 12. 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 may address any subject relevant to the purpose of the Corporation; however, under Texas law the Board may not respond to or otherwise discuss a subject not listed

on the Agenda set out above. (Exception: The Board may discuss a proposal to place a subject on the agenda for a future meeting.) 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 meeting or session of the Board should be held or is required in relation to any items included in this Notice, then such closed or executive meeting or 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 that date, hour and place given in this Notice or as soon after the commencement of the meeting covered by the Notice as the Board may conveniently meet in such closed or executive meeting or session concerning any and all subjects and for any and all purposes permitted by Section 551.071-551.089, inclusive, of the Open Meetings Act, including, but not limited to:

Section 551.071 - Consultation with Attorney

Section 551.072 - Deliberation Regarding Real Property

Section 551.073 - Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gift

Section 551.074 - Personnel Matters

Section 551.076 - Deliberation Regarding Security Devices

Section 551.084 - Exclusion of Witness

Section 551.087 - Economic Development Negotiations

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, final decision, or final vote be required in the opinion of the Board with regard to any matter considered in such closed or executive meeting or session, then such final action, final decision, or final vote shall be at either:

A. The open meeting covered by this Notice upon the reconvening of the public meeting, or

B. At a subsequent public meeting of the Board upon notice thereof, as the Board shall determine.

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 January 2018 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 January 2018.

Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc.

MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES December 8, 2017

The undersigned, being the duly appointed secretary of the Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc., (the "Corporation" or "HFSC") hereby certifies the following are true and correct minutes of the December 8, 2017 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 filed on December 5, 2017, 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 9:07 a.m. on Friday, December 8, 2017, 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, Francisco G. Medina, Janet Blancett, Chief Mary Lentschke, Sandra Guerra Thompson.

The following directors were absent: Anthony Graves, David M. Feldman, Dr. Robert "Bob" H. McPherson, Dr. Stacey A. Mitchell and Tom P. Allen (ex-officio).

Chairwoman Cásarez declared a quorum was present.

- E. Dr. McPherson joined the meeting at approximately 9:09 a.m.
- F. Chairwoman Cásarez noted a draft of the minutes of the Corporation's meeting on October 13, 2017 had been distributed to the Board. Ms. Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Medina seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the minutes were adopted.
- G. Chairwoman Cásarez asked if any members of the public wished to address the Board. No one addressed the Board, and the meeting continued.
- H. Chairwoman Cásarez provided a chair's report. She thanked recent guests who toured the crime lab for their support, including City of Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, Houston Police Department (HPD) Chief of Police Art Acevedo and Sheriff Ed Gonzalez. Ms. Cásarez highlighted numerous accolades received by HFSC President and CEO Dr. Peter Stout, including joining the senior advisory board for the Center for Statistics in Forensic Evidence and a nomination to be president of the Texas Association of Crime Lab Directors (TACLD.)

- Ms. Cásarez reminded board members of HFSC's upcoming holiday party and thanked them for donating the funds to make the party possible.
- I. Dr. Stout presented the president's report. Dr. Stout reviewed the lab's overall turnaround time (TAT), requests received for the month and monthly trends. He discussed remaining backlogs in latent prints and forensic biology. Dr. Stout said the phased rollout of the new Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) had begun. He reviewed each discipline's TAT, and commended controlled substances for having an average 6-day TAT in the month of November. Dr. Stout discussed a pending self-disclosure to the Texas Forensic Science Commission (TFSC) regarding an error made in HFSC's audio/video unit. He reviewed recent outreach events, including an upcoming presentation at the Innocence Network Conference that will be given by Dr. Amy Castillo, vice president and COO, and Dr. Preshious Rearden, director of research and development. Dr. Stout noted new certifications and additional hiring that occurred in November.
- J. Pursuant to Section 551.071, consultations with attorney, and Section 551.072, discussion regarding real property, of the Texas Government Code, the Board went into executive session at approximately 9:41 a.m. Ms. Renee Byas, HFSC's general counsel, Dr. Stout, Dr. Castillo, Mr. Charles Evans, director of business development, Mr. David Leach, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and treasurer, and Ms. Cassie Stinson, outside counsel, were present at the executive session.
- K. The executive session concluded at approximately 11:23 a.m. The meeting reconvened in open session.
- L. Chief Lentschke made a motion to delegate authority to HFSC's CEO and his delegates to negotiate with the University of Houston the terms and conditions for a 30-year lease for office and laboratory space for HFSC at the University of Houston Energy Research Park, building 14, suite 14B. On completion of the negotiations, HFSC's CEO will present the lease's final terms and conditions and the project timeline to the Board for final approval. Ms. Blancett seconded the motion.
- M. Ms. Benton took roll for voting. The following directors were in favor: Nicole B. Cásarez, Francisco G. Medina, Janet Blancett, Chief Mary Lentschke. The following directors were absent: Anthony Graves, David M. Feldman, Dr. Stacey A. Mitchell. Dr. McPherson and Ms. Thompson, both full-time employees of the University of Houston, recused themselves. The motion passed.
- N. Mr. Darrell Stein, director of information strategy, gave an update on LIMS. He told the Board that digital forensics is fully operational in the new LIMS, and the remaining analytical disciplines will be phased in by the end of February. A new web portal for customers to make requests is also being created. This too is expected to go live in February.
- O. Dr. Amy Castillo, COO and vice president, presented the monthly operations report. She reviewed a scorecard for each section, as well as additional updates, staff changes and the expected impact of the new LIMS on each discipline.

- P. Mr. David Leach, CFO and treasurer, presented a report. He said all but the last two payments had been received from the City from Fund 2213. Actual expenditures for services from civilian and City of Houston classified personnel is below budget. Total personnel costs for HFSC employees are also below budget, although the gap is expected to be closed as the Corporation gets closer to being fully staffed.
- Q. Ms. Jackeline Moral, quality specialist, gave an update for November 2017 on behalf of Ms. Lori Wilson, quality division director. Ms. Moral reviewed testimony monitoring, transcript review, proficiency and blind testing, incidents and corrective actions, and audits and inspections. Ms. Moral said blind controls and testing are in place in all sections except for audio/video and the Crime Scene Unit. Ms. Moral said the first latent print comparison blind case had been successful, and thanked the Harris County Sheriff's Office for its cooperation and helping to make it possible. Ms. Moral told the Board about reaccreditation that will occur in 2018. The process will begin in January with internal audits.
- R. Ms. Blancett motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dr. McPherson seconded the motion. The meeting ADJOURNED at 11:49 a.m.

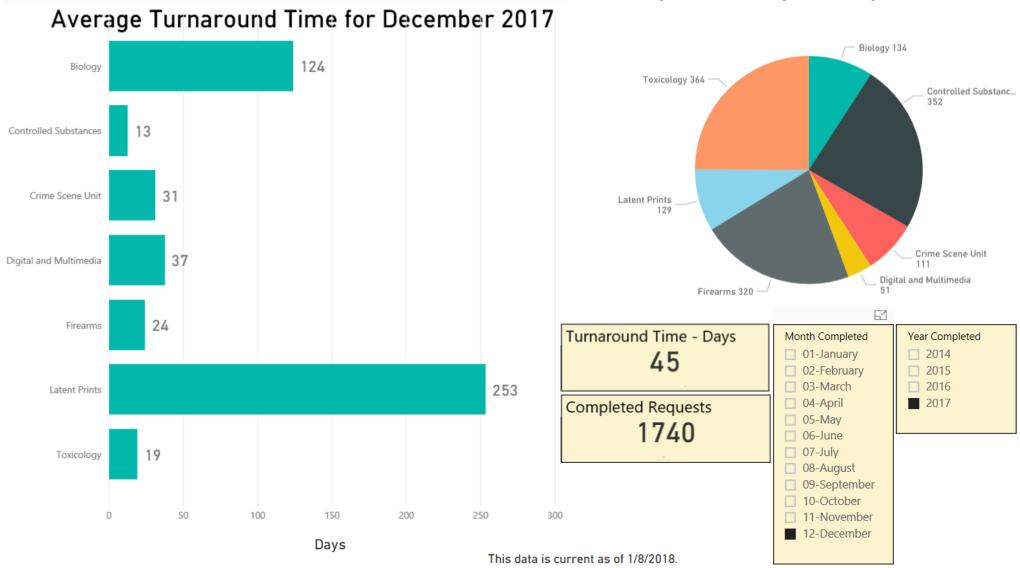
By:	
•	
Jordan Benton Secretary	

Operations Report

January 12, 2018

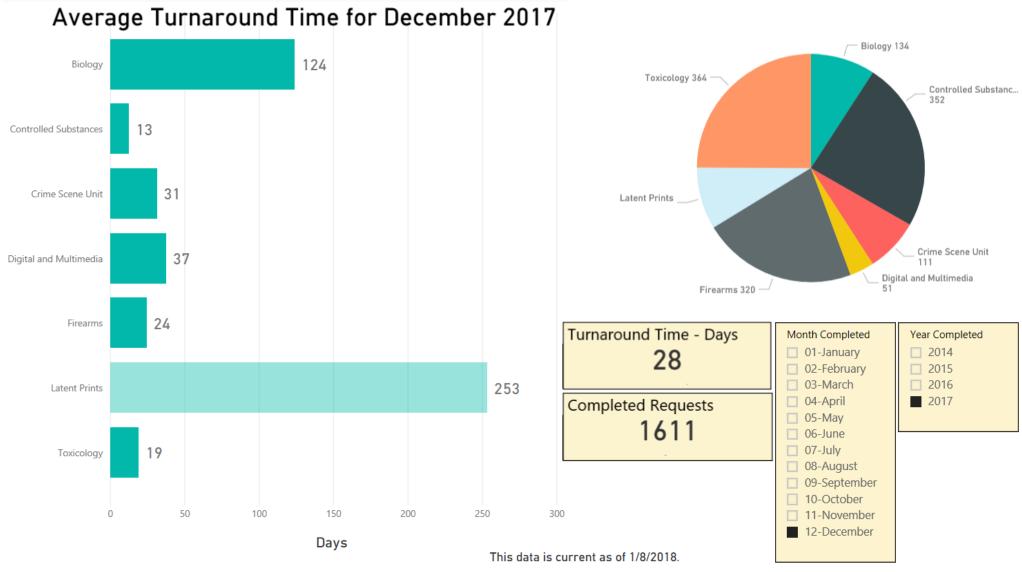


Requests Completed by Section





Requests Completed by Section

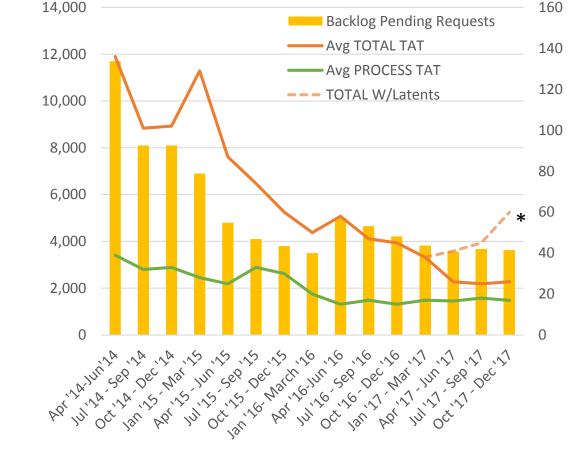




From the start of HFSC

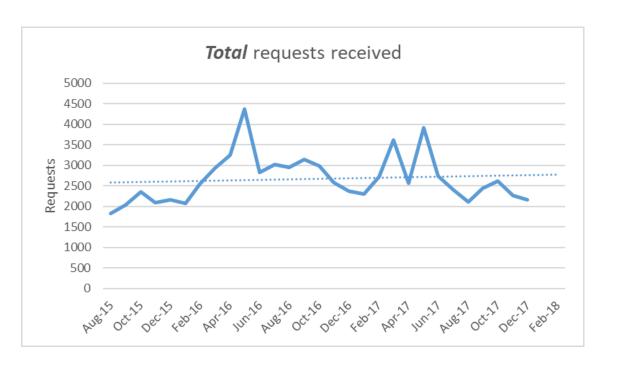
- ♣80%* in Avg TOTAL turnaround time
- 67% in backlogged requests
- 45% in Avg PROCESS turnaround time
- ₱92%* in WAIT gap

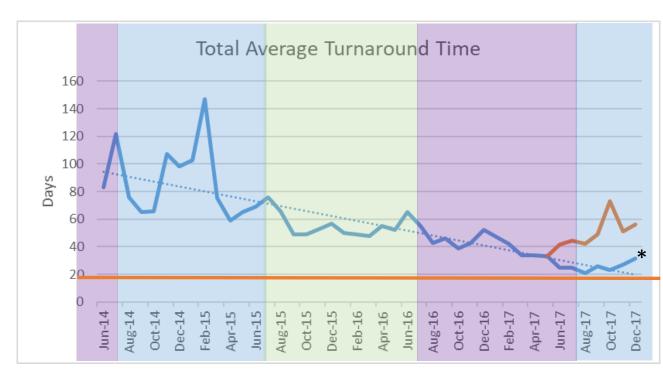
^{*} Total turnaround time calculation affected by latent backlog cases, values presented with and without Latent Prints TAT.





Requests received







^{*} Total turnaround time calculation affected by latent backlog cases. Calculated without latent prints 5

Outreach

- Staff has been focusing on community service since Harvey
 - Collected more than 2,000 food items for the Houston Food Bank
 - Adopted 10 families at a local elementary school and filled their Christmas wish list



Certifications

• Corissa Rodgers - Fellow in comprehensive criminalistics

American Board of Criminalistics (ABC)



Staffing – December 31, 2017

- 194 staff members
 - 15 COH civilians
 - 9 COH classified
 - 170 HFSC
- 10 open positions; 6 offers accepted
- New hire start dates after December 31
 - 1 specialist CS/CM
 - 1 investigator Crime Scene
 - 2 forensic analysts FBIO
 - 1 examiner Latent Prints
 - 1 examiner Firearms

- 5 active vacancies
 - 1 forensic analyst Toxicology
 - 1 lead CS/CM
 - 1 logistics specialist
 - 2 quality specialists

- 4 vacancies pending
 - 1 assistant technical lead FBIO
 - 2 supervisors Crime Scene
 - 1 systems support specialist



Major Initiatives – Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS)

Go Live Updates:

- Controlled Substances and Latent Prints went live in December
- Working on a plan for additional sections to go live

Updates:

- LIMS portal:
 - Working with vendor and HPD IT on authentication and EMS interface
 - Designing user interface
 - Will operate in current portal until custom environment complete

Current tasks:

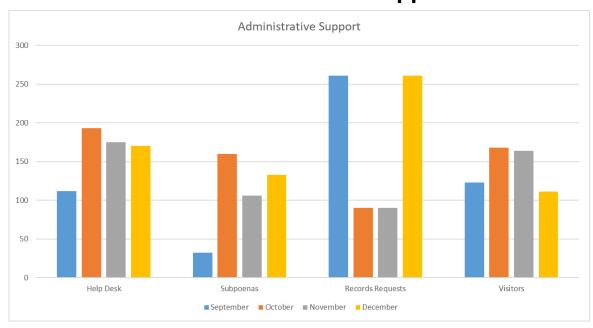
- Developing ad-hoc queries for staff and management reports
- Working with vendor on developing analytical reports and worksheets
- Supporting disciplines live in the new LIMS

Next steps:

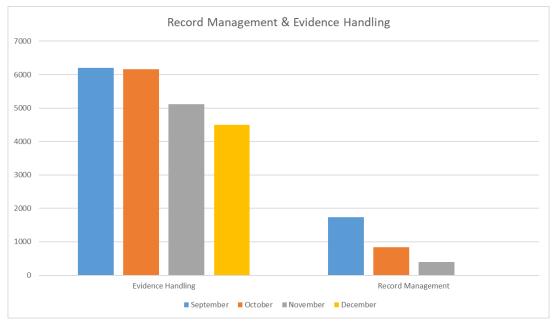
- Replacing computers to have all staff on HFSC network by March 2018
- Continued acceptance testing of interfaces and reports for remaining disciplines

CS/CM -- December

Administrative Support



Record Management & Evidence Handling



Estimated Case Entry into Justice Trax LIMS

- 713 historical cases pending entry
- 1255 historical cases entered
- 768 cases entered for live sections (CS, Latent Prints, Digital)

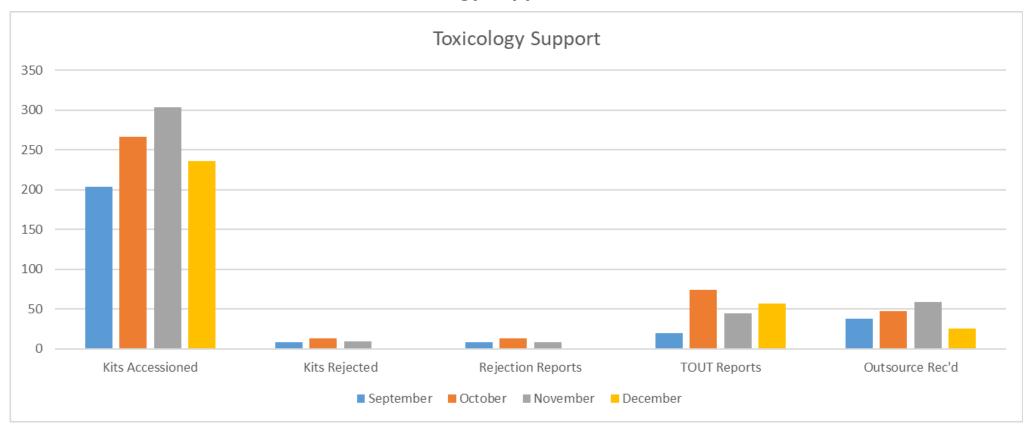
Accreditation

Working toward International Association of Property & Evidence (IAPE) accreditation (target mid-2018)



CS/CM -- December

Toxicology Support





Only 1 toxicology kit rejected by HFSC in December

Controlled Substances





Critical issues

CS: 12-day avg,

0 pending request >30 day

Target: <14 days

Critical issues

- Potential impacts of additional expedited case needs
- Transition to new LIMS: Went live in JT LIMS on December 11
- Staff have transitioned to HFSC network

- Reduction in TAT to pre-LIMS transition
- Continued pressure on resources from increased case complexity
- Continue to track submission of opioid cases/lab safety measures in place



Firearms

Total TAT

25

EOM >30 day

250

Critical issues

2

Exams: 23-day avg,

2 pending requests >30 day

IBIS: 26-day avg,

248 pending requests >30 day

Target: <25 days

Critical issues

- Backlog in IBIS requests for guns, down to one examiner processing guns
- Transition to HFSC network will impact productivity

Projections for next 90 days

- 48-hour NIBIN results working well
- NIBIN staffed to reduce gun backlog
- Continued TAT sub 25 days
- Transition to HFSC network by end of March



13



Digital and Multimedia*



A/V: 99-day avg,

104 pending requests >30 day

AVCO: 22-day avg,

0 pending requests >30 day

Digital*: 11.5-day avg,

1 pending request >30 day

Critical issues

- A/V focus on backlog during JusticeTrax transition
- Increasing callout support
- A/V transitioned to JT LIMS in November
- Transition to HFSC network will impact productivity

- Backlog in A/V as audit issues addressed. In part reflective of shifting workload to greater callout support
- Transition to HFSC network by end of March



Toxicology





Critical issues
4

Alcohol: 17-day avg,

0 pending requests >30 day

Tox: 28-day avg

6 pending requests >30 day

Out-Tox: 18-day avg

0 pending requests >30 day

Critical issues

- Legacy GC/MS instruments
- Operating on two floors to validate new robotics
- Down three analysts
- Transition to HFSC network will impact productivity

- Transition to HFSC network by end of March
- DWI alcohol sub 21 days (target threshold)
- Drug methods online in March
- Validation of new robotics



Forensic Biology

SA Kit: 67-day avg SA "other" 117-day avg,

122 pending SAK requests >30 day

56 pending SAK requests >60 day

FBIO 178-day avg DNA 286-day avg

590 total requests >30 days

** All sexual assault requests are in process







Critical issues

- Target: minimum 12 DNA report writers, currently 7
- Training "boot camp" (5 began in December, 10 in March)
- Transition to HFSC network will impact productivity

- Hire assistant technical lead
- Transition to HFSC network by end of March
- No SAKs over 60 days
- Quality assessed throughout process, pre- and post-mortems

Latents*







Comparisons: 400-day avg TAT from request,

2,166 pending requests >30 day

Processing: 32-day avg TAT from request,

76 pending requests >30 day

Critical issues

- TAT increases as work through aging backlog
- Transition to new LIMS: Went live December 18
- Transition to HFSC network will impact productivity

- Transition to HFSC network by end of March
- New examiner anticipated to be working independently by March, one staff member being fully trained to become examiner
- DPS training scheduled; will allow all but two examiners to fully access state and national databases

CSU



Call outs 59

Critical issues

2

CSU Callouts: 59, 2 Officer-Involved Shooting

Cars processed at VEB: 36

Critical issues

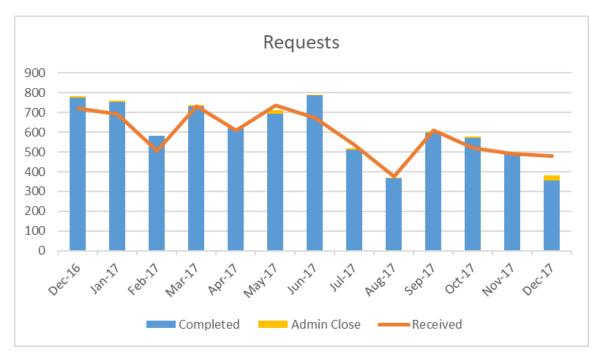
- New CSIs sign offs for independent casework in progress
- Transition to HFSC network will impact productivity

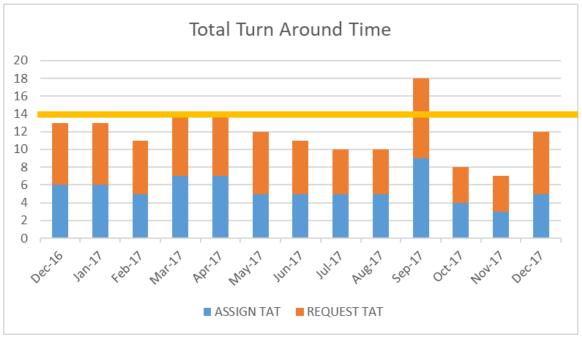
- Transition to HFSC network by end of March
- Fully civilian: all classified officers have transitioned back to HPD
 - Continue training and accreditation efforts

Detail data



Controlled substances

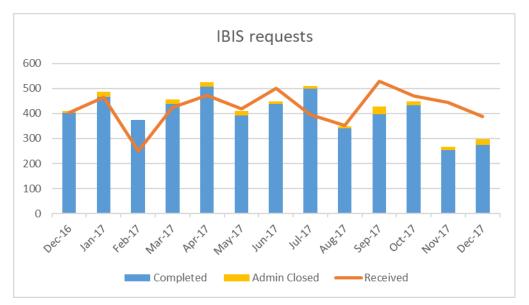


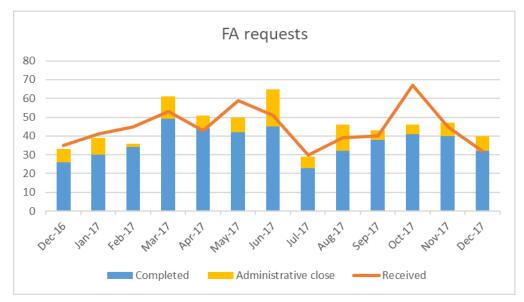


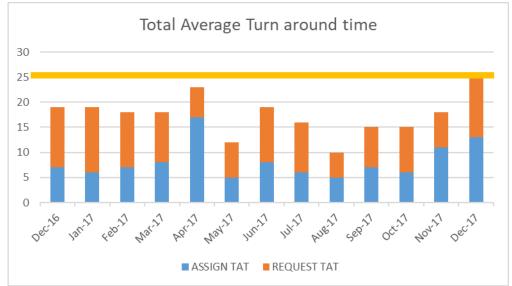
CS Live in Justice Trax on 12/11/17, metrics combined/manually tracked from Jtrax and Porter Lee for December



Firearms



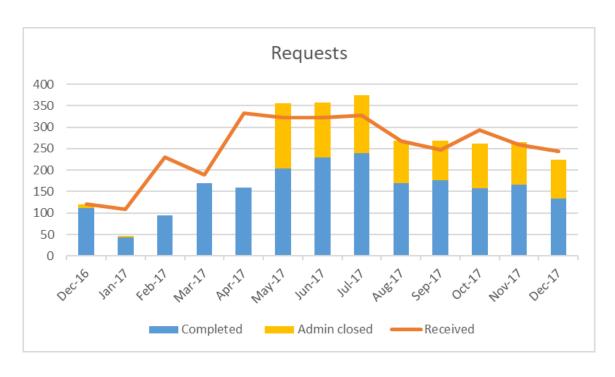


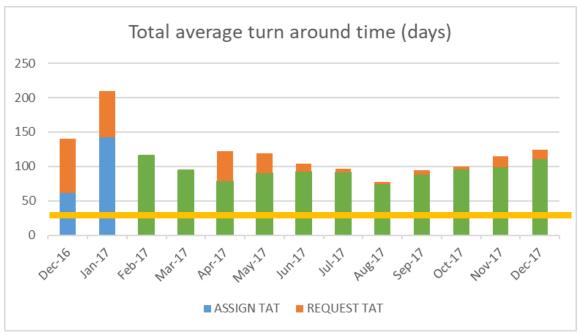




Forensic Biology -- Total

Note: change in presentation at February 2017. Requests now for FBIO and Sexual Assault Kits. Turnaround time is a combined average time. Green bars represent the change in metric status.

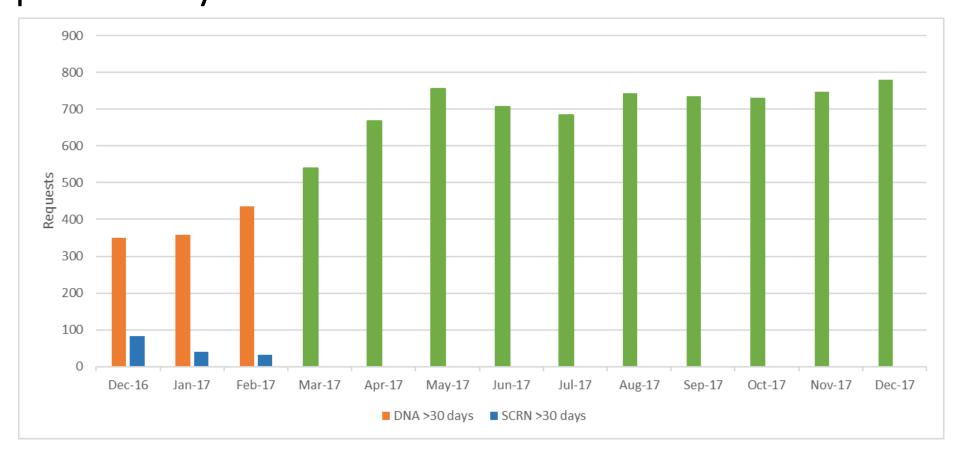






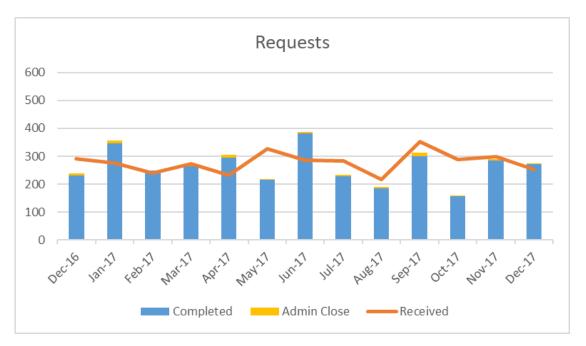
Total DNA Backlog (>30 day) requests by month

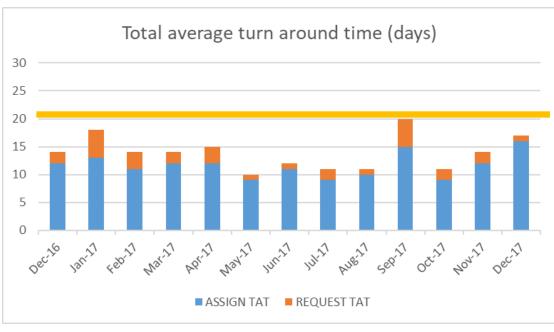
Note: change in presentation at February 2017. Total requests represent SAK and FBIO requests (green bar).





Toxicology: Alcohol

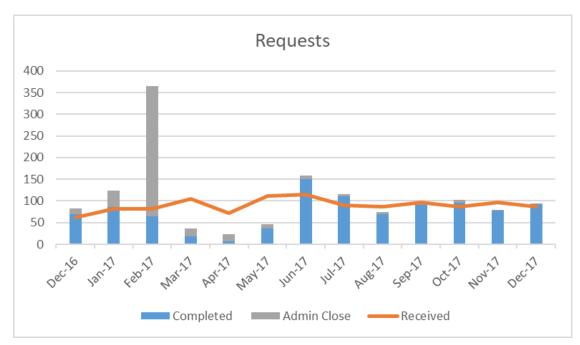


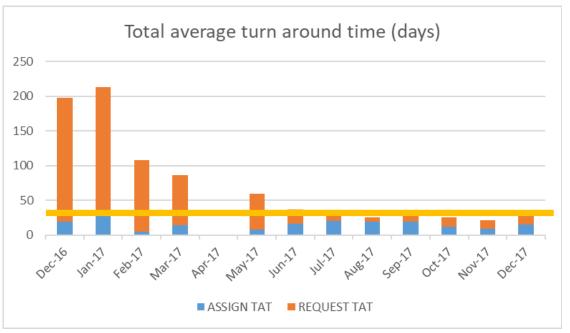




Toxicology: Other Drugs

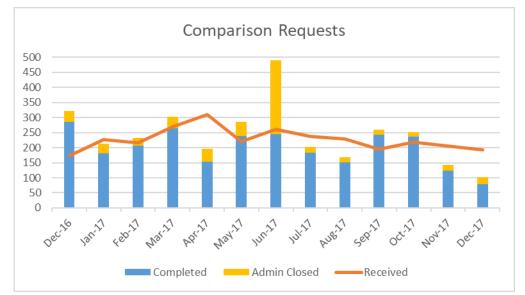
Approximately 300 legacy toxicology analysis cases that preceded HFSC were closed out in February. With the collaboration of HPD, no analysis was conducted, but reports were issued with instructions for ordering analysis should it be needed.

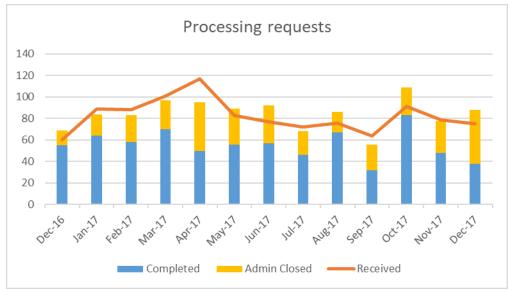


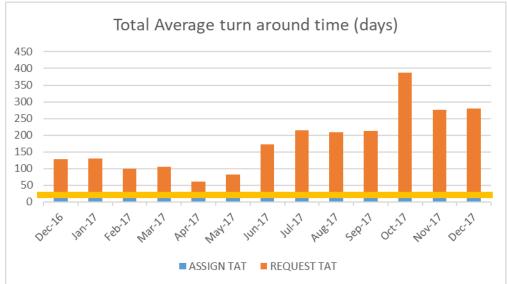




Latents

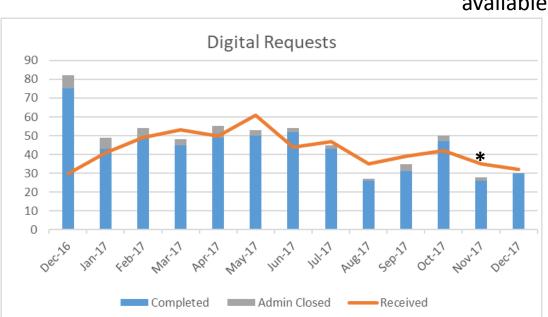




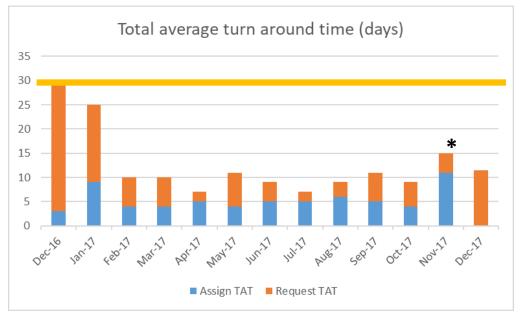


26

DME -- Digital

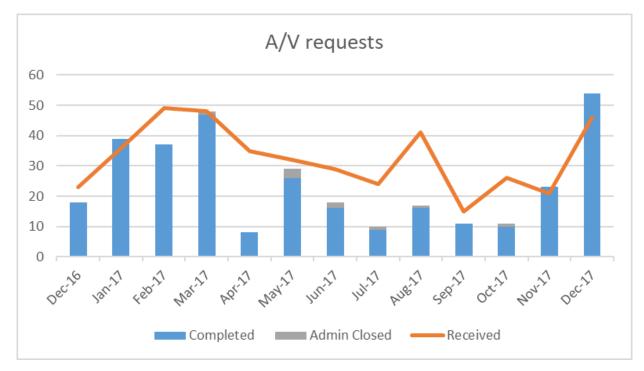


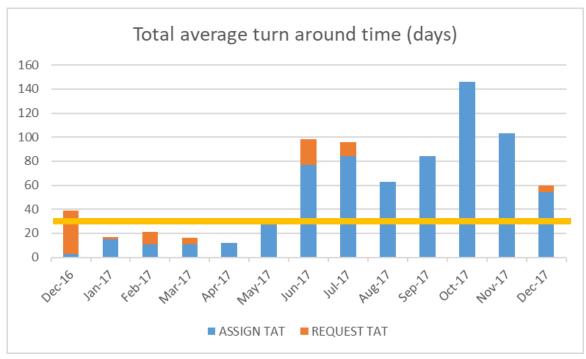
*Digital went live in JusticeTrax LIMS on 11/14/17, for the month of November metrics are in both Porter Lee and JusticeTrax, therefore TAT and admin close accuracy are impacted by transition. By January reporting all metrics will come from JusticeTrax December-Metrics tracked from Both systems still- Process TAT not available, Total TAT available





DME -- A/V





Starting with December Metrics-A/V and AVCO metrics both reported together





Aimee Grimaldi, M.S., ASQ-CQA Quality Specialist

January 12, 2018

Houston Forensic Science Center



What Blind Testing Provides to HFSC

- Enhances proficiency testing
- Evaluates performance and competency of staff
- Tests entire system





Blind Quality Testing Program

Blind Testing

- Materials purchased
- Tests made in-house
- Mimic actual casework
- Analysts do not know whether they are analyzing a real case or participating in blind test
- Evaluates entire Quality
 Management System
- Issued by Quality Division

Blind Verification

- Independent second review
- Case conclusions from 1st examiner masked
- 1st and 2nd examiner record conclusions
- Conclusions evaluated for consistency
- Issued by section

Forensic Disciplines





Firearms



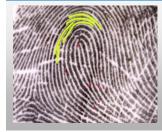
Controlled Substances



Biology



Latent Prints



Digital Forensics



Implementation Date:

September 2015 December 2015 December 2015 October 2016 November 2017 November	2017
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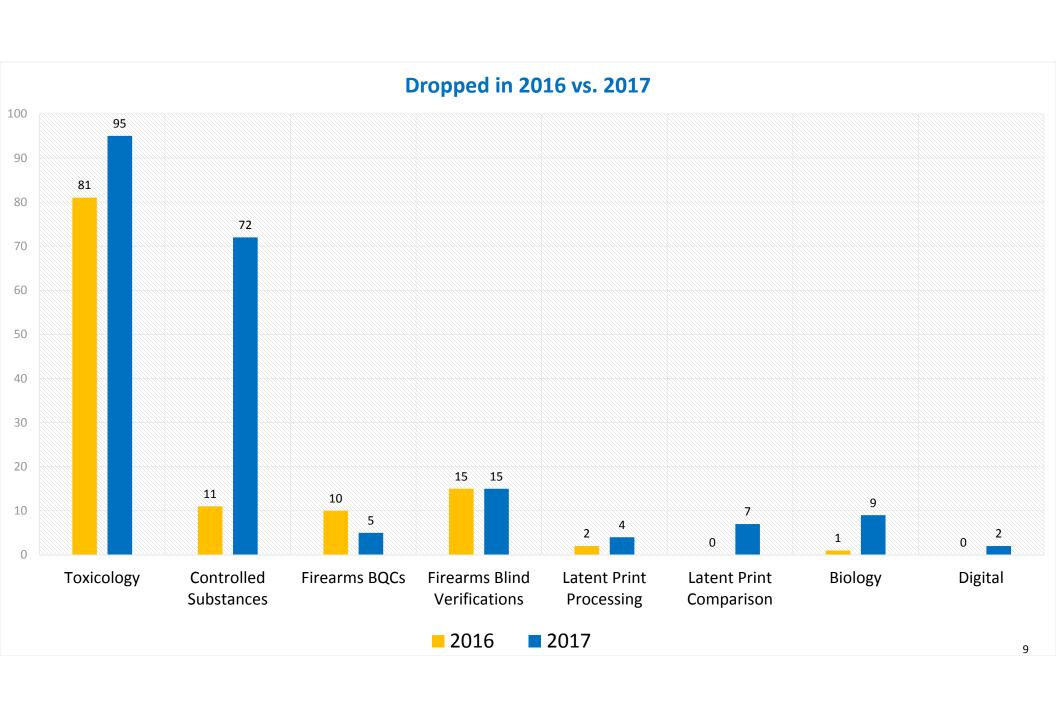
Lessons Learned

- Champion for project
- Collaborators needed
- Test your system



2017 Achievements

- BQCs now implemented in all sections except A/V and CSU (6 of 7 sections)
 - DME BQCs implemented in digital forensics only
- Obtained firearms and controlled substances from HPD property division
- HPD Homicide, Burglary and Theft, Narcotics Division, and HCDAO collaboration
- All tests completed satisfactorily
- Error rate determination



2018 Goals

- Increase BQC submission to 5% of casework in all sections
- Optimization of BQC process in Latent Prints and Forensic Biology
- Introduce extreme challenge samples

2018 Challenges

- JusticeTrax implementation impacts BQC process
- Increase blind case submissions to 5% of completed casework
- Increase requests from collaborators (HPD and HCDAO)

Acknowledgements

- Houston Police Department
 - Property Division
 - Homicide Division
 - Burglary and Theft
- HCDAO
- HFSC staff
- HFSC Quality Division

Contact Us



Email additional questions to Ramit Masti

FY18 Original Budget Reallocations

		FY18B	Adjustments to Budget V1		FY18 Budget V2
			Grants Non	Grants	
Revenues:					
411000	City of Houston-Appropriations	\$ 24,160,343			\$ 24,160,343
	Fund 2213	7,238,565			7,238,565
	HFSC Operations	16,921,778			16,921,778
415000	City of Houston Direct OH-Appro	1,460,000			1,460,000
416000	City of Houston - Safe funds				-
420000	Donations				-
425000	In-Kind Donations				-
426000	Training Services	-			-
440000	Grants	1,016,000			1,016,000
450000	Forensic Services	50,000			50,000
490001	Miscellaneous Copy Fees				-
490002	Interest Income	5,000			5,000
Total Income		26,691,343	-	-	26,691,343
Expenses:					
Perso	onnel:				
500010	Salary Base - Civilian	11,434,275	38,798 1,6	00,000	13,073,073
501070	Pension - Civilian	713,273		99,808	813,082
502010	FICA - Civilian	822,618	3,126 1	15,109	940,853
502020	FICA - Classified				-
503010	Health Insurance - Active Civil	1,043,490	1	46,016	1,189,506
503015	Basic Life Ins - Active Civil	64,645		9,046	73,691
503060	Long Term Disability - Civilian	913		128	1,040
503090	Workers Comp - Civilian Adm	148,485		20,777	169,262
504010	Pension - GASB 27 Accrual				-
504031	Unemployment Taxes - Admin	14,796		2,070	16,867
		14,242,495	41,924 1,9	92,955	16,277,373

1

FY18 Original Budget Reallocations

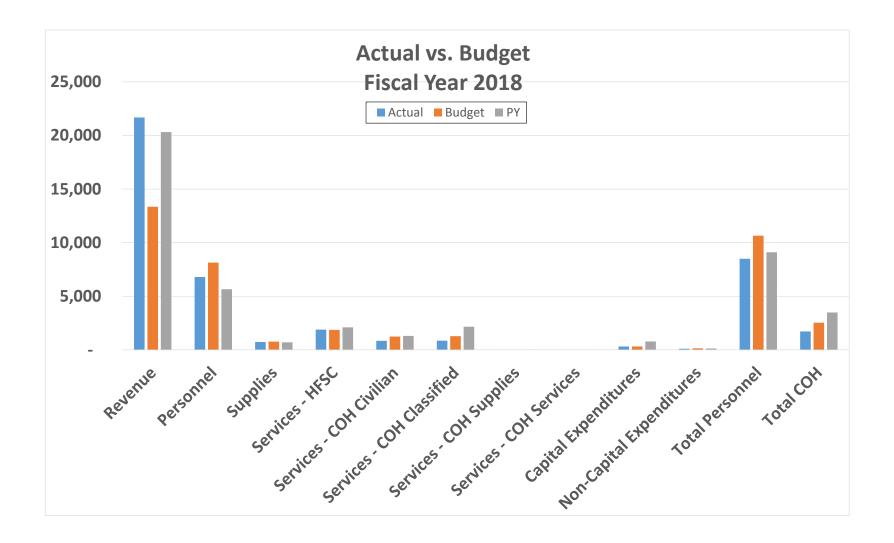
		FY18B	Adjustments to FY18 Budget V1		FY18 Budget V2
			Grants	Non Grants	
Supp	plies:				
511010	Chemical Gases & Special Fluids	14,555			14,555
511040	Audio Visual Supplies	-			-
511045	Computer Supplies	56,119			56,119
511050	Paper & Printing Supplies	30,029			30,029
511055	Publications & Printed Material	17,661			17,661
511060	Postage	1,278			1,278
511070	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	101,080			101,080
511080	General Laboratory Supply	1,207,694			1,207,694
511085	Drugs & Medical Chemicals				-
511090	Medical & Surgical Supplies	452		1,000	1,452
511095	Small Technical & Scientific Eq	21,263			21,263
511110	Fuel	-			-
511120	Clothing	21,183		20,000	41,183
511125	Food/Event Supplies	20,125			20,125
511130	Weapons Munitions & Supplies	4,600			4,600
511145	Small Tools & Minor Equipment	9,782			9,782
511150	Miscellaneous Parts & Supplies	5,032		10,000	15,032
		1,510,852	-	31,000	1,541,852
Serv	ices:				
520100	Temporary Personnel Services	-			-
520105	Accounting & Auditing Svcs	33,040			33,040
520106	Architectural Svcs	-			-
520107	Computer Info/Contracting Svcs	28,396			28,396
520109	Medical Dental & Laboratory Ser	175,000			175,000
520110	Management Consulting Services	100,000	199,000		299,000
520112	Banking Services	3,486			3,486
520113	Photographic Services	318		1,000	1,318
520114	Misc Support Serv Recruit Relo	84,210			84,210
520115	Real Estate Rental	1,078,991			1,078,991
520118	Refuse Disposal	4,493			4,493
520119	Computer Equip/Software Maint.	298,344	47,670	75,000	421,014
520121	IT Application Services	54,623		75,000	129,623
520123	Vehicle & Motor Equip. Services	7,898			7,898
520124	Other Equipment Services	302,129			302,129
520143	Credit/Bank Card Svcs	411			411
520520	Printing & Reproduction Serv.	12,390			12,390
520605	Public Information Svcs	11,568			11,568
520705	Insurance (Non-Medical)	142,000			142,000

FY18 Original Budget Reallocations

		FY18B	Adjustmen Budg		FY18 Budget V2
			Grants	Non Grants	
520760	Contributions	1,000			1,000
520765	Membership & Prof. Fees	43,753	(824)		42,929
520805	Education & Training	131,678	7,781		139,459
520815	Tuition Reimbursement	26,959			26,959
520905	Travel - Training Related	129,738	26,038		155,776
520910	Travel - Non-training Related	20,000			20,000
521405	Building Maintenance Services	30,650			30,650
521505	Utilities	14,057			14,057
521605	Data Services	55,391			55,391
521705	Vehicle/Equipment Rental/Lease	165			165
521725	Other Rental Fees	17,993		5,000	22,993
521730	Parking Space Rental	147,873			147,873
521905	Legal Services	25,000			25,000
522205	Metro Commuter Passes	64,256			64,256
522305	Freight	21,509	113		21,622
522430	Misc. Other Services & Chrgs	153,727			153,727
532000	Sub-Contractor (COH)	7,238,565	9,567	(2,179,955)	5,068,178
Tota	I Services	10,530,895	289,346	(2,023,955)	8,796,286
	Total HFSC Services	3,292,330	279,778	156,000	3,728,108
Non-	Capital Expenditures				
551010	Furniture and Fixtures	100,000			100,000
551015	Computer Equipment	160,000			160,000
551025	Scientific/Medical Equipment	20,000			20,000
	Total Non-Capital Expenditures	280,000	-	-	280,000
Сарі	tal Expenditures				
170140	Improvements				
170210	Furniture & Fixtures				
170230	Computer Hardware/SW				
170240	Scientific/Foren Eqmt	541,516	93,974		635,490
170980	Const in Progress				-
•	Total Capital Expenditures	541,516	93,974	-	635,490
Total Expense Before D	Depreciation	27,105,757	425,243	-	27,531,000
561230	Depreciation	432,352			432,352
669000	Reconciliation Discrepancies				-
Total Expense After De	preciation	27,538,109	425,243	-	27,963,352
Net (Ordinary Income	(846,766)	(425,243)	-	(1,272,009)
Other Expense:					-
610000	City of Houston Direct Overhead	1,460,000			1,460,000
	Grant and Training Expense	1,016,000	(425,243)		590,757
					-

FY18 Original Budget Reallocations

	FY18B	•	nts to FY18 get V1	FY18 Budget V2
		Grants	Non Grants	
Ī	(3,322,766)		-	(3,322,766)



For the Period July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017

			Cu	rrent Mo	onth (Preli	imina	arv)				,	YTD				FY	18
		FY18	FY18	FY17	,		iance		FY18	FY18	FY17		Var	iance		FY18	% Year
		Dec 1- Dec 31,		Dec 1 - Dec 31,					July 1- Dec		July 1- Dec						
		2017	Budget	2016	Budget - Actual	%	FY18 - FY17	%	31, 2017	Budget	31, 2016	Vs. Budget	%	Vs. FY17	%	Budget V1	Completed
			# of Months							# of Months							
Revenues:			•							•							
411000	City of Houston-Appropriations	\$ -	\$ 2,013	\$ -	\$ (2,013)	-100%	\$ -		\$ 20,541	\$ 12,080	\$ 18,408	\$ 8,461	70%	\$ 2,133	0%	\$ 24,160	85%
415000	City of Houston Direct OH-Appro	122	122	122	0	0%	-	0%	730	730	730	0	0%	-	0%	1,460	50%
416000	City of Houston - Safe funds	-		-	-	0%	-		-	_	-	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
420000	Contributions	3	_	3	3	0%	(0)	-3%	8	-	3	8	0%	5	0%	-	0%
425000	In-Kind Donations	-	_	-	-	0%	-		34	-	14	34	0%	20	0%	-	0%
426000	Training Services	-	_	3	-	0%	(3)	-100%	5	-	19	5	0%	(14)	-74%	-	0%
440000	Grants	-	85	900	(85)	-100%	(900)	-100%	345	508	1,125	(163)	-32%	(780)	0%	1,016	34%
450000	Forensic Services	-	4	1	(4)	-100%	(1)	-100%	9	25	10	(16)	-65%	(1)	-14%	50	17%
450001	Miscellaneous Copy Fees	-	-	-	-	0%	-		-	-	-	-	0%	-	0%		0%
450002	Interest Income	1	0	0	0	21%	0	18%	3	3	3	1	22%	0	0%	5	61%
Total Income		125	2,224	1,030	(2,099)	-94%	(905)	-88%	21,676	13,346	20,312	8,330	62%	1,364	7%	26,691	81%
Expenses:																	
	sonnel:	946	4.000	807	143	405	(139)	470	5,535	0.55-	4,622	1,002	450:	(913)	000/	40.675	,
500010	Salary Base - Civilian	56	1,089	48	143	13%		-17%	314	6,537	4,622 295	93	15%		-20%	13,073	42%
501070	Pension - Civilian	66	68			17%	(8)	-16%		407			23%	(19)	-7%	813	39%
502010	FICA - Civilian		78	56	12	16%	(11)	-19%	396	470	327	75	16%	(69)	-21%	941	42%
503010	Health Insurance - Active Civil	80	99	60	19	19%	(21)	-35%	478	595	352	116	20%	(127)	-36%	1,190	40%
503015	Basic Life Ins - Active Civil	7	6	7	(1)	-18%	(0)	-3%	46	37	40	(9)	-25%	(6)	0%	74	62%
503060	Long Term Disability - Civilian	3	0	-	0	0%	-		25	1	- 17	60	0%	- (0)	0%	1	0%
503090	Workers Comp - Civilian Adm	3	14	3	11	77%	(1)	-19%	25	85	17	60	70%	(8)	-51%	169	15%
503100	Workers Comp - Civil Claims	-		-	-		-		-	•	•	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
504030	Unemployment Claims - Admin	-		-			-		_	-	-	-	0%	•	0%	-	0% 0%
504010 504031	Pension - GASB 27 Accrual Unemployment Taxes - Admin	0	1	0	1	80%	(0)	-743%	4	-	1	5	0% 58%	(2)	0% -145%	17	21%
304031	Onemployment Taxes - Admin	1,160	1,356	980	197	15%	(179)	-143%	6,797	8,139	5,653	1,341	16%	(1,144)	-145%	16,277	42%
	_	1,160	1,356	980	197	15%	(179)	-18%	6,797	6,139	5,053	1,341	10%	(1,144)	-20%	16,277	42%
-	oplies:			,		1001	0	40/	6	_	5	4	400/	(4)	0504		1001
511010	Chemical Gases & Special Fluids	1	1	1	1	46%	0	4%	ь	7	5	1	16%	(1)	-25%	15	42%
511040	Audio Visual Supplies	2	- 5	0	3	CEC.	(2)	47000/	10	-	18	18	0%	8	0%		0%
511045	Computer Supplies	2	5	1	1	65%	(1)	-1736%	11	28	16	4	66%	5	46%	56	17%
511050 511055	Paper & Printing Supplies Publications & Printed Material	1	3	4	1	26% 47%	3	-123% 80%	5	15 9	8	4	26% 48%	3	30% 39%	30 18	37% 26%
511060	Postage	0	0	-	(0)	-209%	(0)	80%	1	9	1	0	12%	(0)	-6%	10	44%
511070	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	7	8	5	1	17%	(2)	-29%	45	51	52	6	11%	7	14%	101	44%
511070	General Laboratory Supply	158	101	67	(58)	-57%	(91)	-137%	602	604	566	1	0%	(37)	-7%	1,208	50%
511080	Medical & Surgical Supplies	- 136	101	-	0	-57% 100%	(51)	-13176	1	1	-	(0)	-3%	(1)	0%	1,208	50%
511090	Small Technical & Scientific Eq	0	2	0	2	92%	0	11%	2	11	13	9	81%	11	85%	21	10%
511110	Fuel	0	_	-	(0)	32 /0	(0)	1170	0	- 11	.5	(0)	0%	(0)	0%	21	0%
511110	Clothing	0	3	_	3	99%	(0)		25	21	11	(5)	-23%	(14)	-122%	41	62%
511125	Food/Event Supplies	1	2	4	1	66%	4	87%	8	10	12	2	18%	4	31%	20	41%
511130	Weapons Munitions & Supplies		0		0	100%		01 /3	0	2	0	2	83%	(0)	-10%	5	8%
511145	Small Tools & Minor Equipment	1	1	0	(0)	-24%	(1)	-4807%	4	5	2	0	10%	(2)	-113%	10	45%
511150	Miscellaneous Parts & Supplies	1	1	0	1	56%	(0)	-513%	7	8	3	1	8%	(3)	-99%	15	46%
0.1100	sociianodao i anto a ouppiios								-								
		173	128	82	(44)	-34%	(91)	-110%	727	771	707	44	6%	(21)	-3%	1,542	47%

For the Period July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017

	od Staly 1, 2017 till odgir Dec			rent M	onth (Preli	imina	iry)				,	YTD				FY:	18
		FY18	FY18	FY17		Vari	ance		FY18	FY18	FY17		Vari	ance		FY18	% Year
		Dec 1- Dec 31,		Dec 1 - Dec 31,					July 1- Dec		July 1- Dec						
		2017	Budget	2016	Budget - Actual	%	FY18 - FY17	%	31, 2017	Budget	31, 2016	Vs. Budget	%	Vs. FY17	%	Budget V1	Completed
Serv	vices:																
520100	Temporary Personnel Services	1	-	-	(1)		(1)		1	-	7	(1)	0%	6	0%	-	0%
520105	Accounting & Auditing Svcs	3	3	2	(0)	-13%	(1)	-42%	19	17	14	(2)	-15%	(5)	-32%	33	57%
520106	Architectural Svcs	-	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
520107	Computer Info/Contracting Svcs	-	2	-	2	100%	-		0	14	9	14	100%	8	100%	28	0%
520109	Medical Dental & Laboratory Ser	7	15	32	8	53%	25	79%	31	88	346	56	64%	315	91%	175	18%
520110	Management Consulting Services	5	25	4	20	80%	(1)	-20%	255	150	329	(105)	-70%	75	23%	299	85%
520112	Banking Services	0	0	0	0	20%	(0)	-4%	1	2	2	0	23%	0	16%	3	38%
520113	Photographic Services	-	0	-	0	100%	-		1	1	0	0	2%	(0)	-103%	1	49%
520114	Misc Support Serv Recruit Relo	10	7	2	(3)	-42%	(8)	-417%	70	42	36	(28)	-67%	(34)	-94%	84	83%
520115	Real Estate Rental	85	90	83	5	6%	(2)	-2%	507	539	512	33	6%	5	1%	1,079	47%
520118	Refuse Disposal	-	0	-	0	100%	-		1	2	2	1	66%	1	0%	4	17%
520119	Computer Equip/Software Maint.	124	35	20	(89)	-253%	(104)	-508%	342	211	149	(132)	-63%	(193)	-130%	421	81%
520121	IT Application Services	1	11	0	10	89%	(1)	-7095%	65	65	6	(0)	0%	(59)	0%	130	50%
520123	Vehicle & Motor Equip. Services	-	1	-	1	100%	-		0	4	0	4	100%	0	100%	8	0%
520124	Other Equipment Services	8	25	15	17	67%	6	43%	66	151	120	85	57%	54	45%	302	22%
520143	Credit/Bank Card Svcs	0	0	-	0	93%	(0)		0	0	1	0	35%	1	85%	0	33%
520145	Criminal Intelligence Services	-		-	-		-		-		-	-	0%	-	0%		0%
520520	Printing & Reproduction Serv.	2	1	-	(1)	-106%	(2)		3	6	5	3	47%	1	31%	12	27%
520605	Public Information Svcs	-	1	0	1	100%	0	100%	2	6	9	4	67%	7	78%	12	17%
520705	Insurance (Non-Medical)	8	12	8	4	36%	0	2%	49	71	51	22	30%	2	3%	142	35%
520760	Contributions	-	0	-	0	100%	-		-	1	1	1	100%	1	0%	1	0%
520765	Membership & Prof. Fees	0	4	1	3	96%	1	85%	5	21	28	16	77%	23	82%	43	12%
520805	Education & Training	1	12	4	11	91%	3	76%	62	70	44	7	11%	(18)	-41%	139	45%
520815	Tuition Reimbursement	4	2	4	(2)	-99%	(0)	-2%	15	13	10	(1)	-10%	(4)	-42%	27	55%
520905	Travel - Training Related	2	13	8	11	84%	5	72%	87	78	92	(9)	-12%	5	5%	156	56%
520910	Travel - Non-training Related	0	2	1	2	99%	1	97%	7	10	11	3	35%	4	39%	20	33%
521405	Building Maintenance Services	3	3	-	0	1%	(3)		16	15	15	(0)	-3%	(0)	-3%	31	52%
521505	Utilities	0	1	1	1	74%	1	67%	2	7	10	5	65%	7	75%	14	17%
521605	Data Services	3	5	5	2	35%	2	34%	20	28	24	8	29%	4	18%	55	36%
521610	Voice Services, Equip & Labor	6	6	6	(0)	-4%	(1)	-9%	30	36	26	6	16%	(4)	-13%	71	42%
521705	Vehicle/Equipment Rental/Lease	-	0	0	0	100%	0	100%	-	0	0	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
521725	Other Rental Fees	7	2	4	(5)	-241%	(3)	-84%	18	11	11	(6)	-53%	(6)	-58%	23	76%
521730	Parking Space Rental	14	12	30	(2)	-17%	15	51%	82	74	70	(8)	-10%	(11)	-16%	148	55%
521905	Legal Services	-	2	2	2	100%	2	100%	19	13	2	(7)	-55%	(18)	0%	25	78%
522205	Metro Commuter Passes	7	5	6	(1)	-23%	(1)	-18%	28	32	28	4	11%	(1)	-3%	64	44%
522305	Shipping and Freight	1	2	2	1	31%	1	42%	8	11	12	2	22%	3	27%	22	39%
522430	Misc. Other Services & Chrgs	10	13	34	3	22%	24	70%	77	77	117	0	0%	41	35%	154	50%
522720	Insurance - General & Professional	-		-	-				-			_	0%		0%		0%
523100	Civilian Payroll	140	207	221	67	32%	81	37%	841	1,243	1,296	402	32%	455	35%	2,486	34%
523200	Classified Payroll	149	212	308	63	30%	159	52%	861	1,273	2,156	412	32%	1,294	60%	2,546	34%
523300	Supplies	_	0	-	0	100%	_		0	0	29	0	32%	29	0%	0	34%
523400	Services	2	3	1	1	47%	(1)	-161%	12	18	7	6	32%	(6)	-85%	36	34%
523000	Sub-Contractor (COH-HPD) Total	291	422	530	132	31%	239	45%	1,715	2,534	3,487	820	32%	1,773	51%	5,068	34%
	(30 2, .om	603	733	803	130	18%	199	25%	3,604	4,398	5,588	794	18%	1,984	36%	8,796	41%
		- 003	133	003	130	1070	133	25/6	3,004	4,550	3,300	134	10 /6	1,304	5576	0,730	4170

For the Period July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017

			Cu	rrent Mo	onth (Preli	ary)	YTD						FY18				
		FY18	FY18	FY17		Vari	iance		FY18	FY18	FY17		Vari	iance		FY18	% Year
		Dec 1- Dec 31, 2017	Budget	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2016	Budget - Actual	%	FY18 - FY17	%	July 1- Dec 31, 2017	Budget	July 1- Dec 31, 2016	Vs. Budget	%	Vs. FY17	%	Budget V1	Completed
No	on-Capital Expenditures																
551010	Furniture and Fixtures	-	8	4	8	100%	4	100%	26	50	55	24	49%	30	54%	100	26%
551015	Computer Hardware/SW	25	13	1	(12)	-87%	(24)	-3505%	69	80	41	11	13%	(29)	-71%	160	43%
551025	Scientific/Foren Eqmt	4	2	-	(3)	-156%	(4)		8	10	34	2	15%	25	75%	20	42%
	Total Non-Capital Expenditures	29	23	4	(6)	-25%	(25)	-560%	103	140	129	37	26%	26	20%	280	37%
Ca	pital Expenditures																
170140	Improvements	-	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
170210	Furniture & Fixtures	-	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
170230	Computer Hardware/SW	24	-	310	(24)		285	92%	204	-	331	(204)	0%	127	0%	-	0%
170240	Scientific/Foren Eqmt	-	53	63	53	100%	63	100%	46	318	450	272	86%	404	90%	635	7%
170980	Const in Progress	26	-	-	(26)		(26)		63	-	-	(63)	0%	(63)	0%		0%
	Total Capital Expenditures	50	53	373	3	5%	322	87%	314	318	781	4	1%	467	60%	635	49%
Total Expense and	d Capital Before Depreciation	2,015	2,294	2,242	279	12%	227	10%	11,545	13,766	12,857	2,220	16%	1,312	10%	27,531	42%
561230	Depreciation	40	36	38	(4)	-10%	(2)	-4%	240	216	206	(24)	-11%	(34)	-16%	432	56%
570505	FA Gain/Loss	-	-			0%			-	-		-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
610000	City of Houston Direct Overhead	122	122	122	(0)	0%	-	0%	730	730	730	(0)	0%	-	0%	1,460	50%
	Grant and Training Expense	-	49	-	49	100%	-		-	295	-	295	100%	-	0%	591	0%
Total Expense and	d Capital After Depreciation	2,177	2,501	2,402	325	13%	225	9%	12,516	15,007	13,794	2,491	17%	1,278	9%	30,014	42%
Ne	et Ordinary Income less capital spending	(2,051)	(277)	(1,372)	(2,423)	875%	(680)	50%	9,160	(1,661)	6,518	10,821	-651%	2,642	41%	(3,323)	-276%

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

(in '000's)

	Preliminary As of 12/31/17		0	As of 9/30/17	As of 06/30/17		-	As of 3/31/17
ASSETS								
Cash and Cash Equivalents Bank of Texas-Operating	\$	10,665	\$	14,769	\$	2,240	\$	5,369
Total Current Assets		10,665		14,769		2,240		5,369
Accounts Receivable		35 35		353 353		234 234		<u>1</u>
Capital Assets Net of Depreciation Capital Assets Accumulated Depreciation		5,256 (1,356)		4,975 (1,236)		4,942 (1,116)		4,317 (1,095)
Total Net Capital Assets		3,900		3,740		3,826		3,222
Other Assets Prepaid - HR Prepaid - Insurance Prepaid - Service Agreements Prepaid - Other		5 81 126 95	_	13 98 184 86		9 119 66 9		1 41 51 92
Total Other Assets		306		380		204		185
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	14,906	\$	19,242	\$	6,504	\$	8,777
LIABILITIES		_						
Accounts Payables Payroll Tax Liability Other Liabilities, Including Fund 2213 Billing Deferred - Others Total Liabilities	\$	86 481 290 6	\$	445 531 282 6 1,264	\$	630 950 350	\$	151 316 561
NET POSITION/FUND BALANCE		004		1,204		1,550		1,020
Unrestricted/Unassigned Temporarily Restricted - SAFE Funds Net Investment in Capital Assets		10,143 3,900		14,238 3,740		747 3,826		4,527 3,222
Total Net Position		14,042		17,978		4,574		7,749
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION	\$	14,906	\$	19,242	\$	6,504	\$	8,777

Awarded

Awarding Agency: USDOJ-OJP-NIJ

Name of Project: NIJ FY 15 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program

Start and End Dates: 01/2016 to 12/2017

Contact: Sherry Cochran

Invoiced Total To Invoice Award Number: 2015-DN-BX-0072 Award Bal.

Amount of Award: \$ 1,172,752.00

Grant Inception to date: \$ (1,116,821.48) 955,301.23 (161,520.25) Grant Balance: \$ 55,930.52

Status 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

To Invoice Award Number: 2016-DN-BX-0142 Award Bal. Invoiced Total

Amount of Award: \$ 741,000 Grant Inception to date: \$ (264,008)250,356.02

Grant Balance: \$ 476,992

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

To Invoice Award Bal. Invoiced Total Award Number: 2017-DN-BX-0027 Total

> Amount of Award: \$ 867,755 Grant Inception to date:

Grant Balance: \$ 867,755

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

To Invoice Invoiced Total Award Bal. Award Number: 2017-DN-BX-0176 Total 114,000.00 Amount of Award: 114,000.00

HFSC Match 38,000.00 38,000.00 Grant Inception to date:

Grant Balance:

Status: Awarded

Awarding Agency: Texas Mutual (HFSC's insurance provider)

Invoiced Total To Invoice Name of Project: Safety Equipment - Ergonomic Chairs Award Bal. Start and End Dates: One Time Funding

Amount of Award: \$ 1,500 (1,500)Grant Inception to date: \$ 1,500.00

Grant Balance: \$ Status: Awarded

Awarding Agency: Texas Mutual (HFSC's insurance provider)

Invoiced Total To Invoice Name of Project: Hurricane Harvey Relief - Personnel Lost workday Award Bal.

Start and End Dates: One Time Funding

Amount of Award: \$ 10,000 Grant Inception to date: \$ (10,000) 10,000.00 \$

Grant Balance: \$



Houston Forensic Science Center

INTEROFFICE MEMO

To: Peter Stout, PhD, President and CEO

From: Lori Wilson, Quality Director

Amy Castillo, PhD, COO

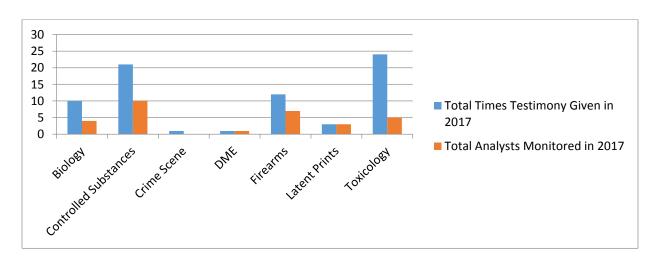
Cc: Jerry Pena, Director, Crime Scene/Digital and Multimedia Division

Date: January 8, 2018

Re: Quality Division Update for December 2017

TESTIMONY MONITORING

A Toxicology analyst testified once during the month. Calendar year information is shown in the below graphic.



Two controlled substance analysts were not monitored during the year as required by policy. In addition to documenting this policy violation as a nonconformance, transcripts will be reviewed once received from the court reporters.

PROFICIENCY TESTS

Proficiency activity is shown below.

Test Identifier	Discipline	Number of Tests Assigned	Number of Participants	Date Assigned	Date Submitted to Provider	Issue?
2017-2005	Forensic Multimedia: Audio Analysis	3	3	8/1/2017	9/14/2017	yes*
17-5705	Forensic Biology	9	Varies	9/15/2017	11/03/2017	n/a
PARF-C 2017	Forensic Biology: Parentage	1	1	9/27/2017	11/14/2017	n/a
17-5671	Toxicology: Urine Drug Analysis	1	1	9/29/2017	10/26/2017	n/a
17-5191	Latent Print Processing	2	2	10/16/2017	11/21/2017	n/a
17-527	Firearms Examination	5	5	10/20/2017	12/13/2017	n/a

*Three 2017-2005 Audio Analysis tests were completed. Two of the three analysts reported results consistent with results expected by the test provider. The other analyst's results were not consistent and she was removed from casework and technical review duties while the nonconformance is being reviewed. The analyst will not be reauthorized to conduct audio casework or reviews until a remedial training program and competency exam are completed successfully. The Quality corrective action report (2017-096) will remain open until these actions are completed.

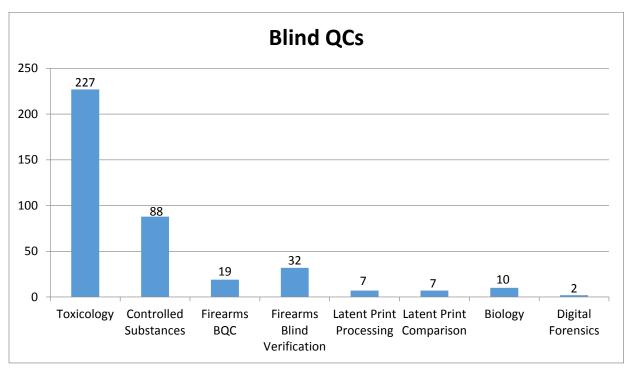
2017 BLIND QUALITY CONTROL PROGRAM

December activity is shown below.

Discipline	Number of Cases Assigned	Number of Cases Completed	Results
Toxicology	12	12	Satisfactory*
Controlled Substances	15	9	Satisfactory
Firearms – Blind Quality Control	1	0	n/a
Firearms – Blind Verification	1	1	Satisfactory
Latent Print Processing	1	1	Satisfactory
Latent Print Comparison	5	0	n/a
Biology	2	0	n/a

Digital Forensics 1 Satisfactory

*Due to an administrative error made by the Quality Division, two Toxicology samples were switched. Although the technical results were correct, the results were reported under incorrect incident numbers. In an effort to prevent future errors, staff members are writing a BQC SOP. The due date for the first draft of the SOP is January 26.



This graph represents the number of BQC cases created since the beginning of the program (September 2015) through the end of December 2017.

BQC information will be presented verbally during the January 2018 Board meeting. Please see **Attachment 1** for BQC details.

INCIDENTS/CORRECTIVE/PREVENTIVE ACTIONS

Information regarding specific incidents and corrective actions reported during the month is included as **Attachment 2**.

COMPLAINTS

No complaints were received during the month.

DISCLOSURES

Quality corrective action report 2017-088 involves a scene video that was not captured by the Forensic Multimedia Unit as requested by the investigating agency. The FMU analyst extracted video from June 27 but should have extracted the video recorded on June 24. When this nonconformance was

discovered in November, the video had been overwritten and was no longer retrievable. Although the evidence is no longer needed for investigative purposes since charges will not be filed on this case, HFSC will self-disclose this nonconformance to the Forensic Science Commission before its next scheduled meeting in February 2018.

AUDITS and INSPECTIONS

Since July 2017, the Quality Associate has conducted monthly Quality File Reviews. These reviews are for administrative accuracy only and have included 50 case records from the Toxicology, Firearms, Controlled Substances, Latent Prints and Digital Forensic laboratories. In December, the associate reviewed thirteen case records from the Forensic Multimedia Unit. The case records included those with reports completed since September 1, 2017. Although no nonconformance was noted, four of the records had more than one version of case and/or scene notes uploaded to LIMS. This is indicative of changes made during the technical review process. Another record included two chain of custody LIMS change request forms. These forms are required by the HFSC IT Division before changes can be made to electronic chains of custody. The forms indicate an error was made in the chain of custody or some other change was needed to ensure an accurate and complete chain of custody.

BQC case records are also subject to review by the Quality Division. The goal of the BQC record review is to provide metrics regarding laboratory performance including chain-of-custody issues. The Quality Division intends to conduct record reviews for each section starting with Toxicology. The section completed 97 BQC cases in 2017 and 21 have been reviewed. To date, no nonconformances have been observed.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Attachment 1



Blind Quality Testing Project Update –December 2017

Quality Division Goals

Quiditity Division	
Discipline	Target Cases Assigned
Controlled Substances	8/month
Toxicology	8/month
Biology	2/month
Firearms – Blind Verification	1/month
Firearms – Blind Quality Control	1/month
Latent Print Processing	1/month
Latent Print Comparison	1/month
Digital Forensics	1/month

Challenges

- Increase blind submissions to 5% of casework completed.
- New Quality Division submission goals beginning January 2018.
- Justice Trax LIMS implementation impacts BQC process



Cases Completed
9
12
0
1
0
0
0
1

Mitigation

- Work with HPD Central Evidence Receiving (Narcotics Evidence Receiving) to obtain seized drugs for controlled substances cases.
- Collaborate with HPD divisions to increase blind requests and variety of requests.

Achievements

- Collaboration granted with HPD Property Division to obtain controlled substances in the BQC program.
- All monthly quality division submission goals achieved for all sections
- Submitted an end of year "finale" case that included five request types.

Attachment 2

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	Quality Notified	Summary of Notification	Comments
Audio Video			
2017-096 CAR	12/20/2017	The proficiency test provider notified the Quality Division that results submitted for this test did not meet the expected results. Specifically, the analyst was asked to clariy an audio recording. In the opinion of the test provider, the analyst's work product was not intelligible.	
Biology			
2017-093 CAR	12/20/2017	The DNA staff database mistakenly listed the same DNA profile for two separate individuals. DNA staff verified whose profile it was and removed the other individual from the database. A DNA sample has been requested from the other person, a former HFSC staff member.	
2017-094 IR	12/21/2017	In June 2016, the DNA SOP required reagent blank activity that is resolved by re-amplification to be tracked with a Quality Division Incident Report. However, when the Acting Technical Leader received a draft Incident Report from the report writer, he did not forward it to the Quality Division.	
2017-097 IR	12/21/2017	Envelopes containing biological swabs were packaged by a Biology analyst in the wrong parent item packages after analysis. The package labeled item 12 actually contained swabs labeled item 23 and the package labeled item 23 contained swabs labeled item 12. This error was noted by the Latent Print laboratory when the evidence was forwarded to them for processing.	
2017-PAR3 PAR	12/15/2017	Biology staff received two lots of DNA kits but QC checked only one because they believed only one lot number was received. This error was noted before the items were used on casework.	

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.

Quality Division Notifications

Incidents, Corrective and Preventive Actions

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	Quality Notified	Summary of Notification	Comments
Client Service Managemen			
2017-095 IR	12/13/2017	Evidence was transferred from CS/CM to Narcotics Evidence Receiving (NER, formerly named CER) but the LIMS chain of custody did not reflect this transfer. The EMS custody was correct.	