



April 2, 2021

Dr. Jenifer Smith, Director
D.C. Department of Forensic Sciences
401 E Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20024

Delivered via email to: jenifer.smith@dc.gov

Re: Immediate Suspension of the Department of Forensic Sciences' ANAB Accreditation

Dear Director Smith:

ANAB has received credible evidence that the D.C. Department of Forensic Sciences, Forensic Science Laboratory Division, has deliberately concealed information from the ANAB assessment team, violated accreditation requirements, engaged in misrepresentations and fraudulent behavior, and engaged in conduct that brings ANAB into disrepute. This credible evidence is detailed in the "Final Report of Review and Audit of Selected Casework of the Firearms Examination Unit of the Forensic Science Laboratory Division, Department of Forensic Sciences, District of Columbia", the source materials relied upon in this report and ANAB records from the 2020 assessment activities and complaint investigation.

ANAB's international recognition by the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) is based on continued conformance with ISO/IEC 17011. That standard, in pertinent part, states in 7.11.2 "Where there is evidence of fraudulent behaviour, or the conformity assessment body intentionally provides false information or conceals information, the accreditation body shall initiate its process for withdrawal of accreditation." As required by ANAB's Terms and Conditions for Accreditation ([AG 1008](#)), ANAB is immediately suspending the laboratory's accreditation and initiating the process for withdrawal of accreditation. The laboratory shall notify its customers/stakeholders of the suspension and pending withdrawal within seven (7) calendar days from the date of this letter.

Typically, suspension is a temporary restriction put in place until the laboratory conforms with the responsibilities and obligations of an accredited laboratory. Under the current circumstances, suspension is a temporary measure pending formal withdrawal. Withdrawal of the laboratory's accreditation will become effective thirty (30) calendar days from the date of this letter. The laboratory has the right to appeal this accreditation decision. The [Appeal Form](#) and a description of the [Appeal Process](#) are available on ANAB's website. The laboratory may also request an immediate, voluntary withdrawal of accreditation.

Pamela L. Sale
Vice President, Forensics

cc: Abdel Maliky, Senior Deputy Director, Department of Forensic Sciences
Wayne Arendse, Director, Forensic Science Laboratory