

APPENDIX

Procedural overview Forensic Biology, John Tonge Centre for Forensic Sciences, Queensland Health Scientific Services.

Statements are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *National Association of Testing Authorities* (NATA). They contain all the important information considered pertinent to a case. They are, however and of necessity, a summary of the total analysis. No important findings are intentionally omitted. All details of the analysis are contained in the *case record* and this is available to *Officers of the Court* on a *need to know basis*.

Procedures for DNA Testing include:

- scientists record tests to be carried out on items in a computer log called *DNAmaster*.
- technicians perform the tests under supervision
- two scientists read the test results independently. This means that the origin of the test sample as well as the results recorded by the other reader are unknown to them at the time of reading
- interpretation of the test results is the responsibility of the case scientist who re-reads the tests before reporting
- a selection of case files are routinely technically reviewed. The original statement shall bear a red stamp on each page which shows the technical review status. If an *officer of the court* requests a technical review on a case which has not been reviewed, then this will be arranged
- technical review is the review of casework for scientific and technical correctness by a peer forensic biologist
- all case files are subject to an *administrative review*
- an administrative review is a procedure used to check for consistency with laboratory policy and for editorial correctness

Scientists, of necessity, are *close* to their casework. The above process ensures that conscious or subconscious bias is *not* an issue. It is part of a quality system designed for forensic laboratories. It produces procedural *fairness*.

Quality System Documentation. Detailed Procedure and Methods are held in the section and are available to *Officers of the Court* on a *need to know basis*.

Sample retention. Sample remnants and extracts of tested samples almost always remain at the completion of analysis. These are kept preserved indefinitely and are available to relevant *Officers of the Court* if retesting is required.

Methodology

PROFILER PLUS (D3S1358, D8S1179, D5S818, VWA, D21S11, D13S317, FGA, D7S820, D18S51 and AMELOGENIN) STR and sex typing was performed using PCR-DNA technology and automated fluorescence based detection. An ABI PRISM 377 DNA Sequencer, was employed, together with ABI Prism Genescan Analysis and Genotyper Software.

NATA (National Association of Testing Authorities) Accreditation.

This laboratory is NATA Accredited for **Forensic Biology (DNA analysis) and Parentage Testing (DNA typing – PCR)**. Accreditation assessment was performed by qualified experts external to this Organisation. The parameters assessed in both areas were: Organisation and Management, Quality Management System, Personnel, Evidence Management, Methods and Procedures, Quality Assurance, Equipment, Reports, Procurement of Services and Supplies and Accommodation and Safety.

Appendix Reviewed 5/4/2001

25/7/2000

MARYBOROUGH STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE ATTENDANCE REGISTER

No	Date	Name	Start	Finish	Activity	Signature
1	25/7	Sch4/3/3 Personal Information	12.30	16.30	Police Search	
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