STATE OF VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY VERMONT FORENSIC LABORATORY

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MEMORANDUM

TO:

STATE'S ATTORNEYS AND DEFENDER GENERAL

FROM:

AMANDA BOLDUC, TOXICOLOGY SECTION SUPERVISOR

SUBJECT:

EVIDENTIARY BLOOD DRUG SAMPLE RETENTION

DATE:

MAY 22, 2019

The Vermont Forensic Laboratory has recently begun reporting results for blood drug testing. This has caused us to review our DUID blood evidence retention practices. Previously, our practice had been to dispose of all samples 90 days after the reporting of final results, as these were confirmed results from NMS Labs. Our new practice will be to dispose of samples 90 days after the reporting of confirmed results and 180 days after the reporting of preliminary results.

The VFL will screen samples and report preliminary results for Methamphetamines, Amphetamines, Meprobamate, Barbiturates, Cannabinoids, Methadone, Benzodiazepines, Opiates, Buprenorphine, Opioids, Phencyclidine, Cocaine Metabolite, Tricyclic Antidepressants, Dextromethorphan, Tramadol, Fentanyl, and Zolpidem. Currently, the VFL will confirm samples that screen positive for Cannabinoids. The VFL will be validating confirmation procedures for other common analytes (e.g. opioids, cocaine, etc.) If confirmation is requested for analytes other than THC, samples will be sent to NMS Labs. Currently all blood drug testing performed at the VFL is outside the laboratory's scope of accreditation.

If you receive a preliminary result and require confirmation testing, if you have received results and would like to have independent testing performed, or if you wish to have a sample held beyond its eligible for disposal date, please contact the laboratory as soon as possible to make arrangements.