



Quality Division Use Only

Quality Tracking #:	2019-046	Classification:	Incident
Non-Conformance Level:	N/A	Section:	Crime Scene
Date of Discovery:	06/16/19	Date of Incident:	06/16/19

Forensic Case Number(s), if applicable:	Agency Case Number(s), if applicable:
2019-10552	0761321-19

Description of Non-conformance:
A Crime Scene Investigator (CSI) placed a damp shirt with possible blood into drying cabinet 1 without first cleaning the cabinet and placing butcher paper underneath the item as required in the Crime Scene Unit (CSU) SOP.

Additional Information/Follow-Up:
When interviewed the CSI stated that she normally does clean the drying cabinet and put down butcher paper prior to use. However, in this instance she forgot to do so. The shirt belonged to the victim and had been removed by emergency medical personnel and left at the scene. She collected the shirt with the intention of submitting it to the property room but realized it was damp. She decided to dry the shirt to prevent mold growth prior to submitting it to the property room. The CSU SOP requires that CSIs clean the drying cabinet before and after each use, and to place clean butcher paper at the bottom of drying cabinet while it is in use. The CSI who used the drying cabinet prior to this instance stated that she did clean the drying cabinet after using it. Although CSU policy was not followed, this nonconformance did not have a negative impact on CSU's crime scene investigation.



Summary of Root Cause Analysis:

Note: Incidents are documented for tracking purposes and trend analysis. Root Cause Analysis is not required for incidents.

N/A

Actions Taken:

When a CSU Supervisor observed the drying cabinet in use without butcher paper she broke the integrity tag, cleaned the floor of the drying cabinet, placed butcher paper on the floor, and resealed the drying cabinet. The supervisor stated that the drying cabinet appeared clean and that nothing had dripped onto the floor. The CSI and her supervisor discussed the incident and the CSI reviewed the section of the SOP covering the requirements for the use and cleaning of drying cabinets.

Section Manager: Domingo Villarreal

Date: 09/12/19

Division Director: Jerry Pena

Date: 09/17/19

Incidents or Corrective Actions that involve the Biology/DNA section are reviewed by the Technical Leader and CODIS Administrator.

Technical Leader: N/A

Date: N/A

CODIS Administrator: N/A

Date: N/A

Quality Director: Erika Ziemak

Date Closed: 09/19/19