



Quality Division Use Only

Quality Tracking #:	<input type="text" value="2021-067"/>	Classification:	<input type="text" value="Incident"/>
Non-Conformance Level:	<input type="text" value="N/A"/>	Section:	<input type="text" value="Seized Drugs"/>
Date of Discovery:	<input type="text" value="11/19/21"/>	Date of Incident:	<input type="text" value="11/19/21"/>

Forensic Case Number(s), if applicable:	Agency Case Number(s), if applicable:
2021-26294	072193121

Description of Non-conformance:

A water leak was discovered in an evidence storage vault and the evidence in the vault was promptly relocated to prevent potential damage. During relocation one evidence envelope was found to have been dampened by the leak; however, the evidence contents for this case were not affected because they were contained within a sealed plastic container.

Additional Information/Follow-Up:

On 11/18/2021 an analyst notified the director of business development and the seized drugs section manager that she noticed water pooling on the floor of her locker in the evidence vault. Building services was notified and the leak was traced to a pipe in the ceiling. The pipe was temporarily sealed until permanent repairs could be made at a later time.

Analysts were told to relocate their evidence to prevent potential exposure to further leaks. During the transfer of evidence on 11/19/2021, an analyst noticed that the outer evidence envelope for one case was damp where the water had leaked onto it. The analyst opened the envelope and examined the contents. The contents did not appear to be affected by the leak because they were contained within a sealed ziplock. Photographs of the condition of the outer evidence envelope and its contents were taken and included in the case file. The outer evidence envelope was dried and the evidence was sealed. The evidence was returned to the submitting agency on 12/02/2021.



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:

The report was amended to document the exposure of the item to the leak with the following header and comment:

Header: This report amends Laboratory Report #: 0001 dated 11/18/2021 at 5:53:58 PM to include a comment regarding the condition of item 001. Please refer to Quality Report 2021-067 for additional information regarding this incident.

Comments: On 11/19/2021 evidence item 001 was found to have been exposed to a water leak in the evidence storage vault. The exposure occurred after the completion of analysis and issuing of the analytical report. The analyst examined the contents of item 001 and noted that the contents did not appear to be affected by the leak. The outer evidence envelope for item 001 was allowed to dry and was then sealed for return to the submitting agency. Photographs of the condition of item 001 and its contents following exposure to the leak have been included in the case file and are available upon request.

Section Manager: James Miller

Date: 12/02/21

Division Director: Amy Castillo

Date: 12/07/21

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: 12/07/21