



Houston Forensic Science Center

INTEROFFICE MEMO

To: Kayla Yang, M.S., D-ABFT-FA, Forensic Analyst - Toxicology

From: Melissa Henry, D-ABFT-FT, Supervisor – Toxicology

cc: Dayong Lee, Ph.D, F-ABFT, Manager – Toxicology
Quality Division

Date: October 15, 2021

Re: Authorizations of Drug Screen and Qualitative Confirmation and Carisoprodol/Meprobamate Confirmation by Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS)

This memo authorizes Ms. Yang to perform GC-MS drug screening and confirmation analyses and to write test reports for casework in the Toxicology section using the following methods:

- Drug screen and qualitative confirmation by GC-MS (BSD)
- Carisoprodol/Meprobamate confirmation by GC-MS (CAR)

This authorization is based upon her successful completion of

1. Required readings on June 15, 2021 and study questions on September 9, 2021 as outlined in section 9; required readings on June 15, 2021 and study questions on September 8, 2021 as outlined in section 14; and applicable study questions on September 14, 2021 as outlined in section 20 of the Toxicology Training Manual v3.7;
2. Laboratory exercises completed on October 12, 2021 that included:
 - a. training batches BSD_20210618B_KMY, BSD_20210622B_KMY, BSD_20210625U_KMY, BSD_20210811U_KMY, CAR_20210604B_KMY, CAR_20210615B_KMY, and CAR_20210616U_KMY; and
 - b. observance of 5 qualitative BSD case reports and 5 positive case reports on August 10, 2021 and drafting of 5 qualitative BSD case reports and 5 positive case reports on October 12, 2021;
3. Competency test completed on October 15, 2021;
4. Oral examination for BSD and CAR on October 7, 2021; and
5. GC-MS Testimony Q & A session on October 8, 2021.

Ms. Yang's competency test included analysis of 5 blood samples fortified with drugs at different concentrations (request 001 in 2021-00177, 2021-00178, 2021-00179, 2021-00180, and 2021-00181) in the development JusticeTrax system. Analysis of competency samples took place on September 17, 2021 before completion of drafting the practice case reports. This deviation was approved prior to the competency analysis and is acceptable because drafting of the practice case reports had been completed before the competency case reports were written.

Ms. Yang has been authorized to use the equipment associated with the GC-MS analysis. This equipment includes but is not limited to: Agilent GC-MS, SPE extraction equipment, Turbo-VAP, balances, vial crimpers, pipettes, pH meter, and Millipore Water System.

Ms. Yang is authorized to provide opinions and interpretations pertaining to the GC-MS drug analyses.