



TEXAS FORENSIC
SCIENCE COMMISSION

Justice Through Science

*1700 North Congress Ave., Suite 445
Austin, Texas 78701*

May 23, 2016

Dr. Daniel Garner
Houston Forensic Science Center
1200 Travis 20th Floor
Houston, Texas 77002

RE: Application for Texas Forensic Science Commission Accreditation under Title 37, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 651.

Dear Dr. Garner:

With some exceptions, the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 38.35, requires Texas Forensic Science Commission ("FSC") accreditation as a predicate to the admission of the forensic analysis of physical evidence and expert testimony relating to the evidence in a criminal case.

As the designee of the Texas Forensic Science Commission Presiding Officer, I have considered your application to expand the scope of your FSC accreditation to include Trace Evidence based on your national accreditation from ANAB and grant full FSC Accreditation to the Houston Forensic Science Center for the following discipline:

Trace Evidence (analysis of fire debris only)

The term of ANAB accreditation for *Trace Evidence* is **5/23/2016 to 9/11/2018**, unless ANAB extends its accreditation as part of a routine renewal process. The term of FSC accreditation for *Trace Evidence* is from **5/23/16** until such time that the accreditation from ANAB is no longer current.

The FSC already recognizes accreditation in the following disciplines for the Houston Forensic Science Center:

*Controlled Substances
Biology/DNA
Toxicology
Firearms/Tool marks*

The term of ANAB accreditation for the remaining disciplines recognized above – Controlled Substances, Biology/DNA, Toxicology, and Firearms/Tool marks – is from **9/11/2014 to 9/11/2018** unless ANAB extends its accreditation as part of a routine renewal process. The term of FSC accreditation for these disciplines already accredited by the Commission is from **9/1/2015** until such time that the accreditation from ANAB is no longer current.

FSC accreditation is contingent upon compliance with Title 37, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 651, including requirements of reporting correspondence, reports or communication between the laboratory and the accrediting body. FSC accreditation will be automatically rescinded at the same date and time as ANAB withdraws your laboratory accreditation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leigh M. Tomlin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Leigh M. Tomlin
FSC Accreditation Program Administrator