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FORENSIC SERVICES LABORATORY
CUSTOMER SERVICE NOTICE 2025-01
February 14, 2025

TOXICOLOGY DEPARTMENT
PRELIMINARY SCREENING PANEL

Effective March 10th, 2025, the SLED Toxicology Department will be modifying its approach to case analysis. The current screening technique for blood specimens will be updated to a more comprehensive drug screening panel using Liquid Chromatography Quadrupole Time of Flight (LC-QTOF) instrumentation. The preliminary drug screen will cover compounds that are currently toxicologically significant and prevalent.

Based on the selected submission type, blood specimens will be evaluated based on one of two libraries. Rapid panels, Traffic Fatalities, Homicides, Suicides, Accidental Deaths and Driving Under the Influence casework will be analyzed using the SLED QTOF Library. Natural Deaths, Pending/Unexplained Deaths and Criminal Sexual Conduct casework will be analyzed using a more comprehensive library that will be referred to as SLED QTOF Expanded Library.

A list of the compounds included in each of the libraries with their detection thresholds are attached. If a compound not covered within the library is suspected, please indicate the specific compound(s) on the submission documentation or provide relevant details in the case history. The list of compounds screened by LC-QTOF will be reviewed on a quarterly basis and emerging substances of concern will be addressed and incorporated into the screening process as appropriate. When changes are made to the libraries an updated list will be provided. A list of compounds for each library can be found at www.sled.sc.gov/toxicology .

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we implement these improvements. Should you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact Lt. Dustin Smith (803-896-7385).