



Oregon State Police Briefs 2009

Forensics Services Division

The Oregon State Police Forensic Services Division is an ISO accredited forensic laboratory system serving all state and local law enforcement agencies, medical examiners, and prosecuting attorneys in Oregon. The Division may also perform forensic analysis on criminal cases for the defense upon a court order. The Forensic Services Division (FSD) provides Oregon with the only full service forensic laboratories; the primary functions of which are to respond to crime scenes, recognize, collect and preserve potential evidence, analyze evidence and interpret results, provide technical assistance and training, and provide expert testimony related to the full spectrum of forensic analyses.



The FSD has a staff of approximately 125 working in the six laboratories that comprise the Division. These laboratories are located strategically throughout the state in Bend, Central Point, Ontario, Pendleton, Portland, and Springfield. Each laboratory serves a region of counties designed to provide optimal crime scene response, interaction with local law enforcement and customer service. The FSD is also responsible for the Implied Consent Unit that serves Oregon's Breath Alcohol Program.

The Director of the Forensic Services Division, along with the Division's Quality Assurance Manager and Operations Manager are located at the State Police General Headquarters in Salem. Each of the six regional laboratories is led by a director, who is responsible to oversee operations and administer the local laboratory's budget. Although each laboratory has an assigned region, they function collectively in a "single system

culture," providing the best service possible to our customers. Under this single system approach, laboratories continuously balance workload by transferring cases to other division laboratories to ensure the quickest turnaround time. Thus, each laboratory has at its disposal, the entire Division's statewide resources.

The Forensic Services Division is committed to providing the highest quality scientific analyses and testimony to the criminal justice system. This quality is translated into accurate, complete, and timely analysis. The division has a set of well-defined policies, procedures and forensic science standards for analysts to follow. In addition to these circumscribed policies, procedures and standards, the FSD monitors the quality of casework through various measures including, but not limited to, the following:

- All analysts are proficiency tested annually in each forensic discipline in which they work
- Casework is reviewed either by a second analyst or a supervisor
- A subset of case files are inspected or audited annually for compliance to standards
- Each laboratory is internally audited annually
- Two laboratories are externally audited annually.

All laboratories are externally audited every five years by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors – Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB).

Director of Forensic Services
Captain Randy Wampler

Regional Lab Directors
Tom Barnes - Metro Lab
Lt. Brad Putnam - Springfield
Wayne Jeffers – Central Point
Pam Bordner - Bend
Lt. Steve Taormina - Ontario
Pendleton Lab - vacant