



TEXAS FORENSIC  
SCIENCE COMMISSION

*Justice Through Science*

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

May 28, 2018

Via email to [writeto716@gmail.com](mailto:writeto716@gmail.com)

Re: TFSC Complaint No. 18.19; Anonymous (Tx Dept of Public Safety- Capitol Area Laboratory)

Dear Anonymous Complainant:

This letter is to inform you that the referenced complaint was dismissed by the Commission at its April 20, 2018 meeting and referred to the Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice ("Quattrone") at the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

Quattrone is currently under contract with the City of Austin to perform a review of the Austin Police Department ("APD") DNA laboratory consisting of two phases. The first phase includes a root cause analysis of the issues identified at the APD DNA laboratory in the Commission's May 2016 report. The second phase will provide local stakeholders with best practices for a new DNA laboratory, including consideration of what organizational and cultural elements are critical to scientific independence and quality going forward.

Because the anonymous complaint focuses on laboratory culture and organizational management issues at the Texas Department of Public Safety ("DPS") CapLab, the Commission has recommended that Quattrone review the issues raised in the complaint as part of its consideration of organizational and cultural practices recommended for the DNA laboratory. Should Quattrone identify any issues regarding the quality of the forensic analyses or related quality assurance matters at the DPS CapLab during the course of its review, we have requested that Quattrone refer those matters to the Commission for further investigation. You should expect to hear from Quattrone staff during the next several months as they interview stakeholders and other interested parties.

In the meantime, please feel free to contact the Commission with any questions or concerns. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathryn Adams".

Kathryn Adams  
Commission Coordinator

/mka