December 9, 2021

Dear Mr. Brown:

The Washington State Patrol Toxicology Laboratory Division is continuing to participate in a National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) study, the goal of which is to establish drug background levels present in a forensic science facility. A quarterly environmental sampling schedule has been implemented, with Toxicology Laboratory personnel collecting samples using kits provided by NIST and sending the samples to NIST for analysis. Quarterly sampling will include 25 rotating sample sites located throughout the laboratory.

The first quarterly environmental sampling was performed on October 28, 2021 and sample sites included those areas with positive results from the initial NIST analysis (report date: July 7, 2021). The NIST summary of results from the October 28, 2021 sampling has been received and is posted on the Toxicology Laboratory website: https://wsp.wa.gov/forensics/toxicology.htm.

The next quarterly sampling will occur in January 2022. The NIST summary of results from subsequent quarterly samplings will be posted directly on the Toxicology Laboratory website.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Gough
Acting Toxicology Laboratory Division Commander

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