

Deviation from Documented Procedures Form Temperature Monitoring Deviation

Date of Deviation: March 31 – April 11, 2025

Type of Deviation: Procedural

Describe the Deviation:

On March 31, 2025, all of the Dickson temperature monitors in the Laboratory were removed and packaged for pickup in preparation for their scheduled annual calibration by Allometrics. These monitors were originally assigned to the Mini Freezer/SD Standards Freezer, BioReceived Fridge, BioFridge #7, Overflow Fridge, and Specimen Refrigerator/Freezer #4. Upon removal, all of the monitors were turned off. During this process, the control switches on the SD Standards Freezer monitor were found to be broken, rendering the device inoperable. As a result, the monitor was replaced with a Control Company monitor. Unexpectedly, the turnaround time for calibration extended beyond one week, leaving the BioReceived Fridge, BioFridge #7, Overflow Fridge, and Specimen Refrigerator/Freezer #4 without temperature recordings for the week of April 7, 2025.

LOG-15-09 Instrument Performance and Maintenance

11.0 Refrigeration Equipment

11.1 The temperature of refrigeration shall be monitored weekly. Refrigerators for biological specimens shall have a constant temperature approximately 0-8°C. Freezers shall have an approximate temperature of less than or equal to 0°C.

Reason for Deviation:

Due to the extended calibration period of the Dickson temperature monitors and lack of functional backup units, the BioReceived Fridge, BioFridge #7, Overflow Fridge, and Specimen Refrigerator/Freezer #4 were without temperature recordings for the week of April 7, 2025.

Laboratory Number(s) (if applicable): N/A

Brazoria County Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory

Summer Gelfo
Evidence Technician

Kendra M. Bayler / Toxicology
Applicable Analyst / Discipline

Melina Henry Toxicology
Applicable Analyst / Discipline

Alvin Winters
Quality Assurance Manager

5.1.2025
Date

5/1/2025
Date

5/1/2025
Date

1 May 2025
Date

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Laboratory Director

01 May 2015
Date