

Serology CAR - 2017-0405

Date: ~~4/17/17~~ <sup>mm</sup> 04/05/17 Unit Supervisor: Kris Cano

Initiated By: Kris Cano Trainer: \_\_\_\_\_

Proficiency Test Error: Analytical Error Other

Dissemination is restricted to Criminal Justice Agencies and authorized Non-C.J. Agencies ONLY. Secondary dissemination to unauthorized agencies is PROHIBITED. Scored by Proficiency

1. Have the results and work notes of the examiner having the discrepancy been reviewed by the unit supervisor for compliance with the methods listed in the appropriate procedures manual, as well as all quality control procedures necessary to ensure proper results?

Comments: Yes. Please see memo dated 4/17/17 "Re: Serology Case Review for Amy Langan"

2. Was the error administrative or technical and was this error detected in the examiner's notes that would account for the discrepancy? Admin Tech

Comments: There were several errors in the cases reviewed, both technical and administrative in nature.

3. Has the examiner been removed from casework? Yes No N/A - resigned

4. Has the examiner been given remedial training or has a remedial training plan been developed? Yes No

Comments: N/A This examiner resigned 3/31/17.

5. Has a representative sample of the examiner's casework since the last proficiency exam or case where error was discovered been reviewed for similar errors? Yes No

Comments: All cases will be reviewed and reworked. A list of the cases is attached. Vickie Beamer will be doing all the reanalysis and issuing a new report.

Examiner: Amy Langan Date: N/A resigned 3/31/17

# Memorandum for Record

**To:** Kris Cano, Forensic Laboratory Manager  
Mindy Raines, QA Manager

**From:** Vickie Beamer, DNA Technical Leader

**Date:** April 17, 2017

**Re:** Serology Case Review for Amy Langan

This memorandum is written to address the re-analysis of Serology cases completed by Amy Langan for potential errors. Kris Cano, Forensic Biology Supervisor/Forensic Laboratory Manager, requested that I re-analyze five (5) cases previously analyzed by Amy Langan. The requested case numbers are as follows:

DR # [REDACTED]  
DR # [REDACTED]  
DR # [REDACTED]  
DR # [REDACTED]  
DR # [REDACTED]

For two (2) of the cases, DR # [REDACTED] and DR # [REDACTED], the reports had not yet been released; therefore, Kris Cano had requested that I perform the re-analysis and take ownership of Ms. Langan's notes and release a report authored by myself.

On April 7, 2017, I began re-analysis of DR # [REDACTED]. The following discrepancies were observed:

1. Ms. Langan marked the swab cartons with the wrong DR number and item number for item #987048B (external genital swabs). Both external genital swab cartons were marked [REDACTED] #968563b.
2. Different results were obtained for item #987048 (underwear). Ms. Langan documented that the underwear were AP negative and sperm negative; and therefore concluded that "semen was not identified". However, during my re-analysis, the underwear gave positive results with AP mapping of the crotch, negative results for sperm, and positive results for p30; and therefore, I concluded that the underwear were "positive for seminal fluid".
3. Lastly, Ms. Langan documented in her draft report that cuttings were retained from the external genital swabs (#987048B) for DNA analysis. However, both her case notes and internal chain of custody contradicts this. The internal

April 17, 2017

chain only lists items #987048A (vaginal swabs) and #987048C (buccal swabs). DNA analysis was later performed only on those two (2) samples, as well. It is likely that Ms. Langan's draft report is incorrect regarding the external genital swab cuttings.

Since the swab cartons for item #987048B were mislabeled by Ms. Langan, the DNA results for both DR # [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were examined to determine if a possible sample mix-up occurred. In both cases, the DNA profile obtained from the epithelial fraction of swab(s) from the sexual assault kits match the DNA profile obtained from the victim.

The re-analysis of DR # [REDACTED] resulted in no discrepancies with Ms. Langan's original testing and conclusions.

After re-analyzing DR # [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] it was decided by Kris Cano, Crime Lab Manager/Forensic Biology Supervisor to re-analyze *all* cases that Ms. Amy Langan completed in Serology during her employment. The total number of cases to be re-analyzed are 32, including DR # [REDACTED] and DR # [REDACTED]. All re-analysis will be completed under the category Investigation, Serology in LIMS and any discrepancies will require an amended report. Another memo with the results of the re-analysis of these cases will be generated at the completion of this project.



Vickie Beamer  
DNA Technical Leader

Restricted to Criminal  
 Agencies and authorized Non-C.J.  
 Agencies only. Dissemination  
 to unauthorized  
 Scottsdale City Prosecutor is PROHIBITED.

CaseNumber	AgencyCaseNumber	ServiceType	ReportReleaseDate
		Serology	
		Serology	3/7/2017
		Serology	2/23/2017
		Serology	
		Serology	
		Serology	
		Serology	
		Serology	
		Serology	4/4/2017
		Serology	4/4/2017
		Serology	
		Serology	4/3/2017
		Serology	4/4/2017
		Serology	4/4/2017
		Serology	4/4/2017
		Serology	4/4/2017
		Serology	4/4/2017
		Serology	4/3/2017
		Serology	
		Serology	
		Serology	2/1/2017
		Serology	2/8/2017
		Serology	2/23/2017
		Serology	1/17/2017
		Serology	2/7/2017
		Serology	2/27/2017
		Serology	2/7/2017
		Serology	2/7/2017
		Serology	2/27/2017
		Serology	2/27/2017

OK  
OK  
OK  
OK

OK

OK

OK

DNA ✓  
 DNA ✓  
 -neg- condom worn exam  
 4 days after incident  
 DNA ✓  
 -in tech review (condom used)  
 -in tech review (condom)  
 -in tech review  
 -in tech review  
 DNA ✓  
 DNA ✓  
 -neg, kit taken 3 days after  
 V. defunct condom  
 -in TR (penis never contact)  
 -neg- condom worn  
 -DNA ✓  
 -neg- condom, on period  
 oral contact only  
 -neg-  
 DNA ✓  
 DNA ✓  
 -in TR (4 days after no evidence  
 seen)  
 -  
 DNA ✓  
 DNA ✓  
 -tampon horizontally used  
 DNA ✓  
 DNA ✓  
 DNA ✓  
 DNA ✓  
 DNA ✓  
 ejaculated on bed or in sink  
 condom  
 -several days stored  
 etc.

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

APRIL 5, 2017

To:

Mindy Raines, Forensic Scientist Supervisor

From:

Kris Cano, Forensic Laboratory Manager

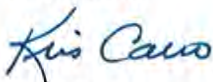
Re:

Serology Case Review for Amy Langan

This memorandum is written to document the review of serology cases completed by Amy Langan for potential errors. Ms. Langan was trained to screen for biological fluids to assist the Forensic Biology Unit with processing of sexual assault kits. During her tenure, she completed 32 cases which were reviewed. The case scenario submitted by the Forensic Nurse often gives the examiner some background information that can be used to process the sexual assault evidence kits. The information that is captured details the incident time, time of exam and the synopsis of the incident. Cases that were processed and samples were forwarded to a DNA were not investigated as biological evidence was identified and has been or will be processed by the DNA unit along with victim's reference sample that will ensure proper sample collection. There were 14 cases where samples were forwarded on to DNA for further processing.

The remaining 18 cases that were reported by Ms. Langan with had negative results. These case notes were reviewed and the case scenario was also reviewed to determine if the negative results were supported by the details captured upon exam. There were 5 cases where the negative results should be re-confirmed. The other 13 cases the documentation supports the result, by length of time from assault to exam, condom use, or no documentation to support penetration. The 5 cases that were identified will be re-examined and if they are confirmed negative, no further investigation will be required. If those cases are indeed positive for semen, all negative cases will be re-worked.

Respectfully,



Kris Cano

Forensic Laboratory Manager

Dissemination is restricted to Criminal Justice Agencies and authorized Non-C.J. Agencies ONLY. Secondary dissemination to unauthorized agencies is PROHIBITED.  
Scottsdale City Prosecutor

Dissemination is restricted to Criminal Justice Agencies ONLY. Secondary dissemination is PROHIBITED.

CaseNumber	AgencyCaseNumber	ServiceType	ReportReleaseDate
		Serology	
		Serology	3/7/2017
		Serology	2/23/2017
		Serology	
		Serology	
		Serology	
		Serology	
		Serology	4/4/2017
		Serology	4/4/2017
		Serology	
		Serology	4/3/2017
		Serology	4/4/2017
		Serology	4/4/2017
		Serology	4/4/2017
		Serology	4/4/2017
		Serology	4/3/2017
		Serology	
		Serology	
		Serology	2/1/2017
		Serology	2/8/2017
		Serology	2/23/2017
		Serology	1/17/2017
		Serology	2/7/2017
		Serology	2/27/2017
		Serology	2/7/2017
		Serology	2/27/2017
		Serology	2/27/2017

OK  
—  
OK  
OK  
—  
OK  
  
OK  
  
—  
  
OK  
OK  
  
—  
  
OK  
OK  
  
—  
  
OK  
OK  
OK

DNA ✓  
DNA ✓  
-neg- condom worn exam  
4 days after incident  
DNA ✓  
-in tech review (Eudomura)  
-in tech review (condom)  
-in tech review  
-in tech review  
DNA ✓  
DNA ✓  
-neg, kit taken 3 days after  
✓ doesn't know  
-in TR (penis never raised)  
-neg- condom worn  
DNA ✓  
-neg- condom, on period  
oral contact only  
-neg-  
DNA ✓  
DNA ✓  
-in TR (4 days after no evidence seen)  
-  
DNA ✓  
DNA ✓  
-tampon horizontally wedged  
DNA ✓  
DNA ✓  
DNA ✓  
DNA ✓  
DNA ✓  
ejaculated on bed or in sink  
condom  
-several days showered  
etc

# Memorandum for Record

Dissemination is restricted to Criminal Justice Agencies and authorized Non-C.J. Agencies ONLY. Secondary dissemination to unauthorized agencies is PROHIBITED.  
Scottsdale City Prosecutor

**To:** Kris Cano, Forensic Laboratory Manager  
Mindy Raines, QA Manager

*MUR 4/17/17*

**From:** Vickie Beamer, DNA Technical Leader

**Date:** April 17, 2017

**Re:** Serology Case Review for Amy Langan

This memorandum is written to address the re-analysis of Serology cases completed by Amy Langan for potential errors. Kris Cano, Forensic Biology Supervisor/Forensic Laboratory Manager, requested that I re-analyze five (5) cases previously analyzed by Amy Langan. The requested case numbers are as follows:

- DR # [REDACTED]
- DR # [REDACTED]
- DR # [REDACTED]
- DR # [REDACTED]
- DR # [REDACTED]

For two (2) of the cases, DR # [REDACTED] and DR # [REDACTED], the reports had not yet been released; therefore, Kris Cano had requested that I perform the re-analysis and take ownership of Ms. Langan's notes and release a report authored by myself.

On April 7, 2017, I began re-analysis of DR # [REDACTED]. The following discrepancies were observed:

1. Ms. Langan marked the swab cartons with the wrong DR number and item number for item #987048B (external genital swabs). Both external genital swab cartons were marked [REDACTED] #968563b.
2. Different results were obtained for item #987048 (underwear). Ms. Langan documented that the underwear were AP negative and sperm negative; and therefore concluded that "semen was not identified". However, during my re-analysis, the underwear gave positive results with AP mapping of the crotch, negative results for sperm, and positive results for p30; and therefore, I concluded that the underwear were "positive for seminal fluid".
3. Lastly, Ms. Langan documented in her draft report that cuttings were retained from the external genital swabs (#987048B) for DNA analysis. However, both her case notes and internal chain of custody contradicts this. The internal

April 17, 2017

chain only lists items #987048A (vaginal swabs) and #987048C (buccal swabs). DNA analysis was later performed only on those two (2) samples, as well. It is likely that Ms. Langan's draft report is incorrect regarding the external genital swab cuttings.

Since the swab cartons for item #987048B were mislabeled by Ms. Langan, the DNA results for both DR # [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were examined to determine if a possible sample mix-up occurred. In both cases, the DNA profile obtained from the epithelial fraction of swab(s) from the sexual assault kits match the DNA profile obtained from the victim.

The re-analysis of DR # [REDACTED] resulted in no discrepancies with Ms. Langan's original testing and conclusions.

After re-analyzing DR # [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] it was decided by Kris Cano, Crime Lab Manager/Forensic Biology Supervisor to re-analyze *all* cases that Ms. Amy Langan completed in Serology during her employment. The total number of cases to be re-analyzed are 32, including DR # [REDACTED]. All re-analysis will be completed under the category Investigation, Serology in LIMS and any discrepancies will require an amended report. Another memo with the results of the re-analysis of these cases will be generated at the completion of this project.



Vickie Beamer  
DNA Technical Leader