

SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS COMMUNICATIONS

NEWS

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REGIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER EARNS INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION

(Sedgwick County, Kan.) – The Sedgwick County Regional Forensic Science Center has earned accreditation through the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB)-*International* accreditation program.

ASCLD/LAB, a not-for-profit organization specializing in the accreditation of public and private crime laboratories, granted the accreditation after a year-long evaluation of the laboratories' management system, technical procedures and practices, personnel qualifications, quality assurance program and facilities. The evaluation culminated in a four-day, on-site assessment of the laboratories' operations by a team of forensic experts. The Forensic Science Center laboratories demonstrated compliance with national and international standardization criteria set by a number of organizations, including ASCLD/LAB, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the FBI.

"This accomplishment is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the entire Forensic Science Laboratory staff and is further evidence of the top-quality work performed assisting law enforcement agencies across Sedgwick County," says Timothy Rohrig, director of the Regional Forensic Science Center. "This significant validation of the forensic science practice in Sedgwick County could not have been accomplished without the continued support of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners."

Since 2003, the Forensic Science Center has been accredited under the ASCLD/LAB-Legacy program. Now, the center is one of only 308 laboratories in the world with the new, more rigorous accreditation standards and one of just a few of facilities with the additional National Association of Medical Examiners accreditation. The Forensic Science Laboratories accept evidence for forensic examination submitted by all fire departments and law enforcement agencies within Sedgwick County, Kan. as well as the Sedgwick County District Coroner. Forensic science support is also available to fire departments, law enforcement and/or coroners from surrounding counties within the state of Kansas.

The Forensic Science Laboratories are accredited to perform testing in the following general forensic disciplines: drug chemistry, toxicology, biology/DNA, fire debris, and firearms.

For more information on the Sedgwick County Regional Forensic Science Center visit www.sedgwickcounty.org or call 316-660-4800.