

Resurrecting, Revamping and Revitalizing DNA Testing in the District of Columbia Department of Forensic Sciences

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Dr. Jenifer Smith, Director of the Department of Forensic Sciences (DFS), will address the steps taken to rebuild and strengthen the forensic programs at DFS following suspension of DNA testing in April, 2015 by Muriel Bowser, Mayor of Washington DC. The suspension followed two damaging reports issued by ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) and DNA consultants hired by the United States Attorney's Office in Washington DC. Dr. Smith will discuss the implementation of quality actions taken to revamp quality practices affecting all divisions at DFS and will highlight accomplishments made since re-initiating DNA testing in the Forensic Biology Unit(FBU). She will discuss additional efforts taken to progress FBU's application of probabilistic genotyping and future DNA typing technologies planned for implementation at DFS