



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
William A. Hinton State Laboratory Institute
305 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

JUDYANN BIGBY, MD
SECRETARY

JOHN AUERBACH
COMMISSIONER

May 30, 2008

David J. Nathanson, Esq.
Wood & Nathanson, LLP
Attorneys at Law
83 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

RE: Public Records Request

Dear Mr. Nathanson:

I am writing in response to your letter dated May 22, 2008 regarding the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Drug Analysis Laboratories. The laboratories provide accurate identification of illicit drugs and pharmaceuticals for law enforcement purposes using methodology recommended by the Scientific Working Group for the Analysis of Seized Drugs. Appropriate quality control and quality assurance practices are regularly employed to ensure the integrity of the sample data.

The drug laboratories are not currently accredited by an external certification body.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julianne Nassif", written over a horizontal line.

Julianne Nassif
Director
Division of Analytical Chemistry