

Deadline for Submission of 2-Dec-19  
 Document Number: ANSI/ASB Standard 115  
 Document Title: Standard for Training in Forensic Serological Methods

*Note: a specific Proposed Resolution must accompany each comment or it cannot be considered.*

#	Section	Type of Comment	Comments	Proposed Resolution	Final Resolution
1	3.4	T/E	The suggested definition does not adequately capture that fact that presumptive tests can yield a positive result in the absence of a target biological material. The definition of confirmatory test is explicit in mentioning elimination or reduction of false positive results. There should be greater consistency in terminology between these two definitions. Additionally, presumptive test is a colloquial term that the forensic community should consider moving away from for a general term like screening test. The components of a biological fluid identified in a "presumptive test" are not confirmed through a confirmatory test, a different component than the one originally tested for is what is confirmed. Using semen as an example, generally two screening tests (AP testing and PSA) are performed to say semen may be present on an item. Even with a confirmation of spermatozoa or PSA, the biological fluid still cannot be identified and confirmed as semen so the presumption can never be definitively answered. The same principle applies to the blood and saliva testing as well.	Consider editing the definition to "A screening test which may be positive in the presence or absence of a biological material of interest. Some presumptive tests are sensitive but not specific and can lead to false positive results. Further testing could inform the interpretation of a positive result from a presumptive test. A larger discussion about replacing the term "presumptive test" with "screening test" is also something to seriously consider. The definition for screening test that could be used is – a test which may be positive in the presence or absence of a biological material of interest. Some screening tests are sensitive but not specific and can lead to false positive results. Further testing could inform the interpretation of a positive result from a screening test.	Partial Accept: WG made a hybrid definition combined with commenter's suggestions and improved the definition.
2	4.1.3	E		Edit "individual" to "individual(s)" since multiple people can be designated as trainers.	Accept
8	4.1.7		There are 2 grammatical errors: Under 4.1.7, there is a comma missing. It should read "...prior experiences, a training plan....".		Reject: The first sentence in section 4.1.7 was deleted.
3	4.1.9	E	This standard outlines the requirements for competency testing and any procedures that would be developed for a training program.	Remove "as determined by established laboratory procedures" and replace with "a knowledge based and practical exam."	Partial Accept: Deleted "as determined by established laboratory procedures".
4	4.1.10	E		In addition to documenting the level of involvement an individual may have in a validation, it is worth stating that this documentation should also be added to the training record of the individual.	Reject: The document already states that the level of involvement must be documented. During assessment this documentation will be checked.
5	4.2.3c	E		Consider the edit "information regarding test specificity and sensitivity (limits of detection) for screening and confirmatory testing;"	Reject: The term "presumptive testing" is the industry standard. Limits of detection already defines sensitivity.
6	4.3.2/4.3.3	T/E		The practical training in serological methods should also include sensitivity tests (e.g. serial dilutions) since laboratory reagents may not reach sensitivity levels reported in scientific literature.	Accept: 4.3.3 modified to include "limits of detection.
7	5 c	E	Document uses 1 space between sentences. Here is 2 spaces between "retained. The"	adjust spacing	Accept
9	Bibliography		In the Bibliography, SWGDAM is abbreviated as SWIGDAM.		Accept