

IMPLEMENTATION OF QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM IN DEPLOYED FORENSIC LABORATORIES

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The Joint Expeditionary Forensic Facilities (JEFF) Program is tasked to design, develop, deploy, and sustain turn-key, mobile, forensic laboratories in order to expedite forward exploitation of forensic data in austere environments. The evolution of JEFF laboratories is a result based on the need to provide forensic support to U.S., coalition forces, and various intelligence agencies in a battlefield environment. To date, there are a total of six operational JEFF laboratories in Iraq and Afghanistan with forensic casework capabilities in the areas of DNA, latent prints and firearms and tool marks examination. To insure the uniformity in quality, integrity and accuracy of the analysis from all laboratories, the JEFF Program implements a unique quality assurance program. This presentation addresses the steps developed to achieve and maintain standards that meet discipline specific guidelines in a deployed, multi-laboratory system.