



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Services



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

June 15, 2004

David Yong, PhD
Laboratory Director
Sonoma County Public Health Laboratory
3313 Chanate Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Dear David,

On behalf of the Department of Health Services (Department), Laboratory Field Services, we appreciate your willingness to serve as chair of the subcommittee on public health laboratory standards. This subcommittee of the Clinical Laboratory Technology Advisory Committee (CLTAC) will work in conjunction with the California Association of Public Health Laboratory Directors (CAPHLD) and the California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO).

The charge to the subcommittee is as follows:

The subcommittee on Public Health Laboratory Standards is charged with reviewing current law and regulations related to public health laboratories. With an understanding of the type of testing done in public health laboratories, the subcommittee shall make recommendations in the form of a position paper for standards that specify and clarify the standards for public health laboratories and their personnel.

You have agreed to chair this committee as a member of CLTAC. Dr. Tim Hamill (hamillt@labmed2.ucsf.edu, 415-353-1723) and Dr. Mary York (mkyork@att.net, 925-932-6787) of the CLTAC have agreed to serve on the subcommittee. Dr. Ellen Jo Baron (ejbaron@stanford.edu, 650-725-3773), former CLTAC member, has volunteered to serve as a public member. We are pleased with this high level expertise from the advisory committee. We understand that you will recruit interested persons to serve on the subcommittee also from the membership of CAPHLD. Please give us the names of the rest of the subcommittee when you have that set up. Kathy Williams, Department liaison to public health laboratories, will serve as staff liaison for the subcommittee. Besides providing regulatory expertise, she can help with telephone bridges, library resources and mail service for your subcommittee.

Proposing standards for public health laboratories may encompass personnel standards, education and training standards, scopes of practice issues, supervision, directorship responsibilities, testing and reporting standards, continuing education, enforcement, or other issues. We expect this project to take at least 12 months, and we will support your effort in any way that we can.

We are enclosing a copy of current statute (Health and Safety Code Sections 101150 to 101165) and regulations (Title 17 California Code of Regulations Sections 1075 – 1084, 1255, 1276, 1302 and 1302.1) regarding public health laboratories. You should note, in addition, that public health laboratories are exempted from Business and Professions Code at Section 1241 (b)(2), but are subject to federal CLIA regulations.

Thank you for your willingness to serve in this capacity.

Sincerely,

Karen L. Nickel

cc. Timothy Hamill, MD
Clinical Laboratory
University of California, San Francisco
505 Parnassus Avenue, Box 0100
San Francisco, CA 94143

Mary York, PhD
248 Dantley Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Ellen Jo Baron, PhD
Clinical Microbiology Laboratory
Stanford University Medical Center
300 Pasteur Drive
Stanford, CA 94305-5280

Kathy Williams
Program Manager, Public Health Laboratories
Laboratory Field Services
1111 Broadway Street, 19th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607

Patricia Dadone, PhD
President, CAPHLD
Santa Clara Public Health Laboratory
2220 Moorpark Avenue, Room 204
San Jose, CA 95128