

Affidavit of Dr. Jay A. Siegel

Dr. Jay A. Siegel, upon personal knowledge, deposes and says:

1. I am Professor and Chair of the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology and Director of the Forensic and Investigative Sciences Program at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis. I hold a Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from the George Washington University.

2. In 2006, I was appointed as a member of the National Academy of Sciences Committee on assessing the needs of forensic science in the 21st century. The report of this committee: **Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward**, was released on February 18, 2009.

3. This committee was charged with assessing the present and future resource needs of the forensic science community, to make recommendations for maximizing the use of forensic technologies and techniques, identify potential scientific advances that may assist law enforcement, make recommendations for programs that will increase the number of qualified forensic scientists, disseminate best practices and guidelines, examine the role of the forensic community in the homeland security mission, examine interoperability of Automated Fingerprint Information Systems, and examine additional issues pertaining to forensic science

4. The committee was not charged with determining the admissibility or assessing the admissibility of any type of forensic science evidence nor did the report make any judgments or reassessment of cases already tried. Page 85 of the report says in part: "The report describes and analyzes the current situation and makes recommendations for the future. No judgment is made about past convictions and no view is expressed as to whether courts should reassess cases that already have been tried.

5. Nothing in the report suggests that a test or method that has not been completely scientifically validated is invalid and therefore the evidence for which that test is used is inadmissible. Lack of complete validation does not make a test or method invalid.

6. Although the committee did find that many areas of forensic science need more research to establish their scientific basis to a greater degree, testimony was given that some research has been done in method validation for most or all of the types of forensic science.

Jay A. Siegel 317.274.6883, jasiegel@iupui.edu

Chair-Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology

Director-Forensic and Investigative Sciences Program

Editor: Forensic Science Policy and Management:

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