

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

Forensic Access becomes an accredited service provider to the NPIA's National Forensic Framework Agreement

10 June 2010, Oxfordshire

Forensic Access, an independent provider of forensic science services, is proud to announce that we have been awarded a framework agreement with the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA), for the provision of forensic science services to the police.

Our accreditation includes the provision of services under the following lots:

- Lot 7 – Casework - Homicide & Violent Crime A
- Lot 8 – Casework – Sexual Offences
- Lot 9 – Casework – Volume Crime
- Lot 14 – Casework - Homicide & Violent Crime B

Mr Roger Robson, Forensic Access Managing Director said *“We have been supporting police forces for many years, but I am delighted that we have been through NPIA’s rigorous and in-depth process and that the skills and quality of Forensic Access’ people and work have now been formally recognised. We have also just been accredited to ISO/IEC 17025:2005, by UKAS (the United Kingdom Accreditation Service) – further recognition of the quality of our work. We look forward to working for more police forces in the near future and using the unique skills of our scientists to support their work.”*

Katie Rayment, Forensic Access’ project manager for the Framework also commented, *“Over the last few years, we have recruited highly experienced scientists and designed and built our own DNA-secure examination laboratories. We are ideally placed to offer very high quality and responsive scientific services to support the investigation of homicides, violent and sexual crimes. I am extremely pleased that our service offer has been recognised by the NPIA and we look forward to submitting our first tender, as and when appropriate”.*

Forensic Access provides a wide range of forensic science services all with the aim of helping to deliver safe and sustainable evidence to the Courts.

Editors' Notes

Forensic Access Limited

Formed in 1986, Forensic Access is an independent provider of forensic science services to the legal profession and has built a solid reputation for the quality of its services. The company is privately owned and currently undertakes work for the defence and prosecution, as well as other, larger providers when they need the skills that we have in-house. Our independence, quality and skills have been recognised, not only by NPIA and individual police forces, but also by The Ministry Of Justice, Legal Services Commission and other organisations with whom we continue to work, for example: Forensic Science Regulator, the Crown Prosecution Service, Criminal Cases Review Commission and the Independent Police Complaints Commission.

NPIA's National Forensic Framework Agreement (NFFA)

(For detailed information see the NPIA's website at: <http://www.npia.police.uk/en/9398.htm>.)

In summary, "the National Forensic Procurement Project was established during 2007 to formulate a strategy for future procurement of forensic analysis, to develop a standardised User Requirement, Specifications and Terms and Conditions and to subsequently undertake an EU procurement to select suppliers under a national framework agreement (NFFA)." "The NFFA managed and supported by the NPIA, is primarily for use by all Forces in England. However, any other qualifying organisation or agency such as British Transport Police or the Serious Organised Crime Agency can use it."

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