

Comment Deadline: October 31, 2022

ASB Std 169, Standard for Veterinary Forensic Live Animal Examination

#	Section	Type of Comment (E-Editorial, T-Technical)	Comments	Proposed Resolution	Editor or Working Group Review
80	p1 title	E	Do you need "the" in "Standard for the Clinical Veterinary Forensic Examination"	remove "the", or not--just a suggestion	Accept
3	Cover page, page 2	E	Update cover page & page two to reflect the updated title	Update to be consistent with "Page 1" (the 7th page) title "Standard for the Clinical Veterinary Forensic Examination"	Accept
4	Forward	E	Forward should acknowledge the collaboration with the Crime Scene Consensus Body as discussed with Theresa Ambrosius due to the substantial contributions and pre-existing work which were the basis of comments that improved of this document.	"This document was revised, prepared and finalized as a standard by the Wildlife Forensics and Crime Scene Reconstruction Consensus Bodies of the ASB."	Accept with modification. To clarify that the Wildlife CB is the voting CB on this document
63	Front matter	E	Title needs to be harmonized between the first two pages and the beginning of the document.	Update title in the front matter	Accept
5	Keywords	E	Redundant comma between "live animal examination" and "animal abuse"	Remove. (Note: other typos observed throughout the document, particularly retained redundant punctuation.)	Accept
79	keywords	E	two commas after "live animal examination"	eliminate 2nd comma	Accept
6	Definitions	E	Suggest missing term "maltreatment" or "animal maltreatment"	Insert "maltreatment" or "animal maltreatment"	Reject. Term not utilized in this document.
11	Missing definitions	T	"law enforcement" and "medicolegal". These recommended definitions were declined prior as the language was not then in the document, however they are now.	"Law Enforcement: Agencies and their employees who have the legal authority to enforce criminal laws, investigate crimes, and make arrests. Law enforcement may also include animal control officers and humane agents if they have authority to enforce criminal animal protection laws." "Medicolegal. Having both medical and legal aspects.	Reject. Both are terms found in common dictionaries, with appropriate definitions for this document. As animal control officers and humane agents may not be law enforcement, the definition is not appropriate to be added.
81	3.1 note	E	"Monochromatic light source can be used in examination of an animal's body to enhance visualization, identification, documentation, and collection of bodily fluids and fibers as potential evidence." is not a complete sentence.	Add "A" before "Monochromatic"	Accept
64	3.3, 4.1	E	"Species specific" needs a hyphen	"species-specific"	Accept
82	3.5 note	E	two periods at end of note	remove one period	Accept
7	3.5	E	"Medical examination" is not a typical term used in veterinary medicine	Recommend starting the definition with "Clinical examination"	Reject with modification. Since it is appropriate to use a different term in the definition, than the term being defined the definition has been revised to "medical evaluation".
8	3.6	E	Unnecessary capitalization	change to "computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging"	Reject with modification. For clarification, the common capitalized abbreviation was added to the definition.
9	3.7	T	"exigent circumstances" - this term is used most frequently to establish the right of law enforcement to take action to prevent harm or destruction of evidence. As it is used in 4.2.3, the term "emergency care" is preferred to reflect clinical reasoning. Exigency is established by a legal process, and the veterinarian should be focused on making medical decisions, not legal decisions. The care of the patient is the primary consideration, and evidence preservation is secondary.	Omit definition, and revise 4.2.3 as recommended below	Reject. "emergency care is needed" is not synonymous with "exigent circumstances"
10	3.8	T	Photography does not create an accurate "reproduction" but rather a "depiction". "Court aid" is unclear, recommend "legal proceedings. A scene is preferred over "crime scene" as the establishment of a scene as a crime scene is often determined later through the investigative process.	Suggest changing "reproduction" to "depiction" or "visual documentation", remove "crime", "and" and substitute "legal proceedings for "court aid". The edited definition for forensic photography would read "The act of producing an accurate depiction of a scene or physical evidence using photography for the purpose of investigative or legal proceedings."	(comment is on 3.9, not 3.8) Accept
83	3.8	E	spacing between 3.7 and 3.8 wrong	add paragraph return before 3.8	Accept

65	3.9	E	"Forensic photography" is a noun, not a verb. Therefore, it is not an act. The proposed definition is also somewhat confusing. In what circumstance would photographs be used as a court aid and NOT evidence? The use of the word "photography" in the definition of "photography" is not illustrative.	"The accurate and objective, visual documentation of different aspects that can be found at a crime scene or during evaluation of animal evidence."	Accept with modification. Definition revised as recommend in Comment # 10.
84	3.9	E	definition ends with "investigative or court aid. ."	remove space and one period at end	Accept
12	4.1	E	Overly long and repetitive wording, direct quote not needed, citations appear to be inaccurate.	Omit 1st paragraph and substitute: "When aspects of a case fall outside the veterinarian's normal practice area, they should consult or refer to other experts. For example, a boarded specialist may provide additional diagnostic insight, or another practitioner may provide needed species specific expertise."	Reject. The statement regarding the licensed veterinarian is appropriate for this document and needs to remain in this section.
74	4.1	E	The last sentence in this section is appropriately covered in 4.5.2.	Delete "The name(s) of any person(s) assisting during a forensic examination should be documented."	Accept
85	4.1	E	not sure citation is correct at end of paragraph 1	It looks as if the quote is from references 1-3, but this is unlikely. Either change the position of the references, or narrow to just the reference that contains the quote	Accept. Revised to correct reference.
86	4.1	E	Reword sentence containing "should be performed by individuals, or under the direction of persons with training"	Not quite sure what was meant, but maybe "should be performed by or under the direction of someone with training..."	Accept with modification. Removed "individuals". Kept "persons".
13	4.2.1	T	"Minimal standards of care" is not a typical term and as written sets a low bar for the provision of veterinary care to ensure animal welfare. Set by "regulatory agencies" is not clear.	Substitute "At a minimum, veterinary care provided must adhere to the standards of care as established by applicable laws and regulations."	Accept with modification. Replaced "as set by regulatory agencies" with "as established by applicable laws and regulations"
87	4.2.1	E	meaning of "this" not clear	Try: "Every effort shall be made to preserve and document forensic evidence; however, the evidentiary need shall be balanced with the urgent veterinary care and welfare needs of an animal"	Accept.
14	4.2.2	E	The veterinarian should not be passive in the investigation, and they need to ensure they are conducting their exam in the context of all available relevant information and so they should be requesting all available info. This list omits narrative reports written by investigators.	Suggested "The veterinarian shall request and review all available information relevant to the examination, including but not limited to investigative and witness reports, scene photography and sketches, allegations or theories, so that the examination and opinion formation are made with context to known or possible explanations for the animal(s) condition(s)."	Accept
88	4.2.2	E	missing "and" in: "including but not limited to, witness reports, scene photography, allegations or theories"	including but not limited to, witness reports, scene photography, and allegations or theories	Accept with modification. Paragraph revised based on Comment #14.
1	4.2.2 Context for Examination	T	While the HFTG recognizes that contextual information may play an essential role in many examinations, the standard needs to note explicitly that contextual bias is a leading cause of cognitive bias in forensic examinations. Whenever possible, the most effective way to minimize contextual bias is by blinding the examiner to information that is not essential to the immediate task. As each step in an examination is completed, additional contextual information can be made available as needed for subsequent steps in the analysis, a process called linear sequential unmasking (LSU). When blinding is not possible, examiners should, at a minimum, document what outside information was considered, evaluate the potential for cognitive bias in light of the contextual information available, and apply specific steps to minimize the effects of bias in forming their opinions. Mitigation steps might include, for example, explicitly defining the proposed and alternative explanations for the animal's condition and structuring the examination in a way that systematically compares those alternatives. A practical guide to implementing this type of bias mitigation is Quigley-McBride A, Dror IE, Tiffany R, Garrett BL, Kukucka J. 2022. A practical tool for information management in forensic decisions: using linear sequential unmasking-expanded (LSU-E) in casework. Forensic Science International: Synergy 4: 100216. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fsisy.2022.100216 .	Insert new subsections (section 4.2.2.1 etc) to (4.2.2.1) emphasize the risk of contextual bias as a major human factors consideration in this type of examination; (4.2.2.2) note the importance of blinding or linear unmasking when possible, and (4.2.2.3) emphasize the importance of evaluating the potential for contextual bias and implementing specific procedural steps to mitigate bias based on the type of contextual information and when it was accessed in an examination. The new subsection might adapt the language in our comment to veterinary examinations. Members of the HFTG are available to consult on more specific language for these subsections as needed.	Reject. No specific comment resolutions provided. HFTG contacted and was not able to provide specific language. If a document on contextual bias is published by the HFTG, future editions of this document may cite that document.

15	4.2.3	E	Legal considerations (2)	Omit the (2)	Accept
16	4.2.3	E	"Exigent circumstances" is a legal determination that would be made subsequently in a court or other legal setting.	Omit "exigent circumstances" and substitute "emergency care is needed."	Reject with modification. "emergency care is needed" is not synonymous with "exigent circumstances". "or emergency treatment is necessary" was added to the end of the sentence for clarification.
17	4.2.4	E	An assistant need not be supervised during microchip scanning and we should not create additional unnecessary layers.	Omit "under supervision"	Accept
18	4.2.4	E	Form should be plural	Change form to forms of identification	Accept with modification. "(s)" added, as It may be for one or multiple forms of identification.
66	4.2.4	E	Comma misplacement	"...scan for a microchip with a universal scanner, if available, and..." and "...procedures, or the absence of any identifiers, shall..."	Accept with modification. Sentence revised based on Comment # 17.
89	4.2.4	E	too many commas makes it difficult to read	"The veterinarian (or staff member under supervision) should scan for microchip, with a universal scanner if available, and shall document any microchip numbers. "	Accept with modification. Sentence revised based on Comment # 17.
90	4.2.4	E	missing "s" or word in "Tags, bands, tattoos, and/or other form of "	"Tags, bands, tattoos, and/or other forms of..." or "Tags, bands, tattoos, and/or any other form of... "	Accept with modification. Sentence revised based on Comment # 17.
19	4.2.5	E	Animal Identification may not be clear to the reader, especially right after the section on Traceable Identification	Change to "Assigned animal identification	Reject. Not necessary. Overly prescriptive.
20	4.2.5 Second para	E	The sentence starting with "the entity..." belongs better in record keeping section 4.5. The term "entity" is unclear.	Move to 4.5. Start with "The individual and affiliation, if any, should..."	Reject. "entity" implies the individual or an affiliation.
67	4.2.6	E	Close parentheses in g.	"(e.g., cropped ears, docked tail)."	Accept
68	4.2.6	E	Brackets and parentheses are switched. Also, because the parenthetical refers to the immediately preceding word, the "if" clauses are unnecessary.	"age (known, reported [indicate reporting individual or agency], or estimated [describe how age was determined])"	Reject. This is correct as written and consistent with other ASB documents.
91	4.2.6 f	E	needs semicolon at end	add semicolon	Accept.
92	4.2.6 g	E	missing closing parenthesis	add closing parenthesis after "tail"	Accept.
69	4.2.7	E	The body composition does not need to be described in a clinical exam, but the body condition does.	Replace "composition" with "condition"	Accept.
93	4.2.7	E	"should be used" seems odd if it "shall be documented."	How about "If a published and/or referenced body condition scoring system is available, a body condition score (BCS) shall be determined based on that system and documented."	Reject. This is correct as written, as there may not be a BCS system for certain species.
21	4.2.8	T	Sweeping recommendations for swabbing which may not be indicated, and may not be thorough enough depending on circumstances. Fur is external and so the specific reference to fur (and not feathers, scales etc) is not needed. The "why" for swabbing should be included up front. This section is both overly broad and too specific (re: swabbing) where other processes may be indicated such as collection.	Omit "and fur (where applicable)" and insert at the end of the 1st sentence "where relevant and applicable. In cases of suspected intoxicants, accelerants or sexual abuse more specific guidance is needed. Fur snips may be better than swabbing in some cases, ALS will identify materials that fluoresce which may or may not benefit from swabbing. Claws may contain fibers to be collected, not swabbed, there should be guidance for when swabbing is indicated. This entire section should be reconsidered and revised in the context of specific recommendations.	Reject. "fur" revised to "integumentary covering" for clarification. Collection methodology is dependent on experience and circumstances. Future editions of this document may be able to be more specific.
94	4.2.8	E	items a-e are not parallel in tense/language. Items a and d are active ("document", "evaluate"), while b, c, and e are passive ("evaluated," "collected")	Make language parallel--all should use the same voice/verb tense, but not a mixture of both. I suggest "exam should include the following: a) evaluation for foreign material... b) evaluation of oral cavity... c) evaluation of feet... d) documentation of the presence... e) examinations of other orifices and collection of additional evidence dependent on findings."	Accept.
22	4.2.8.d	E	plant material is a limited descriptor	Omit "plant" and substitute "trace materials"	Accept.
23	4.2.9.1	E	The numbering is no longer correct in the "may include items from...."	Correct reference numbering	Accept.
70	4.2.9.1	E	Refers to 4.2.7.2 through 4.2.7.9, which don't exist.	Should this be 4.2.9.2 through 4.2.9.9?	Accept.
24	4.2.9.2	E	Overall assesment should also include items reviewed before the physical exam such as photos, narrative reports or verbal conveyance of theories	Add to overall assesment section	Reject. Not applicable to this document.

95	4.2.9.2	E	language also not parallel between bullets. B issues a command, but other items list information to be collectede	b) measurements of animal...	Accept.
25	4.2.9.2.b	E	Limited	Add other measurements such as width, length and/or depth when relevant to the investigation.	Accept with modification. Added "when relevant to the investigation" to the end of the sentence. The other terms are covered in what is already in the sentence.
26	4.2.9.2.g	T	Add observations made that support the assesment	Eg skin tenting or sunken eyes etc	Accept with modification. Clarification, without specifics, added to section.
27	4.2.9.2.h	T	Add observations made that support the assesment	Incude PCV, and method that supports estimate of blood volume loss calculation	Reject with modification. Modified to "circulatory systems status"
28	4.2.9.2.i	T	The ophthalmic examination includes all ocular structures but the "(fundic)" seems to suggest only the fundic exam is needed for an ophthalmic exam	change to "(including a fundic exam)"	Accept with modification. "including" added prior to "fundic" <i>Comment on 4.2.9.3 i)</i>
71	4.2.9.3	E	The directive ("include information") is not clear.	"The record should include physical exam findings of the following body systems when the species, animal behavior, and/or size allow:"	Accept.
72	4.2.9.3	E	Need parentheses in d	"oral cavity (consider..."	Accept.
29	4.2.9.4.a	T	Injury type would benefit from descriptor to assist the forensically untrained veterinarian	add (e.g. abrasion, laceration, contusion, incised wound, burn etc)	Accept.
30	4.2.9.4.b	T	Wound size is vague	describe injury by size to include length, width and depth as appropriate	Accept.
31	4.2.9.4.e	T	Pattern is vague	Provide guidance such as add texture description such as stippled, or shape such as tram-tracks etc....	Accept.
32	4.2.9.5.a	E	a) can be included in the "the veterinarian shall describe injuries"	Omit a) add it to the start of the statementy and then add "by"	Reject. The later items in the list do not fall under the intro of "describe injuries"
34	4.2.9.5.a	E	a) can be included in the "the veterinarian shall describe injuries" as above	Omit a) add it to the start of the statementy and then add "by" the techniques desribed above and	Reject. The later items in the list do not fall under the intro of "describe injuries"
33	4.2.9.5.c	E	Why the list? Omits tail for example, and d) below indicates to locate the injury in an anatomic region	Locate wounds on the location of the body by measuring from two fixed anatomic reference points when appropriate (an amputation injury of the tail would only be measured by a single measurement for example).	Accept with modification. List removed and "when possible" added to the end of the section.
35	4.2.9.5.e,f, g	E	Un-needed repitition.	the e can be made a, f, can be made b, and g can be made c.	Reject. As some of the intended audience may be new to the discipline, it is important to keep the section as is and as descriptive as possible.
36	4.2.9.6	E	a) can be included in the "the veterinarian shall describe injuries"	Omit a) add it to the start of the statementy and then add "by" the techniques desribed above and	Reject. The later items in the list do not fall under the intro of "describe injuries"
37	4.2.9.6	E	Un-needed repitition.	d) can become a) and e) can become b)	Reject. As some of the intended audience may be new to the discipline, it is important to keep the section as is and as descriptive as possible.
38	4.2.9.7	E	Lacks needed descriptions for measurement.	The veterinarian shall describe the burn injury by size and location as indicated above and	Accept with modification. b) added to be consistent with previous sections regarding measuring of the injury.
40	4.2.9.7	T	Technical guidance for collecting fur or tissue for analysis for the prescence of accelerants are ommitted.	Add.	Accept.
41	4.2.9.7	T	The interpretation of burn patterns is missing	The veterinarian may want to interpret patterns as consistent with thermal, chemical, liquid or electrical burns.	Reject. Interpretation is outside the scope of this document.
39	4.2.9.7.a	T	The veterinarians' observation should include odor, color and textures of the burned tissues	Add these	Accept.
42	4.2.9.8	T	Patterned injuries	The veterinarian may want to interpret patterns as consistent with particular objects if the pattern is sufficiently distinct. The veterinarian may suggest analyzing an object for the presence of the perpetrator's DNA at the grip end of an object, and the animal's DNA at the striking end of an object.	Reject. Interpretation is outside the scope of this document.

44	4.2.9.9	T	Omitted examination of suspects for signs of animal struggle	The veterinarian should advise investigators on typical struggling behaviors based on victim species-specific expected behaviors	Reject. It is not appropriate for the veterinarians to make statements on the human/suspect's injuries.
45	4.2.9.9	T	Omitted considerations for chemical or physical restraint or stunning	Add directions to examine the animal for signs of physical restraint (to include head injury, ear injury, tail injury, signs of ligature use) and toxicology testing. Advise investigators to look for ligatures with imbedded fur, as appropriate.	Accept with modification. A simplified version of the proposed resolution was added as item a).
73	4.2.9.9	T	In all other cases, 'shall' is used, but for suspected animal sexual abuse, 'should' is used.	Either use 'shall' or explain in what circumstance a vet would not perform these diagnostics.	Accept.
43	4.2.9.9.c	T	Omitted fur/feather collection. ALS should come first as a, followed by other points	Add collect swabs, forensic flushes and snipped fur or feathers as appropriate	Accept with modification. ALS moved to a). Fur and feather collection added with nail scrapings and clippings.
46	4.2.11	E	Organization, both overly broad and overly specific. Not all of these behavioral indications are relevant to many specific case types.	Move to 4.5 record keeping. Add as appropriate/if relevant to the investigation.	Reject. Getting the history of the animal is part of the physical exam.
47	4.2.12	E	"case" can be confusing	suggest "investigation"	Reject. Case does not equate to investigation, and it is appropriate for this section.
48	4.2.12	T	Re: representative animal examination	Guidance should be provided to inform the veterinarian that charges may issue only for animals who have individual animal exams and should caution against representative exams whenever possible. Selecting only the worse animals for exam may suggest that the investigation was biased towards the worse.	Reject. Veterinarians need to prioritize via triage for more advanced diagnostics. Resources (e.g., shelters) may be limited.
96	4.2.12	E	in the last sentence, a comma should be a semicolon, or it should be two separate sentences	A representative sample of animals may need to be selected to represent the group. The reason for selecting a representative animal and selection criteria shall be documented.	Accept, comma modified to semicolon.
97	4.2.13	E	eliminate extraneous comma before parentheses	"...animal's condition (weight gain..."	Accept.
49	4.3.1 (referring to 4.2.13)	T	The "contium of evidence" is not a recognized term, and it could be conflated with jargon.	"Follow up physical exams, photographs, and diagnostic tests to monitor an animal's changing condition are critical evidence and shall be documented."	Accept with modification. Sentence modified for simplicity and clarification.
50	4.3.1	E	Out of logical order, unclear, overly broad	Change to "As appropriate for the case and condition, species, breed, age and geographic location"	Accept with modification. First sentence modified to add "geographic", "case" and "health condition of the animal".
98	4.3.1	E	inappropriate use of semicolons	"As appropriate for breed, species, age, and location, the veterinarian should order screening and testing for internal and external parasites and/or regional, endemic, or breed specific diseases. This may include, but is not limited to, complete blood cell count (CBC), blood chemistries, urinalysis, and fecal analysis.	Accept with modification. First sentence modified based on comment # 50
51	4.3.3	E	"case" can be confusing	Change to investigative requirements	Reject. Case does not equate to investigation, and it is appropriate for this section.
52	4.3.3 (referring to 4.2.3)	E	"Entire body radiographs" is not clear, and could be interpreted to mean diagnostic level radiographs of every body part and position needed for all joints, bones and tissues. Or it could be interpreted as a single lateral radiograph.	Change to survey radiographs that capture the entire body (this may require several views, but at a minimum, two views).	Accept with modification. Sentence modified to read: "Survey orthogonal radiographs of the entire body are preferred."
99	4.5.2	E	intro phrase says "as follows", but the list does not say <i>how</i> to document, just <i>what</i> to document	suggest replacing "as follows:" with "including all:" or "including, but not limited to, all:", and then striking "all" at the beginning of a-d	Accept.
53	4.5.3	E	Overly vague	Substitute "At a minimum, veterinary records must adhere to the standards established by applicable laws and regulations and should be detailed enough to substantiate any conclusions or opinions.."	Reject. As currently written, is concise and appropriate. "Local veterinary regulatory agency" covers the applicable laws and regulations.
54	4.6.1	T	Case irrelevant findings may also not become evidence in a case, but they could become subject to discovery.	Change "the entire phone may become evidence in the case" to "the entire phone may become subject to discovery, meaning the phone could be seized, downloaded and viewed, and a wide range of findings may be used in an attempt to discredit the phone's owner"	Accept with modification. "and the data it contains" added after "the entire phone". The additional recommended text is outside the scope of this document.
75	4.6.1	E	Agency-issued needs a hyphen	agency-issued	Accept.

76	4.6.1	T	Cell phones should not be used in a forensic case, regardless of origin. If an agency-issued cell phone is seized as evidence, all of its contents - including photos from other cases, work correspondence - is seized with it.	Forensic photography should be performed with a stand-alone camera and not with a personal or agency-issued cell phone.	Accept with modification. Section modified to emphasize that the stand-alone camera is the preferred method for forensic photography and cell phones are at risk of confiscation.
55	4.6.2	T	Time of photograph is captured in the metadata, is often captured in the investigator's notes and it is unwieldy/unrealistic to update the time with each photo.	Omit "time"	Accept.
77	4.6.2	E	The final clause ("which include") refers to the photo series, not the identifying label. The sentence also indicates that photographs shall be included in the first photo. This is confusing. The NOTE is also not clear.	"An identifying label (case board) shall be included in at least the first photo in a photo series or the initial frames of a video, and include "	Accept.
100	4.6.2	E	not clear what "which" refers to.	suggest making two sentences: "A photographs with an identifying label (case board) shall be included in at least the first photo in a photo series. The case board shall include the:"	Accept with modification. Section modified based on Comment # 77
101	4.6.2 c	E	c) mandates 2 different things, which makes compliance difficult to audit. Suggest splitting into two bullets	c) unique identifier(s) associated with the animal, d) the agency requesting the examination," and renumber remaining bullets	Accept.
56	4.6.5	E	Duplicates 4.2.13, concepts can be bundled	Omit 4.6.5 and include with 4.2.13	Reject. This section is only referring to the photography/videography. So it is appropriate to keep both sections in the document.
102	4.6.7	E	"media" is plural, but used as singular ("a...media")	Remove "a": "Images shall be downloaded from camera storage media"	Accept.
57	4.7	E	"When appropriate" is not sufficient guidance	Start with "The veterinarian should create sketches &/or diagrams of wounds or relevant exam findings with notations of measurements of the wounds and their locations as indicated in section 4.2.9.4	Accept with modification. Section revised to read "When relevant to the case, the veterinarian..."
103	4.7	E	replace "and" after "lesions" with a comma	"with measurements of the lesions, noting distance from at least two anatomical landmarks for orientation purposes."	Accept.
58	4.8.1	E	Unclear. Could be organizations or individuals.	Clarify the care and control of trace evidence vs. live animals who are considered evidence.	Accept with modification. Proposed resolution does not match the comment. "Organizations" revised to read "Entities handling evidence"
78	4.8.1	T	Organizations that do not have an SOP in place for evidence receipt, handling, and storage open themselves up to attacks from the defense. Any organization handling evidence must have SOPs/TPs in place before working on any forensic case	Replace 'should' with 'shall'	Reject. Too many variables to modify this to a shall.
59	4.8.2 & 3	E	Unclear title, can be consolidated	Consolidate 4.8.2 and 4.8.3, change the consolidated sections to "Evidence Packaging", as sealing it, and labelling it are packaging activities. Individuals should also have a policy for the procedure	Accept. 4.8.3 Header removed. Policy addressed in 4.8.1.
60	4.8.4	E	Inconsistent. This is referred to as "chain of custody process" in section 4.2.5.	Amend for consistency & agreement of language with 4.2.5	(now 4.8.3) 4.2.5 is referring to the process of keeping the chain of custody, this section is only about the chain of custody document.
61	4.8.5	T	Veterinarians should not be withholding portions of evidence. They may collect samples in duplicate, but they should be relinquishing all evidence to the investigating agency. If the veterinarian works for an investigating agency, the evidence collection, preservation, submittal procedure should be detailed in a protocol.	Amend.	(now 4.8.4) Reject with modification. Section does not dictate who is retaining samples. Chain of custody statement added for clarification.
62	4.8.6	T	Unclear and potentially incorrect guidance	Amend, consolidate with 4.8.5 in a evidence management section. Clarify diagnostic submissions vs. samples taken for potential analysis by a forensic lab.	(now 4.8.5) Reject with modification. Clarification added regarding disposition or analysis.
2	8.5	E	Comma needed between words 'forensic' and 'government'	insert necessary comma	Reject. Section does not exist.

104	Bibliography		says goal is to provide "examples of publications addressed in the standard," but this bibliography provides citation information for the exact references mentioned in the standard, not "examples of"	"The goal of the bibliography is to provide citation information for publications referenced in the standard.	Accept with modification. "citations" added.
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