

05-128


**Memorandum of Understanding – Laboratory Support
Between the
Mississippi Public Health Laboratory
And the
Bureau of Clinical Laboratories
Alabama Department of Public Health**

WHEREAS, State Public Health Laboratories have multi-functional roles in providing analytical support to a variety of environmental and clinical programs, and sharing a common mission, a working relationship and mutual support in times of need between the Mississippi Public Health Laboratory and other public health laboratories is crucial;

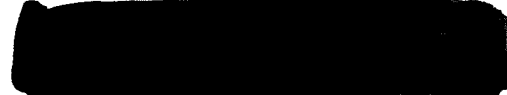
WHEREAS, with added concerns for Homeland Security it is clear that an event of crisis proportions could occur that would require the combined capability and capacity found within both states;

WHEREAS, this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Mississippi Public Health Laboratory and the Alabama Bureau of Clinical Laboratories is designed to affirm a more formal assurance of mutual support and partnership in the event such a crisis should occur. This agreement provides for sample analysis support of clinical and environmental samples of suspect organisms and/or scientific expertise as capabilities and capacities allow;


THEREFORE, these premises considered, the parties hereto agree to be bound as follows: a) in the event of a severe disruption of analytical services or an emergency situation such as a Biological Terrorism Event, either party may declare an emergency and request specific support as needed; b) the partner Public Health Laboratory will offer assistance within its capacity and continue this support until the need is no longer present; c) the parties to this MOU agree that no compensation will be paid or required for any services rendered pursuant to this MOU; and d) nothing in this agreement requires either the Alabama Bureau of Clinical Laboratories or the Mississippi Public Health Laboratory to enter into a contract, assistance agreement, or cooperative agreement.


William J. Cannon, M.D., C.P.M., Director
Bureau of Clinical Laboratories


12-06-04
Date


Mills McNeill, M.D., Ph.D., ~~Assoc~~ Director
Mississippi Public Health Laboratory

1/26/05
Date


Donald E. Williamson, M.D.
State Health Officer for Alabama

12/14/04
Date


Brian W. Amy, M.D., MHA, MPH
State Health Officer for Mississippi

1/26/05
Date

