

# Signals & Trends: What Will Public Health Look Like in 10 Years?

## Evolution of Partnerships within the Public Health Laboratory

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# Speaker Disclosure

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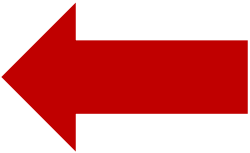
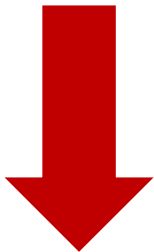
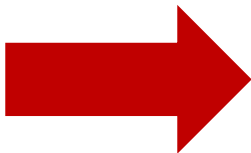
Moe Sullivan: Nothing to disclose

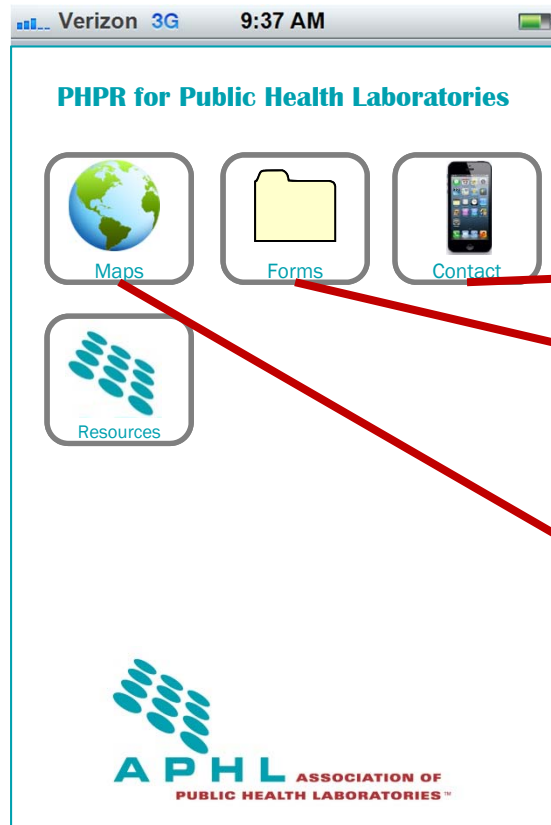
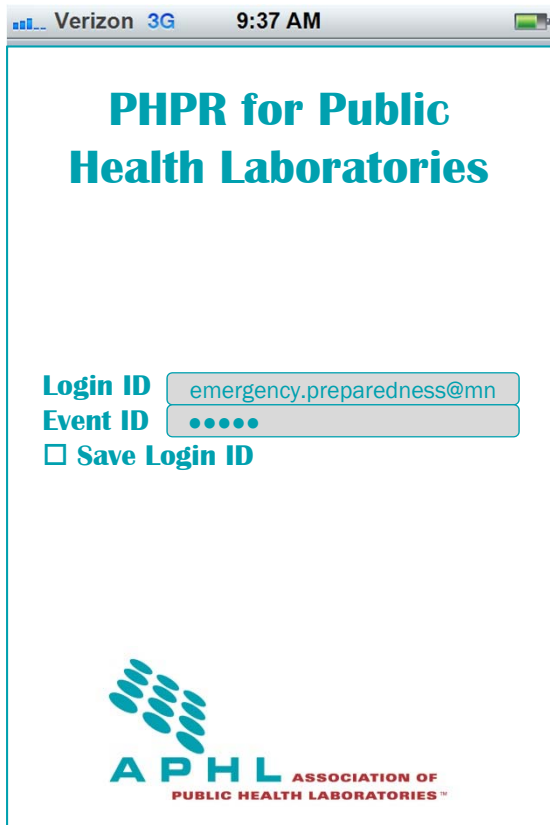
Presentation: Evolution of Partnerships within the Public Health Laboratory

# ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES MODEL PRACTICE:

Algorithm and Guidelines for  
Responding to an Incident  
Involving a Suspicious  
Non-Clinical Sample

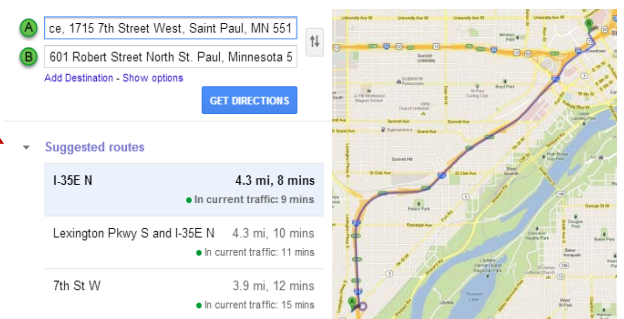
VERSION 1.0, JUNE 2011





First Responders at the Scene

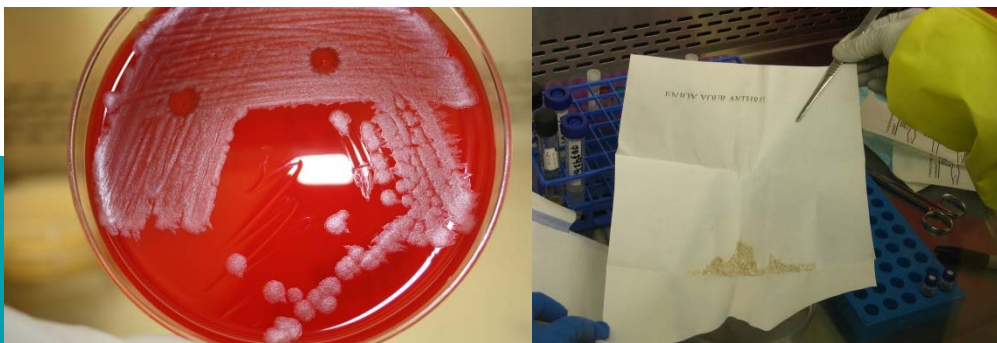
Completed Chain of Custody Form



# Overview

- Partnerships in Public Health
  - Sentinel Laboratories
  - First Responders
- Clinical sample example
- Environmental sample example

- Where we have been
- Where we are now
- Future



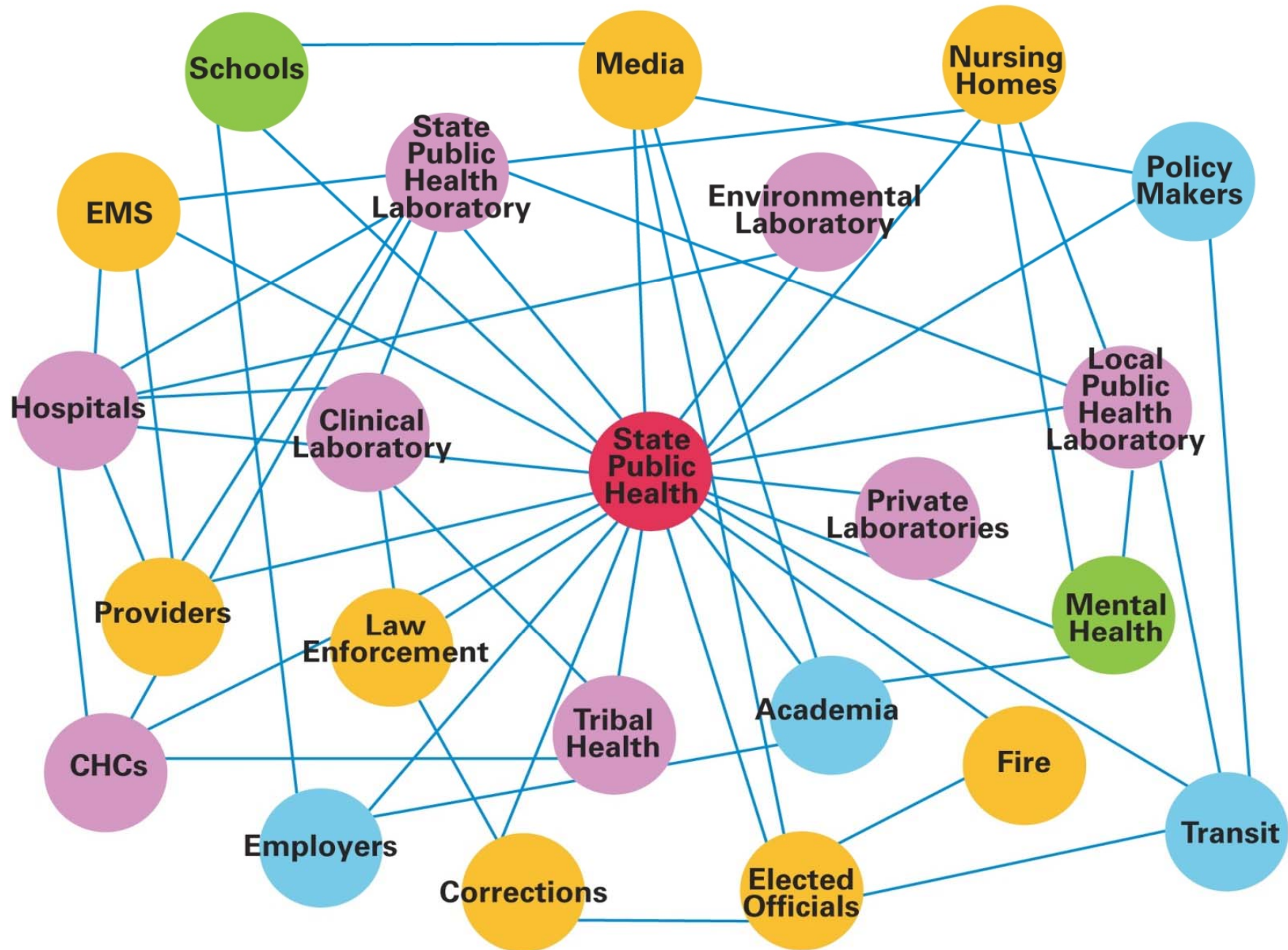
2013  
**APHL**  
ANNUAL  
MEETING &  
7<sup>TH</sup> GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENTAL  
LABORATORY CONFERENCE

# Partnerships in Public Health

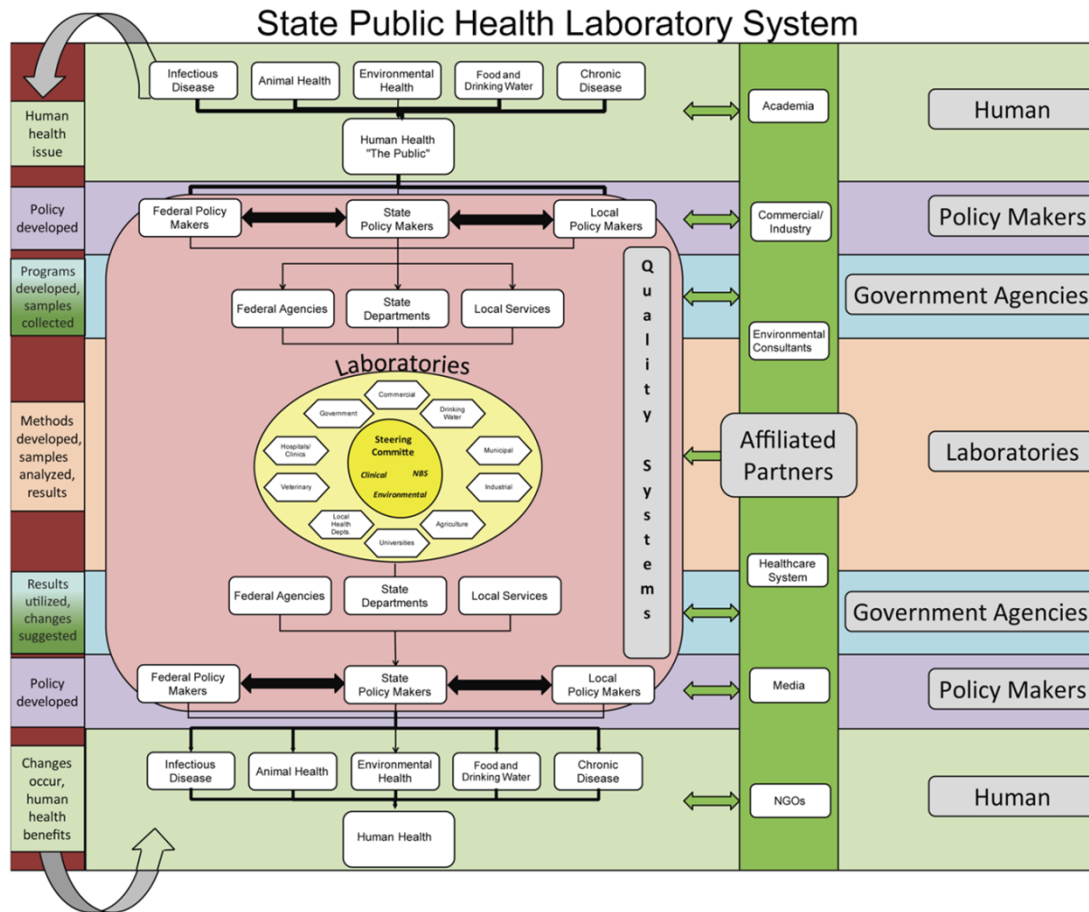
- Have they changed?
- Will they change?
- What things will remain the same?



# State Public Health Laboratory System



# Partnerships and Communication





# Laboratory Roles Then and now

## Sentinel Clinical Labs

- Diagnostic testing
- Some reference testing
- Medical management

FOCUS = **Individuals**

## State Public Health Labs

- Limited diagnostic testing
- Reference/Confirmatory testing
- Surveillance and monitoring

FOCUS = **Populations**

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Collaborate to Identify Public Health  
Threats

# Laboratory Roles Future

## Sentinel Clinical Labs

- Point of care testing
- Non-culture methods
- New technologies
- Fewer labs with more capabilities
- Electronic data exchange

FOCUS = **Individuals**

## State Public Health Labs

- Reference and confirmatory testing
- Collaborations with other PHL's
- DNA sequencing, whole genome sequencing, mass spec
- Electronic data exchange

FOCUS = **Populations**

Collaborate to Identify Public Health  
Threats

# Minnesota Laboratory System

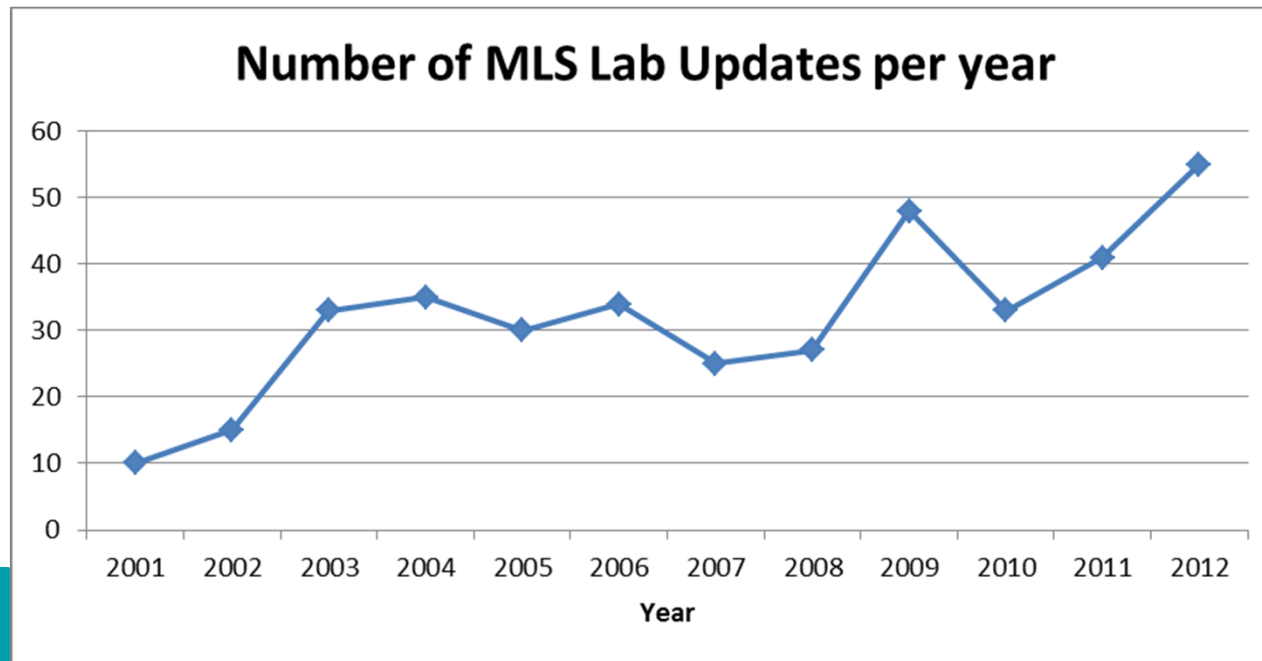


*An integrated network of public and private clinical laboratories working together to protect and improve the health of all Minnesotans*



# Communication is Key

- MLS Alerts via email and fax
- Social media: facebook, twitter
- What's next?



# Training and Education

- In-person trainings
- Wet-workshops
- Challenge set
- Virtual conferences
- eLearning (web-based)
- Challenge set



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LABORATORY CONFERENCE

# Unknown Environmental Samples Collaboration Before Analysis

Public Safety



Public Health



- Field Screening
  - ✓ Possible agent
  - ✓ Radioactivity
  - ✓ Explosives
- Confer with public health lab about collection
- Safely pack and transport to lab
- Complete chain-of-custody forms
- Further screen at lab
- Analyze or transfer



# Chemical Assessment Teams

- Eleven teams strategically located around the state
- Deployed through state Duty Officer
- Collaborated on unknown environmental samples
- Train them yearly
- Member of MDH staff on a local CAT team
- What will change in the future?



# 55<sup>th</sup> Civil Support Team

- CST provides advanced capabilities for WMD events
  - Mobile laboratory
  - Sample collection
  - Communications
- Takes longer to deploy than CATs
- Not required for every incident



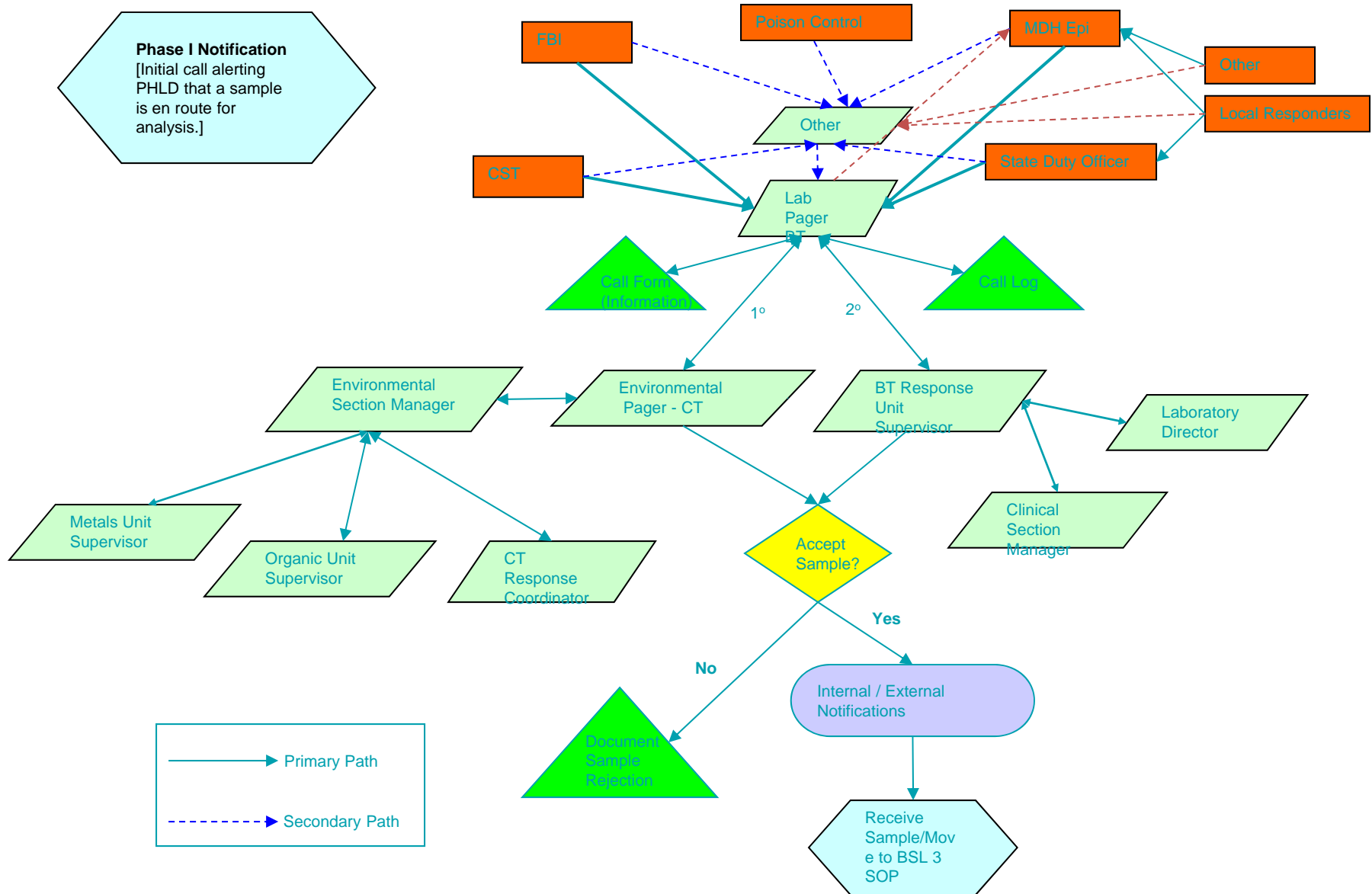


# 55<sup>th</sup> Civil Support Team

- MDH and CST have a long standing collaborative relationship
- CST staff train at MDH
- Joint monthly exercises
- Joint on-site sample collection
- What will the future look like?



# Notification



# Field Testing

- Current technologies
- Training
- Proficiency Testing
- Competency Program



# Sample Receiving



## Acceptable:

- Small packages
- Small containers



## Unacceptable:

- Drums
- Furniture
- Office Equipment
- Other Large Items

From:  
FBI  
CST  
Local First Responders

# Safety Then



# Safety Now

PHL's "All Hazards"  
receipt facility for  
unknown  
suspicious  
substances



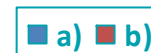
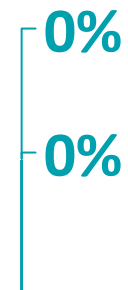
# Public Health Preparedness and Response

- Unknown Environmental Sample Analysis
  - “Powder letters” and other odd samples for law enforcement (FBI)
  - Incident Response Kits (IRKs) for events at public water systems
  - Bio and Chem testing



# Do you anticipate reductions to your laboratory funding from the CDC PHEP Cooperative Agreement?

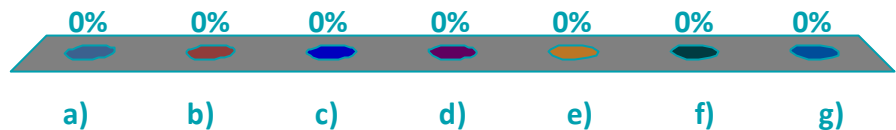
- a) Yes
- b) No





# If yes, which of these anticipated reductions is most critical?

- a) Move from LRN-C Level to Level 3
- b) Reduce support for LRN-B
- c) Eliminate positions
- d) Unable to renew service contracts/maintenance agreements
- e) Unable to buy new instruments
- f) Reduce training courses provided to clinical labs
- g) All of the above



# QUESTIONS???

- THANK YOU!
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