GlobalSecurity
Anticipate • Innovate • Deliver

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Forensic Science Center

Fast, accurate chemical, nuclear, and biological analysis

LLNL's Forensic Science Center (FSC) is the second U.S. laboratory to be internationally certified for identifying chemical-warfare agents. Created in 1991, the Center is home to nationally recognized experts who support chemical, nuclear, and biological counterrorism.

Law Enforcement Analysis

FSC scientists have an important role in the effective forensic response to terrorist use of weapons of mass destruction at home or abroad. The FSC is an FBI lab, providing 24/7 support to federal agencies. FSC researchers serve as members in the FBI's Chemical Terrorism Scientific Working Group and have performed pivotal forensics analyses in many high-profile criminal investigations. LLNL's FSC is currently the only U.S. laboratory certified for forensic analysis of chemical, biological, radiological, and explosive samples.

Advanced Technology

The FSC also applies cutting-edge science in the development of new tools for intelligence, law-enforcement, homeland security, and health professionals.

- The Easy Livermore Inspection Test for Explosives, (ELITE) can identify over 30 different explosives and is in the pockets of law-enforcement and military personnel throughout the U.S. and in several foreign countries.
- FSC developed solid-phase micro-extraction (SPME) collection kits that use optical fibers as "chemical dipsticks." SPME can be used for rapid sampling and analysis of organic molecules such as drugs, explosives, pesticides, toxic chemicals, and chemical weapons agents.
- SPME can be used with a portable, rugged GC/MS device, also developed by FSC, for immediate forensic analysis at the scene. ELITE and SPME are commercially available through Field Forensics, Inc.

For further information, please contact:
Nancy Suski, Global Security Directorate, 925-423-6046, nsuski@llnl.gov.

LLNL-BR-400396
©2007. Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC. All rights reserved. This document has been authored by Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC, under contract DE-AC52-07NA27344 with the U.S. Government. To request permission to use any material contained in this document, please submit your request in writing to Library Report Orders, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Mail Stop L-610, P.O. Box 808, Livermore, California 94551, or to our e-mail address report-orders@llnl.gov.