

Partnership & Collaboration

Shared mission – shared success

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Topics we'll cover today

- ELAP & TPAs: Partnership in Shared Mission
- Expectations for Lab-Assessor Relationship
 - Consulting & Conflict of Interest
 - Assessment Dispute Process
- ELAP Accreditation Decisions
- Enforcement Trends

Partnership in Shared Mission



Partnership in Shared Mission

MISSION: To implement a sustainable accreditation program that ensures laboratories generate environmental and public health data of known, consistent, and documented quality to meet stakeholder needs.

- ELAP supports all TPAs
- Competency of laboratories
- Focus on protection of public health and the environment
 - Data that you can rely on



Expectations for Lab-Assessor Relationship



Expectations for Lab-Assessor Relationship

Consulting & Conflict of Interest

- TPAs (& labs) must disclose previous financial relationships
 - Commitment & Qualification Statement and Conflict of Interest Form
- Annual Form 700
- Biannual ethics training
- If TPA assessor consults for lab, subsequent assessment by same assessor may be rejected



Expectations for Lab-Assessor Relationship

Assessment Dispute Process

- Labs – work with TPA first
 - Use dispute resolution procedure of TPA provider
- Good faith effort
- ELAP can intervene, investigate, make determinations



ELAP accreditation decisions



ELAP accreditation decisions

- On-site assessment records = **critical**
- TPAs are our eyes & ears
- ELAP makes the final accreditation decision



Enforcement trends



Top 5 Things to Look Out for

Are you Accredited?	Check your certificate
Late reporting / Failure to notify	10 th of the month following completion of analysis Notify for exceedance – nitrate & micro
Relocation	Communicate with ELAP early in process
Change in Technical Manager	Must notify ELAP within 30 days Cal. Code of Reg. § 64814.05
Method Deviations	No deviations for Drinking Water methods

Mistakes Happen...



Mistakes are a fact of life. It is the
response to error that counts.

Nikki Giovanni

ELAP Contacts

Type of inquiry	Email address
General; application process or status	elapca@waterboards.ca.gov
Proficiency Testing	elapca_pt@waterboards.ca.gov
Method or lab procedures	elapca_technical@waterboards.ca.gov
Enforcement referrals	elapca_technical@waterboards.ca.gov
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Thank you

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