

# AFTE Committee Report

2006 Annual Report

Committee Name: **Referee Lab Selection Committee**

Date of Report: 5-16-06

Reporting Person: Wendy Gibson

To date there have been no requests made to the committee for refereeing services. However, Cathy Brown (Forensic Program Manager, CTS) did indicate that she had been contacted requesting additional manufacturing information of one of the firearm proficiency tests. The request stems from an examiner's test results; there has been no further information provided and the committee has not been contacted by any laboratories regarding this issue.

As previously reported, the committee continues to strive to reach a harmonious working relationship with CTS in the preparation and validation of relevant proficiency tests.

The committee has again re-iterated the suggestion that the firearm and toolmark tests should be prepared a year in advance in order to avoid many of the resource issues they (CTS) continue to face in the later portion of the year.

Don Mikko (U. S. Army Criminal Investigation Lab; GA) has graciously offered to help CTS with their test firing of the 2006 proficiency test materials.

The complete results report for all the firearm and toolmark 2005 CTS proficiency tests have been released and are available on their web site ([www.collaborativetesting.com](http://www.collaborativetesting.com)). There has been some discussion on the AFTE web forum regarding sub-class characteristic influence on the toolmark test 05-529 however, there have been no referee requests or discussion from CTS regarding this test made to the committee.

Work has continued on creating committee records and protocols. Thus far, the mission statement has been updated, procedures for the refereeing and pre-distribution processes have been updated and CV's are on file for participating referee examiners. In addition, copies of the CTS proficiency result reports are being copied and stored for any potential committee request and/or historical record. These reports date back to the 1970's.

As a reminder, members that participate in the pre-distribution process should receive at least one (1) free test fee credit and depending on the quality control regulation of their system, may be able to use the pre-distribution test as an annual proficiency test.

The data sheets for the proficiency tests are available online through the CTS web site. These forms are in a portable document format (pdf) using Adobe Acrobat Reader. CTS has provided a link in order to obtain Adobe version 5.0 for those that may need it.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Wendy Gibson  
Committee Chair*