PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

A2LA Accredits Forensic Drug Testing Laboratory

May 2, 2013, Frederick, MD - The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) is proud to announce the accreditation of Western Slope Laboratory, LLC as part of the A2LA forensic accreditation program. Western Slope Laboratory, LLC performs Controlled Substances Testing and was found through on-site assessment to meet ISO/IEC 17025 and A2LA supplemental document, R221-Specific Requirements: Forensic Examination Accreditation Program - Testing.

Western Slope Laboratory, LLC (www.westernslopelabs.com), located in Troy, Michigan, received its initial accreditation on May 1st, 2013. Erica A. Guice, MS, Director of Research & Development at Western Slope Laboratory commented that, “The Western Slope Laboratory team takes great pride in having made a true commitment to the provision of quality testing services and even greater pride in having that effort formally recognized via accreditation by The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation as having met the ISO/IEC 17025:2005 Standard. Being the first forensic drug testing laboratory to be accredited by A2LA gives us further gratification given A2LA’s substantial role in providing world class accreditation services. Western Slope’s employees have always been committed to producing the best quality work and this accreditation shows that the years of hard work and dedication were well worth the effort.”

A2LA is currently recognized as an accreditation body for forensic testing laboratories in the states of Maryland and North Carolina (states which mandate forensic accreditation through legislative action) and has been approved to perform assessments to the FBI Quality Assurance Standards for DNA Testing and Databasing Laboratories as a biennial external auditor in accordance with section 15.2 of the aforementioned standards. A2LA is also the only accreditation body in the United States able to offer forensic organizations a full spectrum of accreditation options, including:
ISO/IEC 17025 for their testing and calibration programs;
ISO/IEC 17020 for their crime scene work;
ISO/IEC 15189 for their medical testing and pathology work;
ISO/IEC 17043 for their proficiency testing programs; and
ISO/IEC 17025 in combination with ISO Guide 34 for their reference material producer activities.
A2LA Accreditation programs are internationally recognized and have also received federal and state recognitions as described on the A2LA website (http://www.a2la.org/recognition/dom_recog.cfm).

For additional information regarding the A2LA forensic accreditation program, please see the A2LA forensic program webpage (http://www.a2la.org/appsweb/forensics.cfm) or contact Karin Athanas at 301.644.3236 or kathanas@A2LA.org.

**ABOUT A2LA:**

The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) is a nonprofit, non-governmental, public service, membership society. A2LA provides world-class accreditation and training services for testing and calibration laboratories, inspection bodies, proficiency testing providers, reference material producers and product certifiers. Services are available to any type of organization, be it in the private or government sector.