FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Frederick, MD. June 18, 2012 The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) is proud to announce that it has begun accepting applications for assessment to the FBI Quality Assurance Standards as part of the A2LA forensic program.

All applicants must be NDIS approved and seeking assessment to meet the following requirements:

**Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories, Section 15.2:**
“At least once every two years, an external audit shall be conducted by an audit team comprised of qualified auditor(s) from a second agency(ies) and having at least one team member who is or has been an analyst previously qualified* in the laboratory’s current DNA technologies and platform.”

**Quality Assurance Standards for DNA Databasing Laboratories, Section 15.2:**
“At least once every two years, an external audit shall be conducted by an audit team comprised of qualified auditor(s) from a second agency(ies) and having at least one team member who is or has been an analyst previously qualified* in the laboratory’s current DNA technologies and platform and one team member who is currently or was previously a qualified analyst from a databasing laboratory.”

*Qualified auditor* is a current or previously qualified DNA analyst who has successfully completed the FBI DNA Auditor’s training course.

In support of the program, all A2LA DNA assessors have received FBI QAS auditor training, have been previously qualified to assess forensic testing and databasing laboratories and are available for assessment within 60 days.

In addition, those laboratories that have received National Institute of Justice (NIJ) grant approval to fund their external QAS audit will be provided with special pricing in accordance with the grant guidelines.

**About A2LA**

A2LA is a nonprofit, non-governmental, public service, membership society based in Frederick, Maryland, United States of America. Its mission is to provide comprehensive,
third-party accreditation services for testing and calibration laboratories, inspection bodies, proficiency testing providers, reference material producers, and product certification bodies. Services are available to applicants whether they are private, federal, state, or academic and regardless of their size and ownership status (A2LA accredits both Third-Party as well as in-house laboratories). A2LA is internationally recognized and is the largest, multi-discipline accreditation body in the United States. A2LA welcomes applications for the accreditation of many types of conformity assessment bodies.