STACS SOP-9 DNA Batch and Case Reviews Document ID: 50153

Revision: 1

Effective Date: 09/18/2025

Status: Published Page 1 of 14

Post-Processing

1. Transfer samples to an already existing cryobox:

a. In Utilities → Storage → Storage Subsystem select the Store tab.



- b. Scan the cryobox barcode into the Storage Unit barcode box.
- c. Scan the sample(s) into the Item barcode box. Alternatively, scan the isolation batch barcode to transfer all associated samples and controls at once.
- 2. To create a new cryobox:

Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro

- a. Go to Utilities → Storage → Storage Management
- b. Under Storage Locations, highlight the fridge or freezer that the new cryobox will be stored in and select **New**.
- c. In the pop-up window, fill out the information as required (see below).



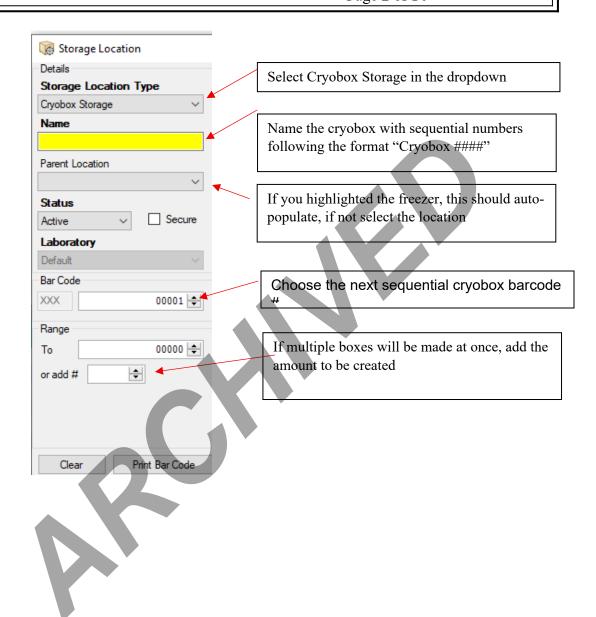
Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro

Document ID: 50153

Revision: 1

Effective Date: 09/18/2025

Status: Published Page 2 of 14



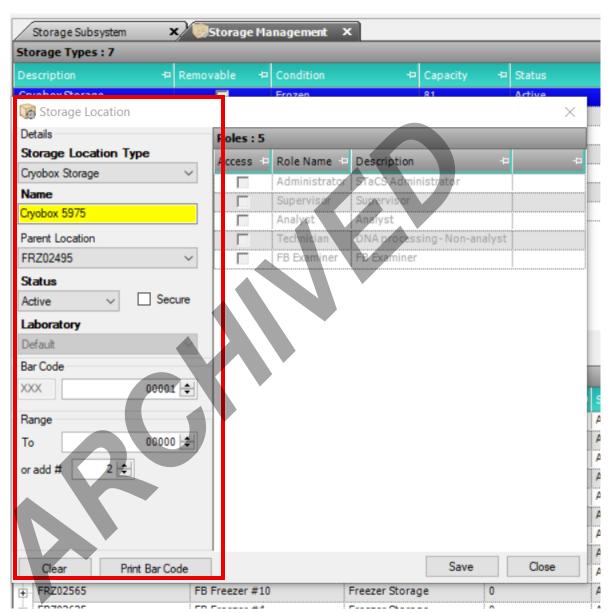
Document ID: 50153

Revision: 1

Effective Date: 09/18/2025

Status: Published Page **3** of **14**

Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro



3. In **Justice-Trax**, mark the STACS request as **'Findings Entered'** to close out the STACS request.

STACS SOP-9 DNA Batch and Case Reviews Document ID: 50153

Revision: 1

Effective Date: 09/18/2025

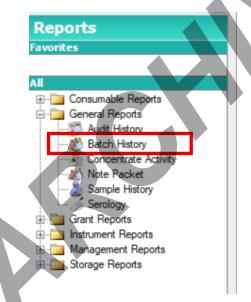
Status: Published Page 4 of 14

Batch Review

Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro

1. All batch processing and analysis documentation will be maintained in U:\Batch Paperwork Files\STACS.

- a. Create a folder for each batch to be reviewed. The folder should be named with the STACS batch naming mechanism below:
 - i. LysisBarcode_BatchHistoryReport or
 - ii. LysisBarcode1; LysisBarcode2_BatchHistory Report (if multiple lysis batches are combined)
- b. The folder will contain all associated batch paperwork, including, but not limited to the Batch History paperwork (see steps below to generate), the electropherograms, and batch QRs (e.g., QR-37, QR-301, QR-302, etc.)
- 2. In STACS, generate the **Batch History** paperwork:
 - a. Open Reports → General Reports → Batch History



b. Enter any one of the **Processing Batch Barcodes** and click **Load.** It is recommended to search by the **Lysis barcode**.

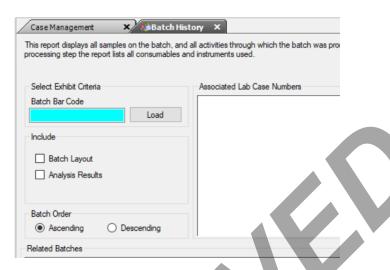
Document ID: 50153

Revision: 1

Effective Date: 09/18/2025

Status: Published Page **5** of **14**

Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro



- c. Select all related batches and click **View**. Print the file to PDF to the appropriate folder on the U drive (U:\Batch Paperwork Files\STACS). The generated file will be named as either:
 - i. LysisBarcode BatchHistoryReport or
 - ii. LysisBarcode1; LysisBarcode2_BatchHistory Report (if multiple lysis batches are combined)
- 3. Batch reviews will be documented through the **DNA QR-4A or QR-4F**, as applicable.
- 4. Techical reviewer will go into **Processing → Utilities → View Batches**, and search for the CE batch. Click on 'content', click on 'batch comment' and add comment that "analyzed data was technically reviewed". Any re-work or edits will continue to be documented on a DNA QR-347.
- 5. If any rework is needed to samples as a result of TR/AR, then complete step 3 below in 'Assign Conclusions' to move your samples to a completed status.
- 6. Finalized and reviewed batch paperwork will be compiled and scanned into a single PDF for cohesiveness.
- 7. Sample electropherograms and Contributor Estimation Worksheets do not need to be included in the Batch Scan.
- 8. There will be a page-by-page comparison of the paperwork to the scanned paperwork to ensure it is an accurate representation of all the paperwork for the batch.
- 9. A physical copy is no longer necessary once that comparison is completed.

Preparing a Case for Review:

A - Assign Conclusions

STACS SOP-9 DNA Batch and Case Reviews

Document ID: 50153
Revision: 1

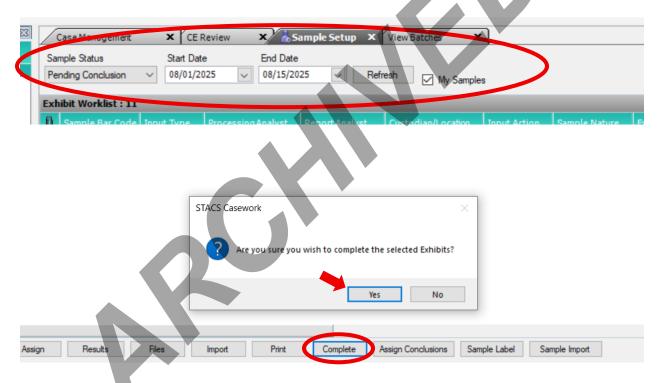
Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro

Effective Date: 09/18/2025

Status: Published Page **6** of **14**

1. The reporting template in STACS will not be used. However, the case/exhibit(s) must still be assigned a conclusion for the case to proceed to review.

- 2. Only exhibits that have completed testing and have undergone CE Review, are marked as Pending Conclusions, and able to proceed with assigning conclusions.
- 3. In Processing → Sample Setup. In the 'Sample Status' drop-down, select 'pending conclusion'. Sort by start and end date and check the 'my samples' box. The start date is the date that the sample(s) was first imported into STACS. Highlight all of the samples that you want to move to a "completed" status and press the "complete" button at the bottom.



4. The samples will now be moved to a 'completed' status. You can now do any rework needed on the samples. To do this, in the 'sample status' drop-down, choose 'completed'. Highlight the samples that need rework and select the 'reprocess' button at the bottom.

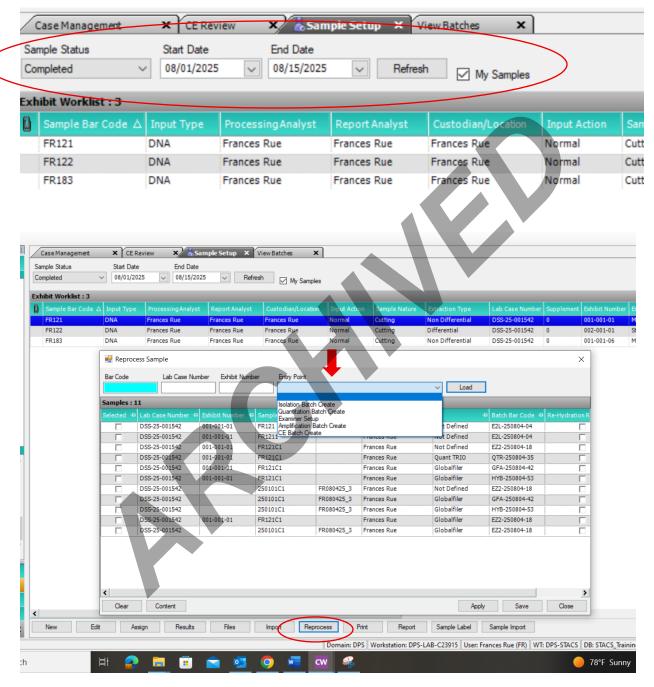
Document ID: 50153

Revision: 1

Effective Date: 09/18/2025

Status: Published Page 7 of 14

Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro



5. A window will pop-up where you can choose which samples to reprocess (including controls) by choosing the 'Entry Point' that you want the sample to go back to. Press 'save' and the sample will be available at that step.

State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Division of Scientific Services

Documents outside of the QMS are considered uncontrolled.

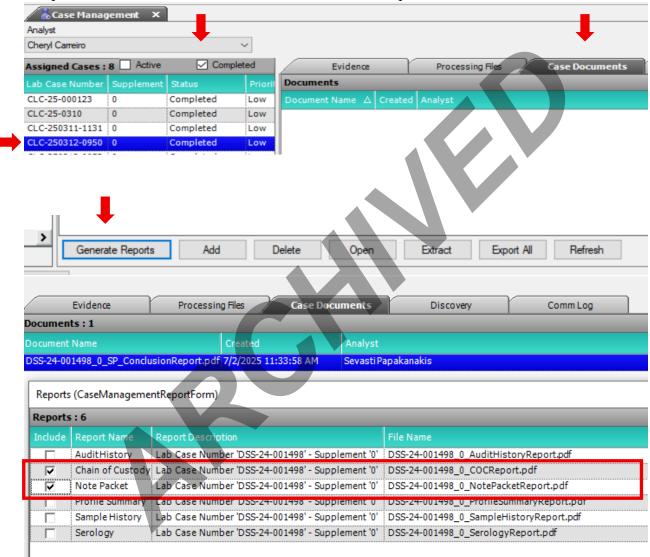
STACS SOP-9 DNA Batch and Case Reviews

Document ID: 50153
Revision: 1
Effective Date: 09/18/2025

Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro

Status: Published
Page 8 of 14

B- Create electronic casefile Go to Processing → Case Management and select the case. If the completed box is checked it will be easier to view the completed cases.



- 1. Click **Generate Reports** (highlighted above). Select the applicable reports to be added to the electronic case file. At minimum, this will be the Chain of Custody and Note Packet reports. Click **Save**. The files selected will be saved under the **Case Documents** tab.
- 2. **Scan** all external paperwork generated for this case. This includes, but is not limited to the completed DNA QR-4A/4F, electropherograms, contributor estimation worksheets, CODIS documentation, STRmix paperwork, etc.

State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Division of Scientific Services

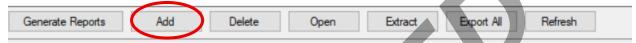
Documents outside of the QMS are considered uncontrolled.

STACS SOP-9 DNA Batch and Case Reviews

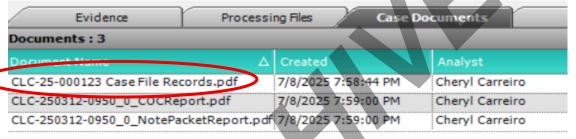
Document ID: 50153
Revision: 1
Effective Date: 09/18/2025
Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro

Status: Published
Page 9 of 14

- 3. Save the file in the analyst's U drive: DNA Analyst's folder and name the pdf Case#-CaseFileRecords (or similar).
- 4. The scanned paperwork will be maintained in the DNA Analyst's folder for future reference if needed.
- 5. This file will then be added to the **Case Documents** tab.
- 6. To do this: in the **Case Documents** tab, click **Add** at the bottom of the screen.



- 7. A window will pop up to bring in the Case File Record file that was just scanned.
- 8. Click open and the file will be added to the Case Documents Tab. See below:



9. Click Close in the bottom right corner of the screen.

Case Reviews

Analyst

1. Once the electronic casefile is prepared and the report is drafted (outside of STACs for now), click **Send Case to Review**. This may be completed through either the Case Management or Case Review tabs.

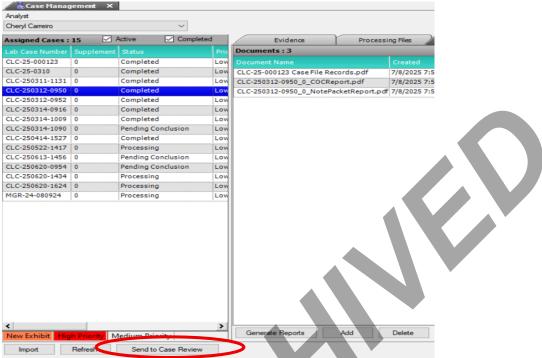
Document ID: 50153

Revision: 1

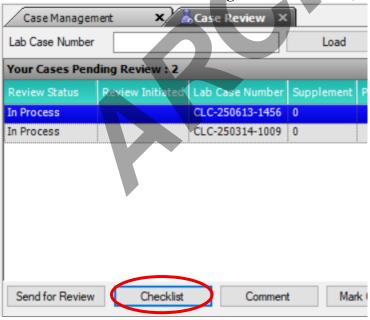
Effective Date: 09/18/2025

Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro

Status: Published Page 10 of 14



- 2. Proceed to Processing → Receipt → Case Review.
- 3. In the "Your Cases Pending Review" window, select the case and click "Checklist".



STACS SOP-9 DNA Batch and Case Reviews

Document ID: 50153

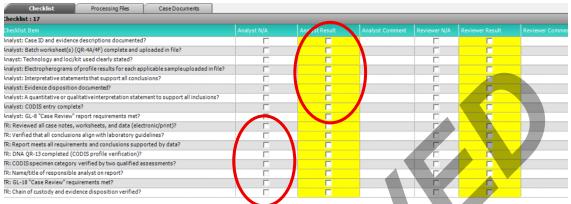
Revision: 1

Effective Date: 09/18/2025

Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro

Status: Published Page 11 of 14

4. Fill out the Analyst Result column as appropriate (i.e., result or n/a). Anything for "TR" in the checklist will be n/a and then click **Save**.



5. In the "Your Cases Pending Review" window, click Send for Review.



6. All cases available for TR assignment will be in the "Unassigned Technical Review Cases" window. Ensure that 'Show All' is checked off. Without it, an analyst may not be able to view their own cases.



- 7. Assign the TR by selecting the case in the "Unassigned Technical Review Cases" window and click Assign.
- 8. Select the Technical Reviewer from the list that appears.

Technical Reviewer

- 1. Assigned reviews will be found in the **Assigned as Technical Reviewer** window (circled in blue above).
- 2. Double-click on the assigned case or select and click "Checklist".
- 3. The pop-up Checklist window will contain all documents necessary for review as well as the review checklist. There are tabs for **Processing Files** and **Case Documents**

State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Division of Scientific Services

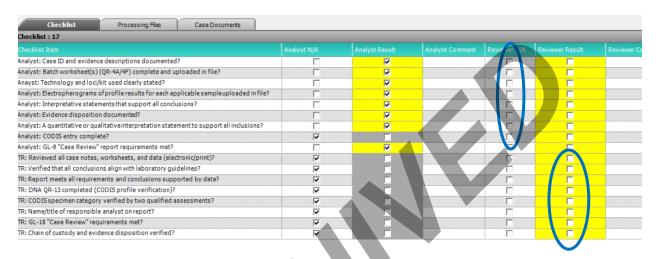
STACS SOP-9 DNA Batch and Case Reviews Document ID: 50153
Revision: 1

Effective Date: 09/18/2025

Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro
Status: Published
Page 12 of 14

4. Complete the Reviewer Results column in the checklist. Fill out the TR Result column as appropriate (i.e., result or n/a). Anything for "Analyst" in the checklist will be n/a.

5. Click Save.



6. If the case is ready for Administrative Review, reopen the checklist and select **Approve**.



- 7. This will mark the case as Pending Administrative Review.
- 8. The Milestone in Justice Trax should be moved to "Technically Reviewed".
- 9. In STACS the case can now be found in the "Unassigned Administrative Review Cases" window.
- 10. **However**, if corrections are needed at the TR step, do not click off the associated line in the checklist. Add a comment indicating the correction needed right next to the unchecked line and select **Reject** which is right next to **Approve**. Do not roll the milestone in Justice Trax at this time.
- 11. A window will pop up so that the TR can make any additional comments for the analyst (if needed).
- 12. Cases requiring edits will be apparent to the analyst in the "Your Cases Pending Review" window, via an orange highlight. See below.

Document ID: 50153

Revision: 1

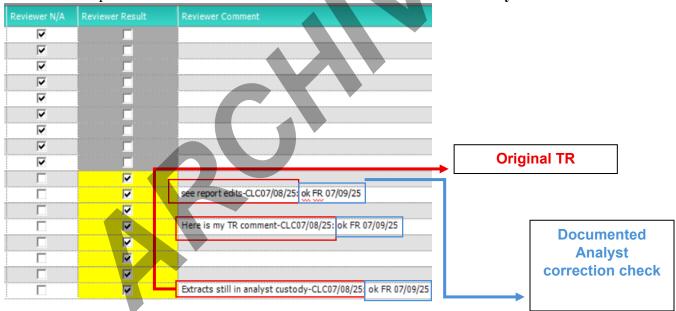
Effective Date: 09/18/2025

Status: Published Page 13 of 14

Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro

Lab Case Number Your Cases Pending Rev	ious s &	Load		Clear						
Review Status		Lab Case Number	Supplement	Priority	Agency	Sample Create Date	Assigned Technical Reviewer	Technical Reviewer Date	Assigned Administrative Reviewer	Administra
Technical Review	03/11/2025	DSS-25-000002	0		Collaborative Testing Services		Jillian B. Echard	03/11/2025		
Administrative Review	07/02/2025	DSS-25-000938	0		New Britain Police Department		Sevasti Papakanakis	07/02/2025	Alicia Amatruda	07/02/2025
In Process		DSS-23-007476	0		Office of the Chief Medical Examiner					
Technical Review	07/02/2025	DSS-21-001617	0		CSP - Troop G		Alicia Amatruda	07/02/2025		
Requires Tech Revision	07/03/2025	DSS-25-000982	0		CSP - Troop C		Sevasti Papakanakis	07/03/2025		
In Process		DSS-25-000961	0		Fairfield Police Department					
			0							

- 13. The analyst can select the case again, and once corrections are made, the analyst then will click **Send for Review** once again to push the case through the system to the TR.
- 14. If corrections are acceptable, the TR will check off the missing lines on the checklist and add initials/date right next to the line to document the correction check. See image below.
- 15. At this point the Justice Trax milestone can be moved to "Technically Reviewed".



- 16. TRs can then select **Approve** as in #6. above..
- 17. This will move the case to the AR step.
- 18. Assign the AR by selecting the case in the "Unassigned Administrative Review Cases" window and click Assign.
- 19. Select the AR from the list.

STACS SOP-9 DNA Batch and Case Reviews

Document ID: 50153
Revision: 1

Effective Date: 09/18/2025

Status: Published Page 14 of 14

Administrative Reviewer

Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro

1. Assigned reviews will be found in the "Assigned as Administrative Reviewer" window.

- 2. Double-click on the assigned case or select and click "Checklist".
- 3. The pop-up Checklist window will contain all documents necessary for review as well as the review checklist.

Checklist Processing Files	Case Document	s								
Checklist: 6										
Checklist Item		Reviewer N/A	Reviewer Result R							
Reviewed file and report for typographical and major g	ammatical errors?		V							
Cross-outs and obliterations properly annotated?			V							
Case number and initials on each page, as appropriate										
Final report signed by analyst and technical reviewer?			V							
COC and evidence disposition recorded?			▽							
Report addresses all applicable items?		NE	<u> </u>							

4. Ensure the Administrative Review toggle is selected in the upper right-hand corner.



- 5. Complete the Reviewer Results column and click **Approve.**
- 6. **However**, if corrections are needed at the AR step, do not click off the associated line in the checklist. Add a comment indicating the correction needed right next to the unchecked line and select **Reject** which is right next to **Approve**.
- 7. A window will pop up so that the AR can make any additional comments for the analyst (if needed).
- 8. Cases requiring edits will be apparent to the analyst in the "Your Cases Pending Review" window, via an orange highlight.
- 9. The analyst will make the edits and **Send for Review** and push the case through the TR and AR steps again.
- 10. TR and AR can click **Approve** at each of their steps as above and the case is brought back to the analyst's Case Management Tab with "completed" marked at the top.
- 11. At the completion of the case, the Administrative Reviewer can move the milestone in Justice Trax to "Administratively Reviewed".
- 12. The case is then released.