

Accreditation Insider

A Newsletter Published by Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation, Inc. (PJLA)

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PJLA Is Now Accepted By The California State Water Resources Control Board As An Option For Accreditation Services



The California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has released an update on their website that TNI NGABs such as PJLA may be utilized as an option for accreditation for laboratories wanting accreditation to support CA ELAP. Laboratories wishing to utilize PJLA for PFAS will be assessed to the DoD ELAP QSM for this requirement. Laboratories that are seeking accreditation for other environmental parameters can seek accreditation by PJLA to the TNI EL Volume 1 2016 standard. Laboratories will still be required to apply and report to the state upon receipt of our accreditation.



https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/pfas/docs/landfill_pfas_13267_go_03202019.pdf ◆

PJLA Is Now Accepting Applications For The Accreditation Of Proficiency Testing Providers To ISO/IEC 17043:2010

PJLA will now accept applications for proficiency testing providers to become accredited to ISO/IEC 17043:2010. This standard is like other ISO accreditation standards and encompasses quality management system requirements as well as technical requirements for the design and planning of proficiency test schemes as well as the analysis and reporting of results. Proficiency Testing Providers interested in our program can contact us at any time for additional information. ◆



Upcoming Expos & Conferences

October 1-3, 2019 | Cannabis Quality Conference & Expo

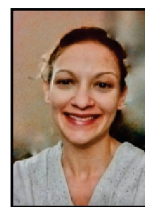
PJLA will be attending the Cannabis Quality Conference & Expo. PJLA President, Tracy Szerszen, will be participating on the Accreditation Panel on Tuesday, October 1st, 2019 at 3:00pm.



October 8-10, 2019 | ACIL Annual Meeting

PJLA will be attending the ACIL Annual Meetings this year in support of the food, environmental and cannabis industries.

November 13-14, 2019 | Global Cannabis Institute London



Halima Alli, PJLA Technical Program Manager will be leading a panel discussion on cannabis laboratory accreditation and good practice. PJLA and our UK Project Managers will also be exhibiting to continue our marketing efforts in the cannabis industry. ◆

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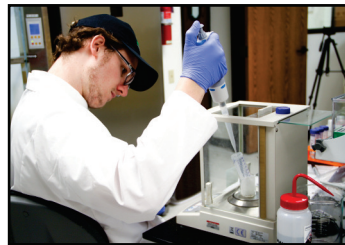
Jason Millbrand

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Client Spotlight: Encore Labs

Servicing the THC & CBD Markets Throughout California and the United States

Encore Labs is California's Premier Cannabis Testing Lab, providing all testing needs required by California's Bureau of Cannabis Control (BCC). The BCC requires that cannabis products being sold in licensed dispensaries be tested for cannabinoid potency, heavy metals, microbial impurities, moisture content and water activity, mycotoxins, residual pesticides, residual solvents and processing chemicals, foreign materials, and terpenes. It is Encore Labs' goal to guarantee the quality and potency of all cannabis products while ensuring regulatory guidelines in the state of California.



Encore Labs provides quick turnaround times on a consistent basis. They take pride in offering excellent customer service without diminishing the quality of the work that they do. Their team of laboratory analysts/technicians are passionate about the industry and will never compromise their integrity just to make an extra buck.

Co-Founder, Spencer Wong, mentions their personal connection with clients:

“Our customers don't just see us as their testing laboratory, they see Encore Labs as their laboratory partner. Besides performing analytical testing, we have worked with many customers to help formulate new products and do root cause analysis to pinpoint inefficiencies in their manufacturing operations and cultivation farms.”

ISO/IEC 17025 Accreditation has been extremely valuable to Encore Labs, especially regarding the new cannabis testing industry. Wong added, “Our experience with Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation, Inc. has been great and has allowed for a very smooth and straightforward initial accreditation process. Their staff has been knowledgeable and responsive every step of the way.”

Accreditation establishes that steps are being taken regarding quality and that laboratories are meeting and exceeding the highest testing standards. It also provides further assurance and confidence in data results as well as validated methods, staff training procedures, equipment calibration, and successful participation in proficiency testing/interlaboratory comparisons.

Starting out with 1,500 sq. ft. of lab space, within the last year Encore Labs has doubled its work area. In order to meet the growing demand of the cannabis testing industry, they have added plans to once again double in size by the end of 2019, and open a second laboratory by the end of 2020.



“Encore Labs is constantly striving to improve our scientific innovation in both laboratory efficiency and research & development.” ♦

PJLA Visited The Following:

AOAC Annual Meeting – Denver, CO

PJLA attended the AOAC Annual Meeting held in Denver, CO the week of September 8-12, 2019. AOAC was filled with various chemistry and microbiological expertise including various members from the FDA and USDA. Various training sessions took place to support the industry and to continue to educate laboratories on good testing practices including new and upcoming methods and techniques introduced in the market. AOAC also had several sections on cannabis testing and is making progress with method development to support the industry. PJLA had the opportunity to visit with some of our longstanding customers such as the FDA and Nu Skin Laboratory and had the opportunity to meet plenty of new faces. We would like to congratulate Andrea Goucher from Simmons for winning our \$50.00 gift card giveaway!



Europe CBD Expo – London, UK

PJLA's President, Tracy Szerszen presented at the Europe CBD Expo on July 12, 2019 on the accreditation of cannabis laboratories. This was well received by the audience with hopes that the UK will follow the United States regarding the reliance of accreditation as part of their laboratory protocols. Tracy Szerszen was accompanied by Ben Watt and Stephen Whatford our UK Project Managers to support our organization and network at the exhibit sessions.



Hemp & CBD Expo – Birmingham, UK

PJLA attended the second Hemp & CBD Conference in Birmingham UK. This was filled with cannabis industry experts, laboratories and CBD manufacturers from all over the world. Three of our Project Managers were in attendance, Stephen Whatford and Ben Watt from the UK and Michael Stasik from our California office. Congratulations to our two gift card winners, Chad Levitt of Mile High Labs & Paul Ryan of LABSKIN.



Cannabis Science Conference – Portland, OR

PJLA attended the Cannabis Science Conference on September 5-6, 2019. This was filled with experts in the cannabis industry including laboratories, growers and consultants. Several educational sessions took place and plenty of time was provided for networking during the exhibition. This was attended by two of PJLA's National Project Manager, Gary Steed and Patrick Lowry. Congratulations to our gift card winner, Jesse Bontecou of the Oregon Retailers of Cannabis Association. ♦



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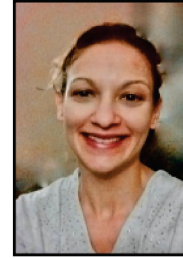
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17025:2017 Transition Date Reminder

All laboratories must be accredited to the new standard by November 29, 2020 and will be asked if they would like to transition during their normal, routine visits. Laboratories must transition no later than August 31, 2020, regardless of their assessment due date. The August 31st transition deadline will allow for a buffer period to close any nonconformances that may have been identified during transition assessments.

PJLA Anniversary

1 Year

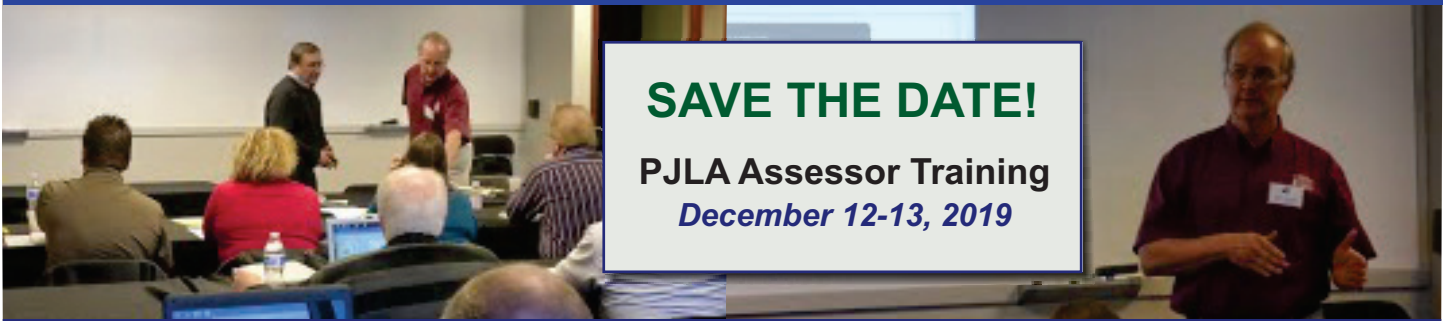


Halima Alli - Technical Program Manager



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Call: 1-877-369-5227 or Visit our website: www.pjlab.com



Look Out For PJLA's FREE Online Webinars!

PJLA is now offering free webinars on various topics in relation to ISO/IEC 17025 for both testing and calibration laboratories. These are for all interested parties including: laboratories seeking accreditation, accredited laboratories, assessors, and consultants. To see our full schedule and register for upcoming webinars visit our website at www.pjlab.com/training/pjla-webinars. ♦

Friday, October 25: ISO/IEC 17025:2017, Section 4.1 Impartiality and 4.2 Confidentiality

This webinar will look at the expanded requirements for impartiality and confidentiality as presented in ISO/IEC 17025:2017. This applies to all laboratory personnel and extends beyond those individuals performing the tests or calibrations. The requirements along with objective evidence which can be presented to show compliance with this section will be discussed.

