**Title:  DNA Technical Leader**

**Department:  Forensic Biology**

**Job Type:  Regular Full-Time**

**Location:  Willow Grove, PA**

**Functional Area:  Criminalistics**

**Shift:  First**

**Schedule:  Mon-Fri, 7:30am-4:00pm**

**Summary:**

NMS Labs is the nation's leading independent provider of professional laboratory testing services, specializing in clinical toxicology, forensic science, and other vitally important areas of esoteric testing and expert services.  We employ more than 300 highly trained professionals who work closely with leading healthcare providers, medical researchers, and various members of the criminal and civil justice system to provide integrated testing and consultative services.

NMS Labs is an ISO accredited independent provider of clinical and forensic toxicology, endocrinology and criminalistics laboratory services for the health care and forensic sciences communities.  Since 1970, we have built a reputation as a provider of innovative, first-to-market and hard-to-find testing that has evolved to a broad menu of over 2,500 laboratory tests.

**Job Description:**

NMS Labs is seeking a DNA Technical Leader to provide technical oversight of the Forensic Biology unit with specific emphasis on DNA analysis.  This position involves the performance of biological and instrumental testing, and the isolation and identification of biological substances in forensic casework samples, and the technical review of casework.  Some of the duties and responsibilities include:

* Authority to initiate, suspend and resume DNA analytical operations for the laboratory or an individual.
* Evaluate and document approval of all validations and methods used by the laboratory and to propose new or modified analytical procedures to be used by analyst.
* Review the academic transcripts and training records for newly qualified analysts and approve their qualifications prior to independent casework analysis and document such review.
* Approve the technical specifications for outsourcing agreements.
* Review internal and external DNA audit documents and, if applicable, approve corrective actions, and document such review.
* Supervision of the Assistant Technical Lead.
* Review, on an annual basis, the procedures of the laboratory and document such review.
* Review and approve the training, quality assurance, and proficiency testing programs in the laboratory.
* Review of any inconclusive DNA results for proficiency test compliance with laboratory guidelines.
* Review DNA proficiency test results, document the review, and initiate corrective actions, if necessary.
* Responsible for providing input on training, career development, continuing education, performance reviews, advising on disciplinary action.
* Meets regularly with the Quality Assurance department to review quality measures and compliance.
* Works with Training Coordinator to ensure completeness of training, and signs off on the competency of personnel in serological and DNA testing.
* Prepares necessary documentation and expert testimony for legal proceedings when necessary.
* Effectively communicates scientific findings to internal and external clients.
* Supports the Sales and Marketing departments for the technical specifications for contracts for Forensic Biology testing services.

**Requirements:**

* Master's degree required. Ph.D. is preferred (Degree must be in biology, chemistry, or natural science). Course work must include biochemistry, genetics and molecular biology (molecular genetics, recombinant DNA technology)
* Minimum of 3 years of forensic DNA laboratory experience at a facility where forensic DNA testing was performed on biological evidence in criminal matters and experience in court testimony is required.  DNA laboratory experience includes the successful analysis of a range of samples typically encountered in forensic casework prior to independent casework analysis using DNA technology
* Minimum of one year of previous supervisory experience.
* ABC certification is preferred.

**Physical Demands:**

* Ability to talk, hear, and use hands and fingers to manipulate computer keyboard, objects, or controls
* Requires moving or carrying objects from one work location to another, and sitting for extended periods of time
* Specific vision abilities (with correction) include close, distance, peripheral, depth, and the ability to adjust focus and properly see colors.
* Sitting and standing, sometimes for extended periods of time
* Lifting objects up to 20 lbs.
* Exposure to intermittent or constant sounds generated by equipment
* Exposure to fumes, noxious odors and dust
* Handling of biological material and blood-borne pathogens
* Handling of toxic or caustic chemicals
* Proximity to moving parts
* Ability to travel as needed for court testimony.

**A few reasons why NMS Labs employees love the company:**

Located in suburban Philadelphia, NMS Labs offers a stimulating and diverse work environment with competitive salary/compensation plans and great benefits, including medical/dental/vision/prescription plan, life/STD/LTD, flexible spending account, tuition reimbursement, 401k plan with generous match and profit sharing pension plan.

* NMS Labs offers a stimulating and diverse working environment and unique culture
* FREE pretzels on Tuesdays, fresh fruit on Wednesdays, yearly influenza shots, parking, fully equipped exercise room with locker rooms, wellness programs
* In April, week long celebration for National Medical Laboratory Professionals
* Company Wellness Committee and ‘Activiteam’ dedicated to plan exciting events and seminars throughout the year
* In July, Founder’s Day celebration
* In December, holiday celebration for employees and their families
* Halloween Potluck, Company Summer Outing, Charity Drives

**To be considered for this position, please submit a cover letter and resume and apply at**[**http://www.nmslabs.com/careers**](http://www.nmslabs.com/careers)**.**

*\*We are an equal opportunity employer and will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, sexual orientation, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, citizenship status, otherwise qualified disability, or protected veteran status (disabled, Armed Forces Service Medal, recently separated, active duty or campaign badge).*