

RONALD R. FLEGEL, B.S., MT (ASCP), M.S.

*Director: Division of Workplace Programs*

Ronald R. Flegel became the Director of the Division of Workplace Program on May 7, 2012. He initially joined The Division of Workplace Programs, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in September of 2004 as the Forensic Toxicologist, following his employment with a nationally recognized laboratory, Quest Diagnostics Nichols Institute. As the Technical Scientist, his role included method research, development, validation, and regulatory compliance in all aspects of the toxicology operations. His prior position was with a nationally recognized consulting firm, The Walsh Group, P.A. His responsibilities at The Walsh Group included applied research, technology development, formulating new proposals and white papers leading to policy consideration. Prior to this position, he was employed with Quest Diagnostics Incorporated in the Forensic Toxicology Department as Shift Manager/ Section Supervisor in the SAMHSA Certified regulated drug testing sections. His responsibilities included overseeing the laboratory certification process including quality control, data certification, method research, method validation, regulatory compliance, and performance/developmental review of staff. As a Technologist at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Department of Pathology, he certified and reviewed chemistry and emergency toxicology data and played a key role in shaping the continuing education program.

As a scientist, Mr. Flegel has worked on a variety of projects and written several technical papers. He has also chaired and co-chaired several committees, which strived to improve the overall quality of service in drug and alcohol programs. He is a member of several professional societies including The American College of Toxicology (ACT), Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientist (AAFS), Society of Forensic Toxicology (SOFT) and The American Society of Clinical Pathologist (ASCP).

Mr. Flegel has lectured on several occasions for professional organizations on topics such as National Laboratory Certification Program, Prescription Drug Abuse, and Programs to Deter Drug Use and Analytical Approaches to Emergency Toxicology. The Division of Workplace Programs has oversight of the National Laboratory Certification Program within SAMHSA, which include all aspects of the inspection protocols, review of regulatory guidelines, regulatory compliance issues and guidance for HHS-Certified Laboratories and Instrumental Initial Testing Facilities. In 1989, he had the honor of receiving the John C. Failing Award for Bench Medical Technologist of the Year. Mr. Flegel received his Bachelors Degree from Northern Michigan University in biology and medical technology and his Masters Degree from The University of Maryland in Forensic Toxicology. He also completed several rotations at the Poison Control Center and Medical Examiner's Office in the state of Maryland as well as his Medical Technology Internship at Hurley Medical Center in the department of pathology. Mr. Flegel's focus has been based on the testing procedures of Forensic Toxicology and Emergency Toxicology and all aspects of regulated testing and certification.