



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE



Arthur Spada  
*Commissioner of Public Safety*

Colonel Edward L. Lynch  
*Deputy Commissioner, Division of State Police*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

05/14/2004

## CONNECTICUT HAS A NEW DIRECTOR OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE/ TOXICOLOGY LABORATORY

The Public Safety Commissioner Arthur L. Spada announced today the hiring of a Director for the Department of Public Safety Division of Scientific Services Controlled substance/Toxicology Laboratory. After a nationwide search, the former Chief toxicologist in Cincinnati Ohio, Dr. ROBERT H. POWERS was selected as Connecticut's the new Controlled Substance & Toxicology Laboratory Director.

Dr. Powers is a graduate of Michigan State University with a PH.D in Biochemistry. Dr. Powers was previously the Chief Toxicologist for Hamilton County Coroner's Office and Crime Laboratory in Cincinnati Ohio. He worked in both post mortem and crime laboratory cases for Law enforcement in Ohio.

Dr. Powers was also a consultant for the Lake County Crime Laboratory in Painesville, Ohio and served as an inspector for the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board. Dr. Powers taught courses in forensic toxicology at Ohio University, and has made numerous presentations at National meetings including the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

Dr. Powers has conducted research on the mechanisms of the effects of central-nervous system toxins, their metabolic interactions, and the use of Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry for the detection of drugs and poisons.

As he begins his new position as the Director in Connecticut's Toxicology & Controlled Substance Laboratory, Dr. Powers will focus on several areas of the Toxicology Services. He will work toward expanding the scope of services that are presently provided to all Law Enforcement in Connecticut. Further accreditation of the Toxicology Laboratory will also be an important objective in the near future.

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