



**SATTERFIELD & PONTIKES
CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

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DPS OPENS NEW CRIME LAB IN HOUSTON CONSTRUCTED BY S&P

HOUSTON, TEXAS (April 27, 2011) – The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) expanded its testing and investigative capabilities with the recent completion of its new crime lab in northwest Houston. The 41,000-square-foot facility, built by Satterfield & Pontikes Construction, Inc. (S&P), incorporates advanced forensic equipment in conjunction with advanced mechanical, electrical and plumbing (MEP) systems.

The \$14 million, multi-story facility will provide testing for controlled substances, toxicology, biology/DNA, and trace and photographic evidence. A specialized feature of the lab is the completely encapsulated indoor ballistics test-firing area with eight-inch-thick walls and ceiling, bullet-resistant door, and bullet recovery tank room. The facility also includes a vehicle investigation bay and evidence check-in station.

MEP systems in the crime lab are highly complex. Specialized systems and equipment include hydrogen generators, gas manifolds, stainless steel duct work and piping, and acid-proof, corrosive-resistant PVC plumbing.

The crime lab features a structural steel frame with tilt-up concrete walls, modified three-ply bitumen roof, and roof-level mechanical yard. S&P used Building Information Modeling (BIM) to model and coordinate the structure and MEP components, including above-ceiling MEP trades, field layout of piers, coordination of existing underground utilities, and layout of the firing range. Project work also included parking areas and one-acre detention pond.

In addition to the main crime lab building, S&P constructed a separate 6,000-square-foot concrete Bio Evidence Storage building with specialized security systems. Kirksey Architecture provided design and architectural services for the Construction Manager at Risk project.

About Satterfield & Pontikes Construction

Established in 1989, Satterfield & Pontikes Construction, Inc. is an award-winning general contractor and construction manager. *Engineering News-Record* ranks S&P #107 in ‘Top 400 Contractors’ in the U.S. *Texas Construction* ranks S&P #18 in ‘Top Texas Contractors’ (out of 125 firms) and #3 in ‘Educational Facility Construction.’ S&P’s commitment to sustainable construction also earned a spot on *Engineering News-Record’s* ‘Top 50 Green Builders’ in America. *ENR Texas and Louisiana* recently selected S&P as one of ‘Six Companies to Watch’ in 2011.

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