

## Research

The Scientific Services Division uses AOAC International's Official Methods, when available. In absence of AOAC methods, we use TTB methods, which are validated in our laboratories. For continued enhancement of our capabilities, SSD chemists are committed to developing new analytical methods using state-of-the-art technology. They are recognized leaders in the analysis of alcohol and tobacco products. The staff contributes to scientific journals and professional societies on a national and international level.



## Technical Assistance

The Scientific Services Division provides comprehensive scientific and technical assistance to the Bureau, other Federal, State, and local agencies, and industry members. Laboratory chemists are also called upon to provide expert testimony in court cases and hearings related to the illegal production or sale of alcoholic products.

**THE MISSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC SERVICES DIVISION IS TO PRODUCE THE ACCURATE AND AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION NEEDED BY THE ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO TAX AND TRADE BUREAU (TTB) IN PROTECTING THE PUBLIC AND COLLECTING THE REVENUE.**



### Scientific Services Division

Director, Scientific Services Division  
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Chief, Beverage Alcohol Laboratory  
240-264-1596

Chief, Nonbeverage Products Laboratory  
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Chief, Tobacco Laboratory  
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6000 Ammendale Road  
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Or

Chief, Compliance Laboratory  
925-280-3642

490 North Wiget Lane  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

TTB P 7100.01 (04/2009)

**Alcohol and Tobacco  
Tax and Trade  
Bureau**



## Scientific Services Division



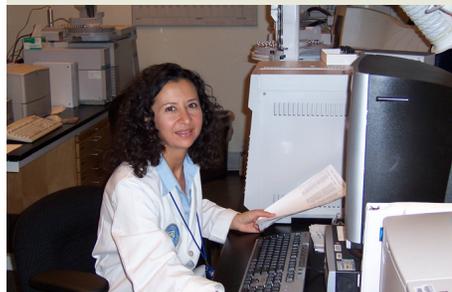
**Beltsville, MD  
Walnut Creek, CA**

# Organization

The Scientific Services Division, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, United States Department of Treasury, provides analytical and advisory services on matters of a scientific nature. The Division is comprised of four laboratories. The Beverage Alcohol Laboratory (BAL), the Nonbeverage Products Laboratory (NPL), and the Tobacco Laboratory (TL) are located in Beltsville, MD. The TTB Compliance Laboratory (CL) is located in Walnut Creek, CA.

# Staffing and Accreditation

The Scientific Services Division is currently comprised of 28 chemists and support staff. The chemists in our laboratories are highly experienced in the analysis of beverage alcohol, nonbeverage alcohol, and tobacco products. All chemists have at least a degree in chemistry, and many possess a masters or doctorate degree. The Beverage Alcohol Laboratory and the Compliance Laboratory are ISO 17025 accredited. The Tobacco Laboratory is currently preparing for international accreditation under ISO 17025.



# Services Provided

The **COMPLIANCE LABORATORY** is responsible for the examination of beverage and nonbeverage alcohol products to ensure that marketed domestic products are in compliance with TTB regulations. The scientific support includes:

- Compliance Monitoring—Examination of beverage and nonbeverage products collected by TTB Investigators during audits and inspections of manufacturing facilities.
- Alcohol Beverage Sampling Program— Examination of products purchased from retail outlets, with a focus on labeling violations and product safety.
- Technical Assistance—training and associated technical assistance to the West Coast Wineries on analytical methods for wine analysis.

The **BEVERAGE ALCOHOL LABORATORY** provides scientific and technical support to the Bureau in the following areas:

- Pre-Import testing of beverage alcohol products for tax classification and compliance to food regulations.
- Contaminants, adulterants, and unauthorized additives, including pesticides, natural toxins and toxic metals.
- Consumer Complaint and product tampering investigations
- Misbranding, mislabeling, & fraud investigations.

- Alcohol Beverage Sampling Program— Examination of products purchased from retail outlets, with a focus on labeling violations and product safety.
- Certification of chemists, enologists, and laboratories for export of wines or spirits.
- Special Testing including 5010 Tax Credit, evaluation of new measuring devices and manufacturing technology, and support to other Federal and State agencies.
- Provide technical support to TTB headquarters on trade issues and legislative matters.

The **NONBEVERAGE PRODUCTS LABORATORY** is responsible for examining products in two areas.

**Drawback** is a partial return of the distilled spirits excise tax for alcohol used to manufacture nonbeverage alcohol products and nutritional supplements. Submitted formulas and samples are examined and verified that they are unfit for beverage purposes.

**Specially Denatured Alcohol (SDA):** is used in the manufacturing of many household/commercial products and industrial processes, such as, colognes, mouthwashes, ink and gasohol. Because tax is not paid on the alcohol, it must be determined that the finished products are denatured so that beverage quality alcohol cannot be easily recovered.

The **TOBACCO LABORATORY** conducts chemical and physical analyses on tobacco products to classify products for tax purposes. Additional technical support includes:

- Support to TTB rulemaking
- Support to TTB investigations and audits of regulated industries
- Support to TTB investigations of counterfeit and contraband tobacco products

