

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Averhealth – ProPublica Response

For thirty years, Averhealth has been proud to provide industry-leading forensic drug testing solutions that its partners can rely on. Averhealth maintains rigorous operational controls, and its methods are forensically defensible, scientifically validated, and are subject to continuous oversight through independent accreditation and regulatory review. That is why courts have faith in Averhealth.

Recently, Averhealth was disappointed to learn that a freelance reporter published a story about Averhealth that contained false and unsupported allegations. Unfortunately, this same reporter has a history of writing stories about Averhealth that are contradicted by both the facts and the law.

Instead of providing a fair and accurate presentation of the evidence, the reporter chose to base this story on cherry-picked claims lacking the context that would have undermined the story's pre-determined narrative. As in past stories, the reporter relied heavily on unfounded criticism by a former Averhealth lab director who was separated from Averhealth after seven weeks of employment, more than five years ago. The reporter also relied on claims of individuals about their tests by Averhealth when those claims are inherently unreliable and when it is clear that the Averhealth tests were accurate.

Last year, a federal court found the former lab director's scientific testimony to be unreliable, and held it would not allow her to testify as an expert witness about the percentage of Averhealth's drug tests she alleged were inaccurate, because there was not sufficient foundation for her allegation. In that same case, the court dismissed two plaintiffs' claims against Averhealth due to lack of evidence, and dismissed another plaintiff's claims as a sanction for making repeated false statements concealing her drug use. The entire action was dismissed with prejudice in September 2025.

The reporter also based much of her latest story on unsupported allegations related to Averhealth's settlement of a Department of Justice matter in May 2024. That case resolved a claim regarding the type of tests Averhealth provided under its contract with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services—not the accuracy or reliability of the tests. The resolution of that matter was not related to the baseless allegations by Averhealth's former lab director. After a thorough investigation, the Department of Justice never contended that Averhealth provides anything other than services of the highest quality, including accurate test results. Likewise, none of Averhealth's partners have ever premised their decisions on whether to work with Averhealth on these unfounded allegations, despite what this reporter has implied.

This single reporter has repeatedly failed to understand or acknowledge these facts. Averhealth remains one of only 30 laboratories that maintains a College of American Pathologists for Forensic Drug Testing (CAP-FDT) accreditation, which includes enhanced standards for chain of custody, method validation, quality assurance, and legal defensibility. Averhealth's laboratory operations are also certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA).

As a result, Averhealth is uniquely positioned to continue delivering substance use monitoring services tailored to the unique needs of courts and social service agencies that operate at the holistic intersection of healthcare and criminal justice. Averhealth remains entirely committed to its mission of helping to reclaim lives, unite families, and strengthen the communities that Averhealth serves.