Chemical Biological Sciences Unit (CBSU)
Mission

To develop and maintain the FBI’s ability to conduct and/or direct high quality forensic examinations of hazardous chemical, biological, and radiological-nuclear (CBRN) materials, and all related evidence.
Mission Breakdown

- Establish a supporting laboratory network that provides a wide range of expertise.
- Enhance the FBI Laboratory’s ability to conduct forensic examinations of hazardous evidence.
- Develop and validate methods to analyze CBRN evidence.
Establish dedicated forensic CBRN facilities.

“Hub and Spoke Model”.
Partner Labs

- Examinations of CBRN are conducted at different FBI Partner Laboratories (PLs) which are designed to routinely handle hazardous material.
  - Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC)
  - Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)
  - National BioForensics Analysis Center (NBFAC)
  - Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL)
  - Centers For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
The NBFAC is the FBI’s “Hub” Laboratory for any suspected bio-terrorism agent.

The NBFAC has dedicated forensic space used by the FBI to conduct traditional forensic examinations on hazardous evidence.
Forensic Examiners from various FBI Laboratory disciplines, train to conduct examinations of hazardous evidence.

- Trace Evidence
- Latent Fingerprints
- Questioned Documents
- Firearm and Tool marks
- Special Photography
- Chemistry
- DNA I, II
- Explosives
- Structural Design and Engineering
- Evidence Control
Hazardous Evidence Process

- Assessment
- Search and Collection
- Transport and Submission for Analysis
- Processing at Partner Labs
- Analysis and Reporting
- Adjudication
Hazardous Evidence Process

- HMRT/HMRU Process Crime Scene
  - Field assessments, evidence collections, possible first tier testing by LRN… (Documentation: Itemized lists and notes, FD-597, COC).

- HMRU/CBSU coordinate evidence transport to appropriate “Partner Labs” (Non-FBI).
Hazardous Evidence Process

- Request to CBSU from FBI Field Office for analysis of collected material
- Analytical lab (non-FBI) generates their Evidence Accession Log.
  - May be several partner laboratories involved, complex chains of custody.
- CBSU requests and approves analytical plans from the partner labs.
  - Triage analytical exams (HEAT examinations?)
- Partner Labs perform evidence analysis.
- Analysis reports are provided to CBSU.
- CBSU reviews and communicates reports to appropriate Field Office.
- CBSU coordinates evidence disposition upon completion of examination(s)