

Department of Public Safety

Division of Criminal Justice 700 Kipling Street, Suite 1000 Lakewood, CO 80215

## Colorado Sex Offender Management Board Review of EyeDetect Information for SOMB Approved Providers April 19, 2019

The Colorado Sex Offender Management Board (SOMB) became aware of Converus marketing the EyeDetect, an ocular-motor deception (ODT) technology, to approved sex offender treatment providers in the fall of 2018. EyeDetect is designed as a quick lie detector for job applicants, border security and immigrant services. Conversus reports that the human biases they believe to be inherent in polygraph tests seem to be a non-issue for EyeDetect. Finally, Conversus reports that juveniles appeared to be more comfortable doing EyeDetect testing than polygraph.

The SOMB has reviewed the available research regarding EyeDetect, and determined that the research to date is limited. One of the limitations of these research articles are the study designs (experiments using similar mock crimes with university students or people from the general community as study participants). In addition, research to date has only been conducted with university or general population samples rather than sexual or criminal offending samples. Lastly, all of the research article completed to date are by authors who have a financial interest in Converus.

Based on the review of the research, the SOMB does not believe there is sufficient evidence to support inclusion of EyeDetect in the *Adult and Juvenile Standards and Guidelines* as a tool for treatment and supervision of adult sex offenders or juveniles who commit sexual offenses. As a result, EyeDetect cannot replace the current requirements related to use of polygraph testing.

According to Conversus, the Federal Government agreed to conduct an independent evaluation of EyeDetect beginning in January of 2019 at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee (sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy), which will take 18 months. The SOMB will review any new research when it becomes available and provide further guidance to approved providers as needed.

Approved April 19, 2019

Hon. Marcelo A. Kopcow, Chair

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