



Marcela Najarro received her B.S. in Pre-Med and Forensic Chemistry in 2004 from Loyola University New Orleans and M.S. in Forensic Toxicology in 2006 from George Washington University. Marcela joined the Materials Measurement Science Division at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, MD in 2005 as a research chemist. Her research focused on the development of standard test materials for homeland security, forensics, and other applications. Marcela has extensive

knowledge in trace detection equipment used to detect trace explosives and narcotics in security applications.

Marcela is currently the Deputy Division Chief for the Materials Measurement Science Division and the Director of the MML Forensic Science Research Program. In the latter role, she utilizes her technical and leadership experience to manage the forensic science research program across the Drugs & Toxicology and Trace Evidence portfolios. Through close collaboration with Federal, State, and local stakeholders, her portfolio helps strengthen the scientific foundation of multiple forensic disciplines. Marcela was appointed to the FSSB as the NIST's Ex Officio member in 2022.