



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WILLOW LABORATORIES PARTICIPATES IN US DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S "DRUG-FREE WORK WEEK" INITIATIVE**

**Lynn, Massachusetts, October 16, 2006** – Willow Laboratories is pleased to announce our participation in the US Department of Labor's Drug-Free Work Week Program which runs from October 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>. 'Helping America's Businesses Benefit from Being Drug-Free' is the goal of this first ever Drug-Free Work Week.

"During the Drug-Free Work Week initiative we are pleased to offer free substance abuse consultation and testing services to employers throughout the New England region. We will also review a company's workplace substance abuse policy," Dr. Brian Strasnick President & CEO discussed. "If a policy has not been adopted we will offer our own internal substance abuse testing program as an initial steppingstone."

According to government and private researchers - a well designed Substance Abuse Testing Program is an appropriate complement to employee safety programs. In addition, instituting a drug testing policy can save a company in Workman's Compensation claims, loss of production due to absenteeism and potential litigation due to poor workmanship

**Some telling workplace statistics:**

- 12 million American's abusing alcohol; nearly 31% also use illicit drugs
- Substance abuse is directly attributable to the loss of approximately \$81 billion dollars per year in lost worker productivity
- Alcoholism is estimated to cost 500 million lost workdays annually
- Nearly 66% abusers of alcohol are employed by mid to large size companies

Sources: US Department of Health & Human Services Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration and the National Association of Treatment Providers

Willow Laboratories, located in Lynn, MA is one of the fastest-growing provider's of comprehensive drugs of abuse and alcohol testing services. Willow assists with the design/implementation of beneficial and cost-effective programs. Willow works with government agencies, corporations, residential treatment facilities and medical professionals. On a daily basis, we strive to achieve our core mission: "*Respect, Integrity, Education and Accuracy*".

**A press conference will be held to discuss ideas and activities for Drug-Free Work Week on Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> @ 11am at our corporate offices & laboratory at 280 Union Street, Lynn, MA.**