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Commonwealth Biotechnologies, Inc. Announces Contract Signings

Includes First Major Contract for new FIL Division

RICHMOND, VA (January 17, 2005) - Commonwealth Biotechnologies, Inc. (NASDAQ SmallCap Market: CBTE), today reported receipt of new contract awards in the December, '04 – January, '05 period totaling nearly \$1.1 million, including receipt of the first contract for CBI's new division, Fairfax Identity Labs (FIL). Work on all these new programs has been initiated, and the bulk of these new revenues will be recognized within 2005.

Among the group of new contracts is an extension of CBI's program for screening mail destined for delivery to the Pentagon for the presence of toxins and pathogens, and quality control assessment of individual pharmaceutical preparations on behalf of a government customer. The new contract for FIL is valued at over \$500,000 and is for accessioning forensic case samples for a state laboratory, which due to confidentiality issues, must remain unnamed.

CBI announced completion of the acquisition FIL on December 15, 2004. The transfer of all FIL equipment and personnel to CBI's facility in Richmond was completed the last week in December, and CBI's new DNA reference laboratory was outfitted and came on-line almost immediately.

"As previously announced, the acquisition of FIL is expected to add to CBI's revenue stream beginning in the first quarter of 2005," explained Thomas R. Reynolds, Executive Vice President for Science and Technology, CBI who is directly responsible for management oversight of the FIL Division. "In addition to the revenues anticipated from the acquisition of FIL's existing assets, this new contract represents a significant accomplishment for the division which has been in place for less than a month. Receipt of this contract is testament to the excellent reputation of the staff of FIL and Dr. Kelly, who is now the Director of CBI's new FIL division.

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About CBI

Commonwealth Biotechnologies, Inc. is a comprehensive provider of contract research and development services to the global biotechnology industry, academic institutions, government agencies, and pharmaceutical companies. It offers cutting-edge expertise and a complete array of the most current analytical and synthetic chemistries and biophysical analysis technologies, many of which are not available from other commercial sources. Services include DNA analyses, genomics, proteomics, biochemical analyses, mass spectral analysis, microbiological services, pathogen testing, food microbiology, peptide services, protein sequencing and drug discovery, and through its FIL division, CBI offers comprehensive genetic identity testing, including paternity, forensic, and CODIS analyses. CBI is accredited by the American Association of Blood Banks, CLIA, and the National Forensic Science Technology Council, and operates fully accredited BSL-3 laboratory. For more information, visit CBI on the web at www.cbi-biotech.com and visit FIL at www.fairfaxidlab.com.

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