



# INDIANA STATE POLICE FORENSIC SERVICES DIVISION

## PHYSICAL EVIDENCE BULLETIN

### **POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION GUIDELINES**

The following guidelines are offered to all agencies utilizing the polygraph testing service of the Indiana State Police. They are intended as an aid in achieving the best possible examination. The examination is to be used in conjunction with, and not in place of, an investigation.

1. Every investigative lead should be exhausted prior to scheduling the examination.
  - A. This will assist the examiner in question formulation.
  - B. It may eliminate the necessity of the examination entirely.
2. Preparing subject for the examination.
  - A. Please allow the examiner to instruct the subject in polygraph procedure.
  - B. It is the investigator's responsibility to confirm the subject's physical condition and his/her ability to take a polygraph examination.
    - (1) Under no circumstances will a pregnant woman, knowingly, be administered a polygraph examination by this agency.
    - (2) The examiner will inform investigators that prior to testing subjects with serious heart conditions, epilepsy, seizures, or any other health problem that the examiner would deem as life threatening, that the subject shall provide the examiner with a signed medical release from their physician. The release shall indicate that the physician is aware of the examinee's medical condition and is fit to undergo a polygraph examination.
    - (3) If the subject takes prescribed medication, the investigator should instruct them to continue taking their medication as prescribed.

C. Proper dress for examination should be as comfortable as possible.

D. Other preparation.

(1) A person who is tired, hungry, or who has been interrogated immediately prior to the examination may produce polygraph charts of little value. Persons working night shifts might be too tired for suitable testing.

(2) No alcohol, marijuana or drugs are allowed prior to the examination, with the exception of prescribed medicine previously mentioned.

### 3. Examination Scheduling:

A. If possible, contact the examiner personally.

B. Examinations may be scheduled Monday through Friday. Emergency situations will be considered individually.

C. Normally two examinations involving different crimes are scheduled per day. If more than one suspect is to be examined in the same crime, more than two examinations can be conducted the same day.

D. Under normal conditions, the first examination of the day is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. and afternoon tests begin at 1:00 p.m. These times are adjustable.

### 4. Examination Day.

A. Investigator should transport the subject to the test site.

B. The investigator will be responsible for the custody of the suspect.

C. All available information relative to the situation or crime under investigation must be made available to the examiner prior to exam.

### 5. General Information.

A. Written consent of parents or guardians will be required before juveniles can be tested.

B. Walk-ins will not be tested.

C. If you must cancel a scheduled appointment, please do so as soon as that decision is reached in order that we may reschedule that time period.

Adherence to the guidelines will provide the best possible examination. Your cooperation is appreciated.

For further information, you may consult with your local Indiana State Police Regional Laboratory serving your area.

**REGIONAL LABORATORY PHONE NUMBERS**

Indianapolis:	317-921-5300	Toll Free – 866-855-2840
Evansville:	812-867-3157	Toll Free – 800-852-3970
Ft. Wayne:	260-436-7522	Toll Free – 800-552-0976
Lowell:	219-696-1835	Toll Free – 877-874-0009