



INDIANA STATE POLICE FORENSIC SERVICES DIVISION

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE BULLETIN

CLANDESTINE DRUG LABORATORY **EVIDENCE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

I. INTRODUCTION

Evidence associated with clandestine drug laboratory operations pose significant health and safety risk to investigators collecting it in the field as well as to the laboratory staff receiving and analyzing it. Due to these increased risks, only the appropriate items necessary to complete an investigation and prosecution will be accepted for analysis by the Indiana State Police (ISP) Forensic Services Division (FSD).

II. PROCEDURE

- A.** Evidence collected from suspected clandestine drug laboratories shall be packaged, marked, and identified as required by FSD Physical Evidence Bulletins (PEB).
- B.** Only items critical to the investigation and prosecution of a clandestine laboratory shall be accepted for analysis by the FSD.
 - 1. Typically, critical items include the item used for probable cause, one item of precursor, one item of intermediate/reaction mixture, and one item of finished product.
 - 2. Additional drug precursor items and finished product may be necessary to achieve statutory weight limits.
- C.** Items shall be screened prior to submission and acceptance by the FSD.
- D.** The type of examination requested for each clandestine laboratory evidence item shall be specified on the Request for Laboratory Examination Form at the time of submission.
 - 1. A Trace, or General Chemical, Examination is a request for the identification of the chemicals and/or chemical precursors used in the manufacturing process.

2. A Drug Examination is a request for the identification of drugs and pharmaceutical precursors in the manufacturing processes in a clandestine laboratory investigation.

E. ACCEPTABLE CHEMICAL EVIDENCE

1. Trace Examination Request
 - a. Approximately one ounce representative samples of bulk amounts of chemicals and/or chemical precursors used to manufacture drugs will be accepted using approved containers.*
2. Drug Examination Request
 - a. Approximately one ounce representative samples of bulk amounts of liquid or paste chemicals suspected to contain drugs will be accepted using approved containers.*
 - b. Solid materials suspected to contain a controlled substance or a pharmaceutical precursor will be accepted.

* NOTE: The approved container for liquids or pastes is clear borosilicate glass vials with Teflon liners and screw caps.

F. UNACCEPTABLE CHEMICAL EVIDENCE

1. Anhydrous ammonia gas, sodium metal, lithium metal, hydrogen chloride gas, and compressed gas tanks will not be accepted in any amount or in any type of containers. This restriction includes compressed gas tanks of any size and containing any type of compressed gas, plus homemade hydrogen chloride gas generators.
2. Bulk amounts of liquid or solid chemicals used to produce drugs or suspected to contain drugs will not be accepted.
3. Bulk containers containing any amount of liquid or solid chemicals will not be accepted.
4. Representative samples of liquid or paste chemicals that are not properly packaged per the requirements in Section II E.
5. Active reactions will not be accepted for analysis.

III. CONTACT INFORMATION

For additional information contact the ISP Regional Laboratory in your area.

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