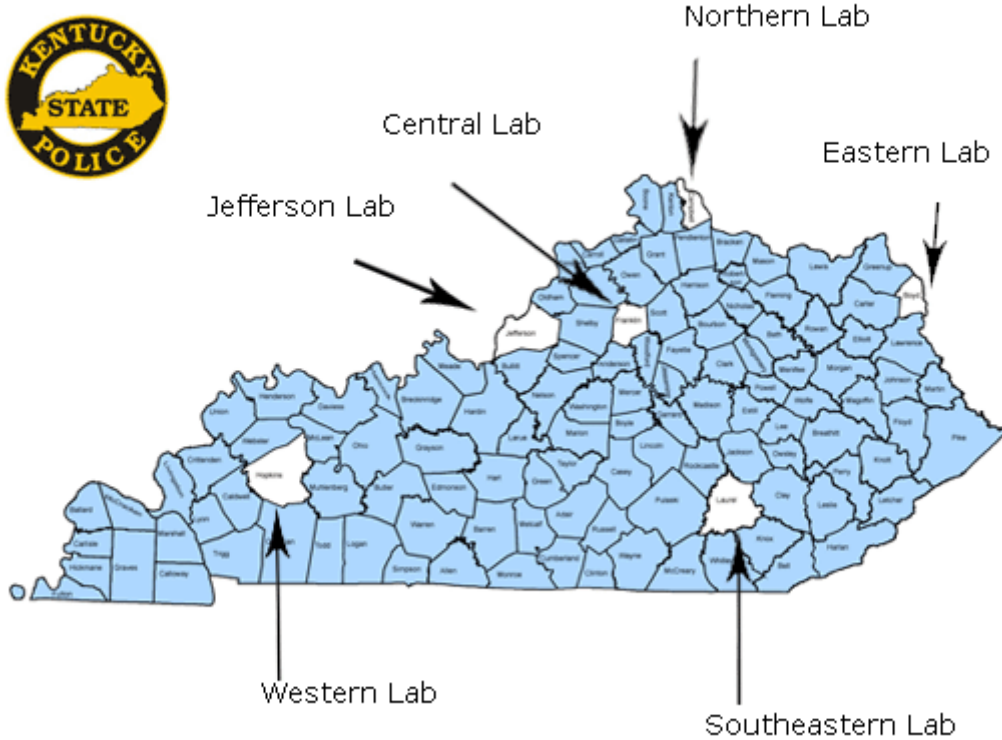


## PHYSICAL EVIDENCE COLLECTION GUIDE

### KENTUCKY STATE POLICE

### FORENSIC LABORATORY



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## PREFACE

This manual has been prepared as an aid in the collection and preservation of evidence prior to its submission to a laboratory for analysis. Nothing printed in this manual is meant to preempt using common sense in applying this information to field applications. All other previous versions of this document are now considered null and void.

This manual is divided into sections concerning different types of evidence. Each type is discussed in terms of its value as evidence, the information that can be determined from it, the collection of the evidence and how to ship the evidence. It is important to note that the section concerning collection is a “how to” section and can be used as a field guide.

Even though the Kentucky State Police Forensic Laboratory does not have evidence collection personnel who are sent to crime scenes, technical assistance and advice to any agency is always available. If you need this assistance, please call 502-564-5230 between the hours of 8 AM and 4:30 PM Monday through Friday at Frankfort. You will be directed to the appropriate individual for information.

**Laboratory reports containing results and/or conclusions of examination are available on the world-wide-web (the internet) through a secured portal with a username and password available to requesting agencies from the Laboratory System Director. Reports are not mailed on a regular basis. Faxed reports can be sent upon request if you do not have access to the internet at the time of request, or have not set up your username and password for report retrieval. Reports will only be distributed to authorized individuals.**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**INTRODUCTION..... 5**  
*Latent print*..... 5  
*Polygraph Office (Central)*..... 6  
*Medical Examiners Office –Executive Director*..... 6  
*Questioned Documents* ..... 6

**NATURE AND VALUE OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ..... 7**

**COLLECTION OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE..... 8**  
 Packaging..... 9  
 Bloodstain Pattern Case Acceptance Policy ..... 9  
 Serology Case Acceptance..... 10  
 Suitability..... 12  
 Reference Standards..... 13  
 DNA Case Acceptance Policy ..... 14

**FORENSIC BIOLOGY CASE ACCEPTANCE POLICIES – QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE ..... 17**  
 Serology..... 17  
 Bloodstain Pattern Interpretation ..... 17  
 DNA ..... 17

**DELIVERING EVIDENCE TO THE LABORATORY ..... 18**

**BEAST LIMS (LABORATORY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS)..... 20**

**PHOTOGRAPHY ..... 21**

**FIREARM IDENTIFICATION ..... 24**

**GUNSHOT RESIDUE ANALYSIS-BY ICP-MS..... 30**

**GUNSHOT RESIDUE ANALYSIS-BY SEM/EDS ..... 32**  
 Collection of Sample Guidelines..... 33  
 Gunshot Residue from the Hands: ..... 33  
 Gunshot Residue from Clothing ..... 33  
 Gunshot Residue from Vehicles: ..... 34  
 Case Acceptance Policy: GSR-SEM ONLY ..... 36

**TOOLMARK IDENTIFICATION..... 37**

**SERIAL NUMBER RESTORATION ..... 39**

**SHOE PRINT AND TIRE TREAD EVIDENCE..... 40**

**BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE: BLOOD AND OTHER BODY FLUIDS ..... 43**

    Blood Evidence..... 43

    Other Body Fluids of Significant Value..... 44

    Collection of Sample and Standards..... 45

    Rape Evidence..... 46

    The Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit for Female or Male Victim..... 47

    The Suspect Sexual Assault Evidence or Biological Reference Collection Kit..... 48

**DNA DATABASE..... 51**

    Missing Persons Investigations..... 52

    Filing a Missing Persons Report..... 52

**TRACE EVIDENCE..... 55**

    Hair..... 55

    Fibers and Fabric..... 57

    Paint..... 58

    Glass..... 59

    Physical Matches..... 62

    Lamp Filament Examination for On/Off Determination..... 63

    Unknown Substance and Product Tampering..... 64

    Soil..... 65

    Tapes and Adhesives..... 66

    Miscellaneous Trace Evidence..... 67

**FIRE DEBRIS..... 68**

    Explosives..... 69

**SOLID DOSAGE DRUG IDENTIFICATION..... 70**

    Tablets and Capsules..... 71

    Powder/Solid..... 71

    Liquids..... 71

    Plant Material..... 71

    Clandestine Laboratories..... 72

    Residues..... 73

**BLOOD ALCOHOLS & TOXICOLOGY..... 75**

    Blood Alcohol and Intoxicants..... 75

    BLOOD/URINE COLLECTION KIT..... 78

**BREATH ALCOHOL MAINTENANCE PROGRAM..... 79**

**APPENDIX A: LABORATORY CONTACT INFORMATION ..... 80**

**APPENDIX B: THE FOLDED PAPER PACKET ..... 84**

## INTRODUCTION

The Kentucky State Police Forensic Laboratory has been established to serve a vital need in the criminal justice system. Their purpose is to scientifically analyze physical evidence from criminal activities and to deliver that information to the submitting agency to aid in its investigation and to the judicial system in the event of a trial.

In order to handle the thousands of cases involving physical evidence, the Kentucky State Police has developed a forensic laboratory system that has six (6) locations in Frankfort, Madisonville, Ashland, Louisville, London, and Cold Springs, Kentucky. Please review Appendix A for addresses, phone numbers, and a list of services offered at each location.

In addition to laboratory analysis, technical assistance at crime scenes is also available through advice over the telephone.

Expert testimony by the examiner, who performs the analysis and whose opinions and/or results are stated on the report, is also available when the case goes to trial; however, in order to maximize the amount of time an examiner has for analysis, the following are requested when expert testimony is required:

1. That it is ascertained whether or not the expert is a necessary witness.
2. That the analyst be advised when and where the trial is to be held as far in advance as possible in order to avoid conflicts with other commitments.
3. That the analyst be advised regarding the expected duration of the trial and the exact date on which the expert will be needed.

All of these services are available, free of charge, to all state, federal, county, and municipal law enforcement agencies and to the Public Defender's Office in connection with official investigations in criminal cases. Normally, no examination will be made if the same or similar evidence in an individual case has been subjected previously to a technical examination in the same scientific field. This limitation is necessary in the interest of economy as well as for the proper administration of justice. Requests for re-examination decisions are at the discretion of the Laboratory Director or the Court System. If there is any question concerning laboratory services, please contact any of the forensic laboratory locations.

Other services are available by the Kentucky State Police, but are not a part of the Forensic Laboratory

### ***Latent print***

Automated Fingerprint Identification Section (AFIS)  
1266 Louisville Road  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 782-9821

***Polygraph Office (Central)***

1250 Louisville Road  
Frankfort KY 40601  
(502) 782-2025

Polygraph offices are also located in the Western, Northern, Eastern, and Southeast Laboratories.

Other services available through organizations outside of the Kentucky State Police:

***Medical Examiners Office –Executive Director***

Central Laboratory Facility  
100 Sower Blvd, Suite 202  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
Tel: (502) 564-4545  
Fax: (502) 564-1699

***Questioned Documents***

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Laboratory Division  
Attention: Evidence Control Unit  
2501 Investigation Parkway  
Quantico, VA 22135  
(703) 632-8444

## NATURE AND VALUE OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Evidence can be defined as something legally submitted to a court of law as a means of determining the truth. Physical evidence deals with material objects. It may be material left or taken from the scene of a crime by the suspect or victim, or it might be an impression left in some material. It includes not only fingerprints and footprints, but also hair, fibers, blood, flammable (ignitable) liquids, glass, or almost anything that can be deposited and collected. Unlike oral testimony, it is not influenced by the stress of the moment; it does not forget. Physical evidence can aid in solving the case by developing *modi operandi* (M.O.'s), by developing suspects, by proving or disproving alibis, by eliminating suspects or connecting suspects to the crime, by identifying the source of stolen materials, and by providing investigative leads. Physical evidence is often necessary to prove that a crime had been committed. For instance, the presence of ignitable liquids at a fire scene indicates arson, and the presence of heroin constitutes a crime if connected to a suspect.

The amount of consideration given to physical evidence depends on whether the evidence has individual or class characteristics. Evidence with individual characteristics can definitely be identified with a person or source if sufficient microscopic or accidental markings are present. Some examples include fingerprints, firearms, bullets, tool marks, shoe prints, and pieces of glass in cases in which broken edges can be matched.

Since all forensic laboratory locations have more case work than analytical time, the submitting officer can aid the examiner by fully relaying the facts of the case. Information given to the laboratory will establish the direction of the analysis and may help to determine the worthiness of the evidence. Many laboratory examinations are lengthy and expensive. The efficiency of the laboratory is directly related to keeping the analyst well informed as to the facts of the case, submitting relevant evidence, and not overloading the system.

## COLLECTION OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

While the specifics of collection of different types of evidence will be discussed later under the individual categories of evidence, certain general rules must be kept in mind.

1. All evidence must be collected legally--either with a warrant, with the consent of the owner or incidental to an arrest.
2. All evidence must be safely collected, packaged, sealed with evidence tape and initialed, stored, and transferred. This is of special concern with respect to bloodborne pathogens. Exposure to HIV (the AIDS virus) and to the hepatitis B virus is of much concern in collecting any evidence that has blood or other body fluids present in either the liquid or dry state. This includes garments, and other types of evidence involved in murders, rapes, assaults, burglaries, and drug offenses. Please consult your agency's exposure control plan for bloodborne pathogens. In general, at least disposable gloves should be used in handling such evidence, and safety glasses, surgical masks, and other safety garments should be available if necessary. A 10% solution of household bleach and water is a good disinfectant for cleaning items or areas contaminated by such materials. Do not, however, use this solution on the evidence itself unless instructed to do so by the laboratory, since it could destroy some of the evidence that should be analyzed. Do not use a bleach solution in conjunction with a clandestine laboratory. Chemicals associated with a clandestine lab can produce lethal gases upon mixture with bleach.
3. The evidence must be described in notes. Where it was located, the circumstances, and how it was obtained should be recorded along with the date.
4. The evidence must be marked for later identification. Initials and date, with proper notes, are usually sufficient. The use of a case number and exhibit number is highly recommended. Markings on the wrapping or tags need to be placed with the evidence (do not mark the evidence itself); however, in cases of liquids, powders, small fragments, etc., the containers need to be marked, sealed and initialed. The recommended places on specific types of evidence will be discussed under each particular type of evidence
5. All evidence needs to be stored in a secure place with restricted access. The chain of custody needs to be documented. Valuable evidence such as money, drugs and weapons needs to be secured separately within the storage locker.
6. All evidence needs to be properly sealed and initialed for submission to the Forensic Laboratory. An evidence package is defined as properly sealed when the contents cannot readily escape and if entering the container will result in obvious damage or alteration to the container or seal. Tape needs to be used to seal the openings of evidence containers. Initials or likewise identification of the person placing the seal should be marked across the tape so that the writing falls on both the tape and the container. Heat seals or manufactured self sealing



“evidence bags” may be used and should have the same markings placed along the seal. Stapling is not an appropriate seal. Evidence that is improperly sealed when received at the laboratory shall be properly sealed at that time. This shall be accomplished by having the submitting officer place an appropriate seal on the evidence and initial. If the submitting officer is not present, the receiving analyst shall properly seal and initial package.

### **Packaging**

Select suitable containers such as round pillboxes, glass or plastic vials, envelopes, paper bags, strong cardboard boxes, etc., for packaging evidence. Each piece of evidence needs to be individually packaged to avoid any possibility of cross contamination. Special care must be taken not to package samples with wet stains until they are dry and then NEVER IN PLASTIC. Please see the “Blood and Other Body Fluids” section for more specifics for this type of evidence. The package needs to be sealed with evidence tape and initialed. Eliminate the use of staples since they can tear disposable gloves, skin tissue, and be a source of infection. Keep the chain of custody as small as possible. Keep the sealed evidence under lock and deliver it as soon as possible to the nearest laboratory providing the services needed.

Packages containing ANY evidence that is a possible source of infection, especially from bloodborne pathogens (e.g., HIV or Hepatitis B virus), must be packaged in a safe manner and properly marked identifying the contents as a BIOHAZARD. Such evidence includes garments with stains of blood and other body fluids, syringes, razor blades, knives, and contraband from body cavity searches. Sharps (e.g., razor blades, knives, or broken glass) must be packaged in puncture-resistant containers with biohazard labeling. Syringes submitted for Drug Analysis are not accepted for analysis unless accompanied by a letter from the prosecutor. Any piece of evidence that is likely to spill due to breakage, such as a tube of blood, must be double packed to prevent spillage. For instance, blood alcohol kits have zip-lock plastic bags for containing any blood spilled from broken blood sample tubes.

### **Bloodstain Pattern Case Acceptance Policy**

- I. Service
  - A. Bloodstain Pattern Analysis will only be performed for the agencies served by the Kentucky State Police Division of Forensic Services (i.e., KSP, local PD's and Sherriff's offices, prosecutors, and public defenders).
  - B. Bloodstain Pattern Analysis is generally limited to murder, death investigations, or assaults. Not every case of these types is suitable for this type of analysis. It may be necessary to contact the Kentucky State Police Laboratory in the appropriate region prior to submission.
- II. Suitability
  - A. The investigating officer should contact the Kentucky State Police Laboratory prior to submitting scene photographs (i.e. scene overview, areas of staining, stains, and close-up stains with scale) and/or items that may be submitted for this type of analysis.

- B. The investigating officer should request this type of analysis at the time of submission, prior to other analysis, if particular items (i.e., clothing) are to be considered for this type of analysis.

### **Serology Case Acceptance**

- I. Service
  - A. Serology analysis will only be performed for the agencies served by the Kentucky State Police Division of Forensic Services (i.e., KSP, local PD's and Sherriff's offices, prosecutors, and public defenders).
- II. Priority
  - A. Priority will be given to current cases involving a violent crime (i.e., murder, sexual assault, assault, or robbery).
  - B. The next priority will be given to current cases involving a property crime (i.e., arson, burglary, or other property crimes).
  - C. Cold cases will be given last priority.
  - D. Cases will typically be worked based on the case type and order in which the cases were received into the Kentucky State Police Laboratory system.
- III. Samples
  - A. Although many items of evidence may be collected throughout an investigation, only the most probative items should be submitted to the laboratory for analysis. Information provided prior to and/or at the time of submission should be written on the KSP 26 or added to the narrative in the BEAST LIMS system (i.e. specific additional case history for a relevant item, the name of the owner/wearer of an item and if the item was collected from or belonged to an individual, the collection location of an item). If additional items of evidence are available, an inventory of such may be submitted with the initial submission. All appropriate reference standards should be submitted and are not included in the total item counts below.
  - B. Murder/Death Investigation Cases
    1. Initial submission
      - a. One (1) to ten (10) items may be submitted; the investigating officer should indicate the order of importance for the items being submitted.
      - b. Additional items may be submitted on a case by case basis if specific information regarding the circumstances for those items (i.e., multiple victims and/or suspects) is provided by the investigating officer at the time of submission.
    2. Subsequent submission(s)
      - a. Communication between the analyst(s) working the case and the investigating officer/prosecutor should provide information as to the reason additional items may need to be submitted. The additional analysis request may need to be approved by the Laboratory Manager, Forensic Biology Casework Supervisor, or their designee(s).

### C. Sexual Assault Cases

#### 1. Initial submission

- a. Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit(s)
- b. Panties/underwear worn during/after the offense that were collected but not included in the kit should be submitted.
- c. Other clothing and/or bed linens should not normally be submitted during the initial submission.
- d. Additional items may be submitted for cases involving victims who may be incapable of providing information about their assault (i.e., young children, mentally disabled, or elderly); however, the investigating officer should notify the analyst of this circumstance at the time of submission.
- e. Additional items may be submitted on a case by case basis if specific information regarding the circumstances for those items (i.e., multiple suspects, no kit(s) was collected, or known ejaculation on a particular item) is provided by the investigating officer at the time of submission.

#### 2. Subsequent submission(s)

- a. Clothing and/or bed linens may be submitted after the initial analysis is completed if there is no probative evidence from the initial submission.
- b. Communication between the analyst and the investigating officer/prosecutor should provide information as to the reason any other additional items may need to be submitted. The additional analysis request may need to be approved by the Laboratory Manager, Forensic Biology Casework Supervisor, or their designee(s).

### D. Assault/Robbery/Arson/Burglary Cases

#### 1. Initial submission

- a. One (1) to five (5) items may be submitted; the investigating officer should indicate the order of importance for the items being submitted.
- b. Additional items may be submitted on a case by case basis if specific information about those items (i.e., multiple victims and/or suspects) is provided by the investigating officer at the time of submission.

#### 2. Subsequent submission(s)

- a. Communication between the analyst and the investigating officer/prosecutor should provide information as to the reason additional items may need to be submitted. The additional analysis request may need to be approved by the Laboratory Manager, Forensic Biology Casework Supervisor, or their designee(s).

### E. Other case types

1. The investigating officer should consult with a forensic biology analyst prior to submitting items to the Kentucky State Police Laboratory.

2. If the case is considered an acceptable case, reference Assault/Robbery/Arson/Burglary Cases submission guidelines.

#### IV. Incomplete Submissions

- A. Communication with the investigating officer to obtain the appropriate known DNA reference standards should be attempted and noted in the case file by the analyst working the case; however if the appropriate standards have not been received into the laboratory system prior to completion of the serological analysis report, the analyst shall report a statement similar to the following: "If DNA analysis is necessary, please resubmit Items X and Y, along with a standard from NAME."
- B. Incomplete serology submissions should not be forwarded for DNA analysis.
- C. If the appropriate known DNA reference standards are submitted to the laboratory prior to the release of the evidence to the investigating agency, those items may be forwarded for DNA analysis and should be noted in the case file without the need for an additional laboratory report or corrections to the previously issued report.

#### **Suitability**

- I. Stains which need to be determined as blood, semen, and/or saliva should be submitted to the appropriate laboratory for that region before being forwarded for DNA analysis.
- II. A hair screen, and if applicable a hair comparison, should be completed prior to DNA analysis on hair(s) and shall follow the Hair Comparison Acceptance Policy of the TR-QAM 14.3. Exceptions may need to be approved by the Laboratory Manager, Forensic Biology Casework Supervisor, or their designee(s). DNA analysis of hair may result in consumption of the item.
  - A. **Head hair, pubic hair, and/or facial hair (as applicable) standards should be collected as close to the offense date as possible and submitted if trace analysis may be requested (recommended for autopsies).**
- III. DNA analysis will generally be limited to suitable stains, hair, and reference standards.
- IV. Touch DNA items will generally be analyzed only if other items have not provided probative information.
  - A. Articles of clothing with other suitable stains or hair that provide an association to the offense may be submitted to determine the owner/wearer.
  - B. Items utilized as a weapon in violent offenses may be submitted. Suitable stains, hair, or analysis by another section in the laboratory may be required to make an association to the offense before being considered for analysis. Items collected from an individual/location to determine the owner (i.e. possession of a firearm) are generally not accepted.
  - C. Articles of clothing submitted to determine the owner/wearer which do not have other suitable stains or hair that provide an association to the offense will be considered for analysis on a case by case basis. Information as to the item's direct association to the scene is required when being considered for CODIS (i.e., witness statements or photographs).

- D. Items also requiring fingerprinting will be considered for analysis on a case by case basis. Consultation with AFIS may be appropriate.
  - E. Items collected from common areas (i.e. door knobs or countertops) are generally not accepted, but will be considered for analysis on a case by case basis with approval of a DNA analyst in advance of submission to the laboratory.
- V. Analysis of a sample is contingent upon the size, quality, and probative value of that sample. Samples that do not meet these criteria will be returned unexamined.

### **Reference Standards**

- I. **The appropriate known reference standards are required prior to the starting of DNA analysis. Cases for which there is no suspect, when a suspect has fled, or when an investigating officer cannot obtain a warrant for the collection of a suspect's standard may be exempt from this requirement. This information should be provided by the investigating officer at the time of submission. If this status changes, the investigating officer should notify the laboratory and submit any attainable standards.**
- II. Known reference standards may be a blood standard in either liquid or dried form or a buccal standard (swabbing from the inside of the cheek) collected from individuals. Known reference standards are required for comparison purposes prior to DNA analysis of unknown samples. Known reference standards from victim(s) and suspect(s) are generally required.
- III. Known reference standards for elimination purposes (i.e., spouse, companion, owners, or relatives) may also be requested.
- IV. Pseudo-standards may be accepted if an agency does not have enough probable cause to obtain a known DNA reference standard. Acceptable pseudo-standards include an empty cup, can, or bottle, or a cigarette butt collected from a controlled environment (i.e. interview). Information pertaining to the collection of these types of samples must be made available to the laboratory prior to analysis. Exceptions to the aforementioned pseudo-standards must be approved in advance of DNA analysis by a DNA analyst. Pseudo-standards will not reference a named individual on the report. If probable cause is later established, a known reference standard should be collected and submitted to the laboratory for analysis and comparison to the evidence in the case. **Pseudo-standards should not be submitted to the laboratory if there is enough probable cause for collection of a known DNA reference standard.**
- V. Comparison to known DNA reference standards for which analysis has been completed may be requested by an agency, these are considered paper comparisons.
  - A. Paper comparisons to evidence items submitted from the same agency that requested the analysis for the reference standard should submit a KSP 26 referencing the agency case number or laboratory number for comparison.

- B. Paper comparisons to evidence items submitted by an agency different than that which requested the analysis for the reference standard should submit a KSP 26 referencing the agency name/case number and laboratory number for comparison. In addition, the prosecuting attorney for the jurisdiction maintaining the evidence items should submit a letter authorizing the use of the reference standard from the other agency for comparison and acknowledging that there are no issues with the original chain of custody for the reference standard.  
Submissions of a KSP 26 for this purpose may be done so in person, via fax, or via email.
- VI. Touch DNA cases may require the submission of known DNA reference standards for elimination purposes from individual(s) who collected the evidence and as stated in section III.
- VII. An offender sample collected and submitted to the DNA Database Section of the Kentucky State Police Laboratory pursuant to (KRS 17.170) is not considered a suitable known reference standard for casework purposes.
- VIII. In the event that offender information is supplied as an investigative lead from a CODIS entry, a known DNA reference standard should be submitted for comparison to the evidence in the case.
- IX. Known DNA reference standards collected for casework purposes are not eligible for entry in CODIS.
- X. Unidentified human remains, missing person samples, or samples from relatives of missing persons may be submitted for analysis and entry into the Missing Person Index.

### **DNA Case Acceptance Policy**

#### I. Service

- A. DNA analysis will only be performed for the agencies served by the Kentucky State Police Division of Forensic Services (i.e., KSP, local PD's and Sherriff's offices, prosecutors, and public defenders).
- B. Costs for DNA analyses that are not offered by the Kentucky State Police Laboratory will generally be the responsibility of the agency and/or attorney submitting the evidence to the laboratory. A letter from the responsible party with approval and billing information should be submitted to the laboratory prior to the evidence being forwarded to a vendor laboratory for additional analysis.
- C. Fees associated with testimony (i.e. witness and travel) from the vendor laboratory are the responsibility of the agency submitting the evidence to the laboratory.
- D. Cases requiring hair analysis may take an extended period of time for analysis. At the discretion of the KSP Laboratories, these types of cases may be sent to the FBI for analysis at no cost to the submitting agency.

#### II. Priority

- A. Priority will be given to current cases involving a violent crime (i.e., murder, sexual assault, assault, or robbery).
- B. The next priority will be given to current cases involving a property crime (i.e., arson, burglary, or other property crimes).

- C. Touch DNA and cold cases will be given last priority.
- D. DNA Cases will typically be worked based on the case type and order in which the cases were received into the Kentucky State Police Laboratory system.
- E. Relationship testing (i.e. paternity, maternity) cases may be submitted to the Kentucky State Police Laboratories. Known DNA reference standards will generally be analyzed in-house, but product of conception or other unique evidence will be forwarded to a vendor laboratory for analysis. The following should be provided to the laboratory at the time of submission; however all required\* items must be received before any in-house analysis or submission to a vendor laboratory will be undertaken. Case scenarios requiring exceptions should be approved in advance.
  - i. \*Known DNA reference standards from the mother/alleged mother
  - ii. \*Known DNA reference standards from the alleged father
  - iii. \*Product of conception or known DNA reference standard from the child
  - iv. Other family Known DNA reference standards, as applicable
  - v. \*A letter from the prosecutor with explanation of the intent to prosecute
  - vi. \*The following information is necessary for relationship testing statistical analysis:
    - 1. the race of each individual
    - 2. if there is any known relatedness between the victim and suspect
  - vii. The following information should be provided:
    - 1. if any of the individuals have received a blood transfusion in the last three(3) months
    - 2. if any of the individuals have had a hematopoietic progenitor cell transplant (i.e. bone marrow transplant)
- F. Post-conviction cases may be submitted to the Kentucky State Police Laboratories for analysis (KRS 422.285).

### III. Samples

- A. Although many items of evidence may be collected throughout an investigation, only the most probative items should be submitted to the laboratory for analysis. Information provided prior to and/or at the time of submission should be written on the KSP 26 or added to the narrative in LIMS system (i.e. specific additional case history for a relevant item, the name of the owner/wearer of an item and if the item was collected from or belonged to an individual, the collection location of an item). If additional items of evidence are available, an inventory of such may be submitted with the initial submission. All appropriate reference standards should be submitted and are not included in the total item counts below. The number of samples for DNA analysis may differ depending upon serology results, information provided by the investigating officer, and/or the number of victim(s) or suspect(s). Not necessarily all samples submitted for DNA analysis will be analyzed.
- B. Murder/Death Investigation Cases
  - 1. One (1) to ten (10) items

- C. Sexual Assault Cases
  - 1. One (1) to three (3) items
- D. Assault/Robbery/Arson/Burglary Cases
  - 1. One (1) to three (3) items
- E. Other case types
  - 1. One (1) to three (3) items
- IV. Consumption (KRS 524.140)
  - A. Unknown Suspect – If consumption of an item is deemed necessary to continue its analysis, the laboratory will request in writing that the investigating officer/attorney provide a letter advising that no suspect has been determined for the associated case, and authorizing consumption of the item. Analysis will not proceed until such a letter has been received by the laboratory..
  - B. Known Suspect – If the consumption of an item is deemed necessary to continue its analysis, the laboratory will request in writing that both the prosecutor and defense provide a letter authorizing the consumption, or that a judge provide an order compelling the analysis to continue. Analysis will not proceed until such a letter/order has been received by the laboratory.
- V. Combined DNA Index System (CODIS)
  - A. Profiles eligible for CODIS will be entered at the time of analysis.
  - B. The investigating officer should contact the analyst regarding CODIS pending profiles.
  - C. An item does not have to be eligible for CODIS to be analyzed; however, if a sample is not eligible for CODIS, the required known DNA reference standards must be submitted prior to DNA analysis.
- VI. Incomplete Submissions
  - A. Cases requiring DNA analysis only should not be submitted to the laboratory without the appropriate known DNA reference standards.
  - B. If a submission is received, communication with the investigating officer to obtain the appropriate known DNA reference standards should be attempted and noted in the case file; however if the appropriate standards have not been received into the laboratory system the assigned analyst shall report a statement similar to the following: "If DNA analysis is necessary, please resubmit Items X and Y, along with a standard from NAME."
  - C. If the appropriate known DNA reference standards are submitted to the laboratory prior to the release of the evidence to the investigating agency, those items may be forwarded for DNA analysis and should be noted in the case file without the need for an additional laboratory report or corrections to the previously issued report.

**Evidence should be submitted to the laboratory promptly and once adequate information has been obtained.**

**If a case no longer requires analysis, the submitting agency should notify the laboratory as soon as possible to ensure that cases are not unnecessarily worked.**



## Forensic Biology Case Acceptance Policies – Quick Reference Guide

### Serology

#### Murder/Death Investigation Cases

1. Initial submission  
One (1) to ten (10) items, should indicate the order of importance for the items being submitted; additional items may be submitted on a case by case basis (i.e., multiple victims and/or suspects)
2. Subsequent submission(s)  
Additional items may be submitted after communication between the analyst and the investigating officer/prosecutor

#### Sexual Assault Cases

1. Initial submission  
Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit(s) along with panties/underwear worn during/after the offense that were collected but not included in the kit; other clothing and/or bed linens should not normally be submitted during the initial submission; case by case exceptions – victims who may be incapable of providing information about their assault or cases with multiple suspects, no kit(s), or specific information about the item
2. Subsequent submission(s)  
Clothing and/or bed linens may be submitted after the initial analysis is completed if there is no probative evidence from the initial submission; additional items may be submitted after communication between the analyst and the investigating officer/prosecutor

#### Assault/Robbery/Arson/Burglary Cases

1. Initial submission  
One (1) to five (5) items, should indicate the order of importance for the items being submitted; additional items may be submitted on a case by case basis (i.e., multiple victims and/or suspects)
2. Subsequent submission(s)  
Additional items may be submitted after communication between the analyst and the investigating officer/prosecutor

#### Other case types

1. The investigating officer should consult with a forensic biology analyst prior to submitting items, if the case is considered an acceptable case, reference Assault/Robbery/Arson/Burglary Cases submission guidelines.

### Bloodstain Pattern Interpretation

Please contact the laboratory.

### DNA

All appropriate reference standards should be submitted and are not included in the total item counts below. The number of samples for DNA analysis may differ depending upon serology results, previous DNA results, information provided by the investigating officer, and the number of victim(s) or suspect(s). Not necessarily all samples submitted for DNA analysis will be analyzed.

#### Murder/Death Investigation Cases

One (1) to ten (10) items

#### Sexual Assault/Assault/Robbery/Arson/Burglar/Other/Touch DNA

One (1) to three (3) items

**If a case no longer requires analysis, the submitting agency should notify the laboratory as soon as possible to ensure that cases are not unnecessarily worked.**

## DELIVERING EVIDENCE TO THE LABORATORY

The evidence should be sent to the laboratory as soon as possible. Use Appendix A for determining the nearest laboratory providing the desired services. The analyst receiving the evidence shall begin an internal chain of custody for the case and evidence acceptance.

All evidence brought to the Forensic Laboratory by evidence contributors shall be accepted for analysis when meeting the following criteria:

1. Evidence needs to be submitted to the laboratory either in person, by the United States Postal Service, or by commercial carriers (Federal Express, United Parcel Service, etc.). Qualified Forensic Laboratory personnel shall receive the evidence or when appropriate provide secure drop boxes. Parcel post and regular mail can not be traced and are not recommended due to chain of custody issues, which may arise in court. When evidence is mailed to the lab, mark the package to the attention of whatever section (Controlled Substances, Forensic Biology, Firearms, etc.) to which it would be assigned. Unmarked packages arriving at the lab may not be recognized as evidence, resulting in a receptionist signing for the package. Before mailing firearms and live ammunition, please refer to [page 29](#) for proper procedures.
2. Evidence requiring latent print/fingerprint analysis should only be sent to the AFIS Section which is housed within the KSP Criminal Identification & Records Section. See Appendix A for AFIS contact information and mailing address.
3. A Forensic Laboratory Request for Examination (KSP 26 or pre-log) or an Evidence Collection Kit Information Form should accompany all evidence. The form is available at all laboratory locations, KSP posts and the KSP website. Submitting officers will be asked to sign this form at the time it is received in the laboratory. If evidence received by the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier does not contain a Forensic Laboratory Request for Examination (KSP 26 or pre-log) or Evidence Collection Kit Information Form, the analyst accepting the evidence will notify the submitting officer/agency and request a completed Forensic Laboratory Request for Examination (KSP 26 or pre-log). *If the form is not received within 7 calendar days, then evidence will be returned unexamined.*
4. All evidence needs to be properly sealed with evidence tape, heat sealed, or sealed using self-seal adhesive "evidence bags". Heat sealed, or self-seal "evidence bags" containing adhesive should be initialed along the seal. All other packages should be initialed across package and tape so that the writing falls on both the tape and the container. All initials should be legible. If evidence has been received at the laboratory that is not properly sealed and the submitting/property officer is not present, then it shall be sealed and documented by the receiving analyst.
5. The receiving analyst shall legibly sign the Forensic Laboratory Request for Examination (KSP-26 or pre-log) or Evidence Collection Kit Information Form with their name (or initials), date, time, what items/packages were received, how the

items/packages were received, from whom they were received, and condition of the evidence (i.e. improperly sealed).

6. The information from the Forensic Laboratory Request for Examination (KSP-26 or pre-log) or Evidence Collection Kit Information Form shall be used to log into the Forensic Laboratory Information System and obtain a unique laboratory number. This number will be used to track the evidence from receipt to release.
7. An identifying mark, such as the case number, submitting officer or victim/suspect name, must be present on both the evidence and the KSP Forensic Laboratory Examination Request Form (KSP-26 or pre-log).
8. Trained Forensic Laboratory personnel may forward evidence for further testing when the Forensic Laboratory does not provide necessary services requested.

## **BEAST LIMS (Laboratory Information Management Systems)**

The Kentucky State Police Forensic Laboratory utilizes the laboratory information system called "Beast" to maintain chain of custody, maintain electronic case records, generate laboratory reports and provide authorized individuals remote access to completed laboratory reports, case status, and pre-log capabilities.

Permission to access the secured website must be made by a law enforcement agency or authorizing individual within the judicial system for a username, password, and internet address. Inquiries can be sent to:

Laboratory System Director  
Kentucky State Police-Central Forensic Laboratory  
100 Sower Blvd., Suite 102  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
Attn: Beast Access Request  
502-564-5230

Laboratory reports will not be mailed on a regular basis to reduce paper and postage usage. Contact the laboratory in your region if you have a question about the progress of a case.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

The law enforcement community must constantly review its mission to determine the appropriate use of the photographic medium. This review necessarily demands that a variety of possible areas be explored, because photographic duties and goals will differ in given instances.

### **Value**

An extremely important application of photography in law enforcement involves the pictorial documentation of crime scene locations. Because a complete visual recording of the scene is needed to insure a thorough investigation and subsequent prosecution, there are theoretical, legal and technical problems, which are to be studied prior to the on-site photography. A series of poorly planned, executed, and displayed photographs have the potential to adversely affect the success of other efforts of the crime scene investigation. Therefore, crime scene photography is an integral facet of the entire investigation process.

### **Information Determined**

The obvious purpose of crime scene photography is to set forth a visual record of the crime scene and all its pertinent features. However, the best example of the role of photography is the presentation of a logical "story" as told by the scene in visual form.

### **Collection**

Before a systematic depiction of the scene can be made with photography, the purpose and basic initial rules are to be discussed as background for a comprehensive approach. The first idea to be considered is that the scene must be undisturbed, to the extent reasonably possible, prior to the taking of photographs. This will assist in the establishment that the conditions as portrayed in the pictures truly illustrate the original and uncontaminated features of the scene. Also, numerous pictures should be taken with the idea that the cost of film does not override the immense value of completeness. When in doubt, take the photograph. Hindsight will not be a comfort when a part of the scene, which appeared to have no significance, was not photographed and becomes of immense importance at a later date.

A sequence of photographs showing all pertinent locations in an organized manner must be compiled. As a basic guideline, the subject matter should be represented by a progression of "general to specific," in essence, from three major vantage points: 1) long-range, 2) mid-range, and 3) close-up. In addition, each state of the commission of the crime must be treated and photographed separately. A jury in the courtroom could be logically presented, for example, with a compilation of pictures illustrating the subject's approach to the scene, entrance into the scene, commission of the crime, and departure from the scene.

A measurement scale must be used when photographing elements of the crime scene for size and distance relationships. Whenever practical, measuring devices should appear in the photographs. However, the subject matter should first be photographed in an "as is" condition prior to added markers.

Follow-up photographs represent an outgrowth of the crime scene investigation. Autopsy photographs and photographs of a live victim or suspect to show bruises or wounds are prime examples of this category. An integration of the information recorded at the actual scene and in follow-up areas will reveal a greater depth of understanding of the realities of the crime scene. Most importantly, photographing the physical evidence at the scene will be a major component in establishing the chain of custody of items introduced in the courtroom.

Because of the number and types of photographs, which are normally taken at a thorough crime scene search, a photographic log should be kept. The following information should be included:

1. Identity of photographer
2. Date and time
3. Specific location of crime
4. Orientation and description of photographic scene
5. Type of camera
6. Type of film (or digital image)
7. Light source
8. Distance from camera to subject
9. Environmental conditions
10. Focal length of lens
11. Shutter speed
12. Lens aperture

This information will assist the photographer in establishing the details of the crime scene in a detailed and professional manner in the courtroom. Additionally, the log will assist in the chemical development of the negatives (or archiving the electronic file) and photographs. Added to the log at a later date should be information concerning where the film was processed and printed. Security of the negatives (or electronic file) should also be established.

No matter how extensive the photographic efforts at the crime scene, photographs must stand the test of legal admissibility. The general standards used to review the credibility of the photographs are:

1. Accurate representations
2. Free of distortion
3. Material and relevant
4. Unbiased

If a photograph is deemed to depict only the gruesome nature of the scene to excite the emotions of the viewer, then its potential to prejudice the viewer may outweigh its value as a purveyor of truth. Additionally, the distortion represented in the photograph may be so prominent that the accuracy and reliability of the photograph is severely questioned. To contend with the issue of distortion in photographs, the best situation is to have the person who actually took the photograph testify concerning the inherent accuracy of the photographs.

Even a person who possesses a detailed level of photographic expertise is not necessarily qualified to be a crime scene photographer. Photographing a scene involves an understanding of all aspects of difficulties which can exist. If these aspects are not thoroughly examined and understood, the photographic product of a crime scene can actually harm the prosecution of a case. The person holding the camera must be aware of the theory of crime scene photography, which will then be combined with the practical and equipment operation segments of the task.

## **FIREARM IDENTIFICATION**

The Firearms Identification Section, often mistakenly referred to as “Ballistics”, is responsible for the examination of firearms, bullets, fired cartridge cases, ammunition components, victim clothing (powder patterns) and any other firearm related item. Associations between some of these items as well as other determinations can be made based on microscopic comparisons and analytical observations. The Central, Eastern and Jefferson Laboratory locations currently have firearms sections.

Examinations for biological evidence or latent fingerprints **MUST** be done prior to submission to the Firearms Identification Section. Biological and latent fingerprint evidence **WILL BE DESTROYED** during the examinations conducted by the Firearms Identification Section. Firearms identification concerns itself primarily with the comparison of bullets and cartridge cases in an attempt to identify the individual firearm from which they were fired. Other examinations conducted under the discipline of firearms identification include muzzle to target distance tests, functional tests to determine if a firearm functions properly and comparisons of bullets and cartridge cases from unsolved murders.

### **Value**

The examination of evidence collected from shooting scenes can assist the investigation by providing conclusive information as to the source or potential source of fired components and to support or contradict statements made by witnesses and suspects. Trajectory analysis and muzzle to target determinations can assist with the crime scene reconstruction. Some examples of information that can be provided by Firearm Section examinations include some of the following:

### **Information Determined**

#### **Firearms**

- Determine if the item is a functional firearm.
- Determine if all safety aspects of the item are operating properly.
- Documentation of the condition of the item as received for future reference as the investigation progresses or during court proceedings.
- Measure the force needed to operate the trigger.
- Other appropriate miscellaneous examinations that may be necessary.

#### **Bullets**

- Through microscopic comparisons of the markings engraved on the item during the firing process, positive identifications can be made to a particular suspect firearm.



- If no firearm has been recovered, multiple bullets can be associated as having been fired from a single source and a list of possible firearms can be generated based on the rifling characteristics.
- The manufacturer, caliber and likely source cartridge designation of the item can be determined.
- Detailed documentation of the item's condition as received as well as other aspects for future reference as the investigation progresses or during court proceedings.
- Any other miscellaneous requested examination.
- Bullets typically cannot be conclusively associated with fired cartridge cases.

### **Cartridges and Cartridge Cases (including Shot shells)**

- Through microscopic comparisons of the markings impressed or engraved into the items during the cycling and/or firing process, positive identifications can be made to a particular suspect firearm.
- If no suspect firearm has been recovered, expended cartridge cases can be identified as having been fired in the same firearm and a possible make of that firearm may be determined.
- Markings made during the manufacturing process can be used to associate unfired cartridges or fired cases with each other. These types of associations are of varying significance depending on cartridge type and brand.
- Cartridge cases typically cannot be conclusively associated with the bullets once fired.

### **Shot and, Wadding**

- The size and type of shot recovered can be determined.
- The manufacture and gauge of the wadding can be determined.
- Associations of recovered components to evidence ammunition can be made based on similarities in manufacture, size, materials and configuration. These are class associations only and are not individual identifications.
- In some instances plastic wad components can be associated to a firearm based on microscopic comparison of the markings left by the barrel of a shotgun. Typically these types of comparisons are possible whenever the barrel has been shortened using crude techniques.

### **Shot Patterns**

The distance from which a shotgun was fired can be determined by comparing the pellet pattern on an evidence item to test patterns made at known distances using the suspect shotgun and evidence or similar ammunition. These examinations require submission of recovered ammunition and a complete evidence pellet pattern along with the suspect firearm.

### **Muzzle to Target Distance Determinations Gunpowder Patterns**

These types of examinations are typically performed on victim's clothing; often mistakenly referred to as "Gunshot Residue Exam" and thus confused with the Gunshot Residue Analysis conducted by the Trace Evidence Section. The primary difference is the goal of this examination is not to conclusively detect the presence of gunshot residues but to visually examine and chemically treat the area around a bullet hole to develop a pattern that can be compared or interpreted.

Whenever a firearm is discharged, material including lead, copper, burned and unburned gunpowder is expelled from the muzzle along with the bullet. This material can be deposited on articles, depending on the range from the muzzle, forming a pattern. Discharges from contact range will exhibit certain characteristic physical effects in addition to possible material from the muzzle. Once examined and visualized through chemical development, the evidence pattern can be compared to test patterns made at known distances. Test patterns must be made using the suspect firearm and evidence or similar ammunition. If a comparable evidence pattern is developed, a bracketed distance estimate may be reported.

The following circumstances may prevent a pattern from being observed:

- The discharge occurred beyond the maximum distance that residues would be deposited by a particular firearm/ammunition combination.
- Atmospheric conditions may wash away or dissolve any muzzle residue present.
- Excessive bleeding could dissolve and/or wash away any muzzle residue present.
- Excessive or rough handling of the garment could dislodge many of the particles making up the pattern.
- An intervening object such as a pillow or car window may have been present and blocked the particles from reaching the victim's clothing.

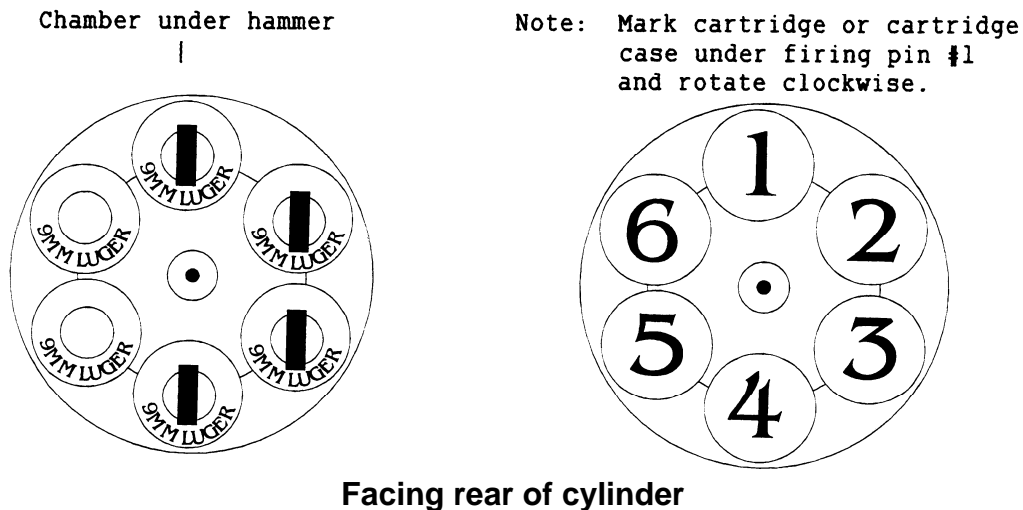
### **Collection and packaging**

When handling and packaging firearms, extreme caution should be observed following standard firearm safety practices. As with any submission to the Laboratory all evidence items must be inside a properly sealed container. Use the following steps as a guide when submitting firearms evidence.

#### **Firearms**

- Loaded firearms should **NEVER** be routinely submitted to the Forensic Laboratory. There are certain circumstances which require submission of a loaded firearm; **ALWAYS** speak with a Firearms Examiner to receive approval and arrange for them to be present before bringing a loaded evidence firearm to the Laboratory.
- When submitting revolvers, if possible, indicate the position of the cylinder as well as the chamber from which each cartridge or cartridge case was unloaded. This can be done by marking the cylinder on each side of the top strap (that part of the frame directly above the cylinder) and numbering each cartridge or cartridge case as it is removed. A diagram indicating cartridge/cartridge case positions can be made and submitted with the firearm.

Diagram to be made by officer recovering revolver:



- Mark the containers for all cartridges and cases with initials, date and exhibit / item numbers to correspond with the numbered chambers in the diagram.
- The same procedure should be followed with ammunition recovered from auto loading firearms, indicating on the container which cartridge was recovered from the chamber and the position of each cartridge in the magazine. Place live ammunition in a container separating it from the firearm.
- Mark on the outside of the container appropriate information regarding the firearm; if necessary attach any evidence tags to the trigger guard.
- If it is desired to place an object within the action for visual unloaded verification, it is strongly recommended to use a non-metallic object which should never be placed in or through the barrel. Attach an evidence tag to the trigger guard of each firearm and mark with appropriate information.
- If mailing the firearm, package it in a rigid container and realize that FEDERAL LAW PROHIBITS SENDING LIVE AMMUNITION THROUGH THE U.S. MAIL.
- When DNA, trace or latent fingerprint analysis is requested, these should be conducted PRIOR to the item being submitted to the Firearms Identification Section.

### Bullets

The portion of the cartridge that is propelled down range, sometimes referred to as projectiles or more correctly as bullets; they may be fragmented upon recovery.

- During collection no metal tools should be used to extract the bullets as these could disturb the rifling markings that will be used for comparison.
- After collection it is recommended that bullets be dry before packaging.
- Once dry, wrap each in an individual package; the outer package should be a rigid container of some type.
- Appropriate identifying markings should be placed on each individual package.

- It is not absolutely necessary to mark an evidence bullet but, if desired, mark the bullet on the nose or the base, NEVER on the cylindrical portion or sides.
- When DNA, trace or latent fingerprint analysis is requested, these should be conducted PRIOR to the item being submitted to the Firearms Identification Section.

### **Cartridges and Cartridge Cases (including Shotshells)**

Cartridges are unfired rounds of ammunition, which contain components including a bullet, primer, powder, and cartridge case. A cartridge casing is the remaining component either in the firearm or at the shooter's general location after the cartridge is fired.

- After collection it is recommended that each cartridge or cartridge case is dry before being packaged.
- Once dry, an unfired cartridge case should be wrapped in clean tissue paper and placed in a suitable container.
- Appropriate identifying markings should be placed on each container.
- When applicable, any unfired ammunition recovered at a scene should be submitted to the laboratory.
- It is not absolutely necessary to mark an evidence cartridge or casing but, if desired, DO NOT mark the item on the head, primer or near the rim; instead mark near the mouth of the casing taking care not to disturb any other markings present.
- When DNA, trace or latent fingerprint analysis is requested, these should be conducted PRIOR to the item being submitted to the Firearms Identification Section.

### **Shot and Wadding**

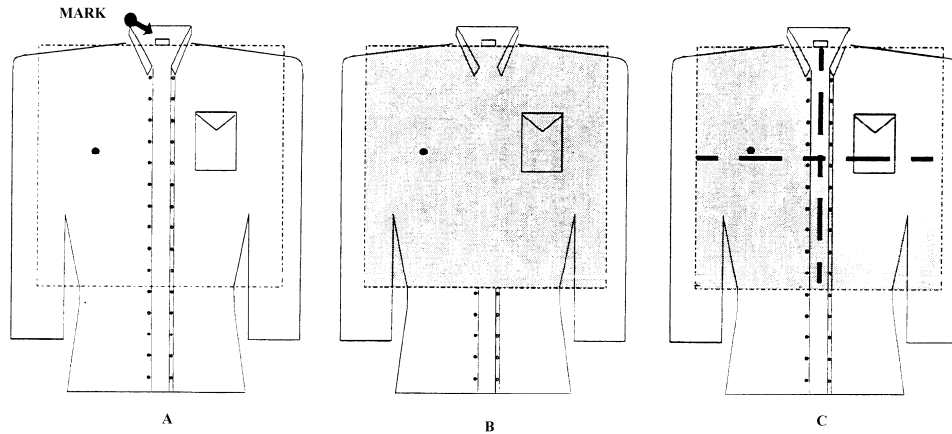
- Recover as much of the shot material as possible.
- Do not damage the shot when recovering.
- Recover all wadding.
- It is recommended items be dry before being packaged.
- Once dry, place pellets and wads from different locations in separate containers.
- Appropriate identifying marks should be placed on the containers. DO NOT mark pellets or wads.

### **Shot Patterns**

- If a shot pattern is present at the crime scene which cannot be submitted to the laboratory, such as a wall, car, house, etc., scaled photographs should be taken before removal of the shot material.

### **Muzzle to Target Distance Determinations**

- If articles of clothing are to be forwarded to the laboratory for a muzzle to target distance determination, make sure it has been air dried before packaging.
- Place cardboard or paper inside the garment (see diagram A below) and when applicable, close the front of the garment.
- Position the garment inside two pieces of cardboard so as to fix the position of the garment inside (B).
- If the item must be folded, fold only twice as shown by broken line (C). Fold arms over outside of cardboard or paper; one in front and one in back.
- Package each article individually in paper. DO NOT use plastic bags.



### **Shipment**

Live ammunition CANNOT be sent by U.S. mail. Firearms, and then only if unloaded (i.e. with no live ammunition) can be sent only via U.S. registered mail. Live ammunition should be hand-carried to laboratory. In special circumstances, UPS may be the only legal way to ship ammunition when other means are not possible. For UPS shipments the package must be marked "ORM-D" and "CARTRIDGES, SMALL ARMS" on all sides. If any clothing is to be sent that is stained with blood or other body fluids, the package must be marked "BIOHAZARD" or possess a biohazard label. Bloody clothing must be dried prior to shipment.

## **GUNSHOT RESIDUE ANALYSIS-by ICP-MS**

Many cartridges, when fired, produce a residue from the primer containing barium, antimony, and lead. This residue can escape from the cylinder gap, the ejection port or the muzzle of a weapon. It can adhere to the hands of a subject that has fired a weapon, handled an object with gunshot residue on it, or was in close proximity to a discharging weapon. The examination itself cannot determine the relative likelihood of these listed actions.

### **Value**

Finding significant amounts of antimony, barium and lead on an individual's hand is indicative of gunshot residue. This means that the individual could have done one or more of the following three things:

- Discharged a weapon
- Handled an object with gunshot residue on it
- Been in close proximity to a discharging weapon

\*However, this does not eliminate the possibility of other sources of exposure.

The absence of gunshot residue on an individual's hand(s) does not eliminate the possibility that he or she could have handled an object with gunshot residue on it, discharged a weapon, or been in close proximity to a discharging weapon.

### **Information Determined**

The amounts of antimony, barium, and lead are determined by Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry at the Central Forensic Laboratory. These elements are components of most primers of ammunition. The manufacturers of .22 caliber ammunition maintain that only Federal ammunition contains antimony. Gunshot residue samples should still be collected when .22 ammunition has been used.

### **Collection of sample**

The Kentucky State Police Forensic Laboratory provide Gunshot Residue Kits consisting of the following:

- Five swabs in a zip-lock plastic bag
- Five zip-lock plastic bags labeled for the samples needed
- One small, disposable vial containing a 5% solution of nitric acid
- One pair of plastic gloves
- One piece of Evidence Tape

These are in a pre-labeled envelope for the Central Forensic Laboratory. A set of instructions and a copy of the laboratory Request for Examination form are also enclosed.

The procedure for taking the samples properly is as follows:

1. The officer performing the swabbing should thoroughly wash his hands with soap and water and dry them with a clean towel immediately before swabbing the subject's hands.
2. After drying hands, the officer should put on the gloves supplied with this kit to prevent contamination. Gloves need to be changed when collecting swabs from multiple subjects.
3. If at any time during the swabbing procedure the hand of the collecting officer should come in contact with the moistened cotton end of the swab or the suspect's hands, the officer's hands should be thoroughly washed in soap and water before the next swab is used. In cases in which the same person is swabbing the hands of more than one suspect, it is necessary for the collector to wash his hands between working with each subject.
4. Remove one of the cotton swabs from the unmarked plastic bag (the one with no label) and moisten it with four (4) drops of the 5% nitric acid solution (the dilute acid). Immediately place this swab in the plastic bag labeled "control" and fill in the information requested. NOTE: USE ONLY THOSE SWABS PROVIDED IN THE KITS. Swabs with wooden shafts will be returned unexamined.
5. Remove another swab and moisten it with the acid solution as in step 4. Use this swab to thoroughly scrub the back of the right hand, including the back of the thumb, index finger, and the connecting web area. For best results, the officer should hold the suspect's arm above the wrist with one hand and swab with the other hand using pressure to remove as much residue as possible. Place the used swab in the plastic bag labeled "right back" and fill in the information requested.
6. Remove another swab, moisten as in step 4, and thoroughly scrub the suspect's right palm and finger area. Place this swab in the plastic bag labeled "right palm" and fill in the information requested.
7. Repeat steps 5 and 6 in the same manner using the left hand of the suspect.
8. It is not recommended that the officer collect GSR swabs from living subjects if a four (4) hour period has elapsed since the shooting has occurred. Studies have shown that reliable results generally will not be obtained from live subjects more than four hours after handling or discharging a firearm.
9. FILL OUT THE INFORMATION SHEET AND PLACE IT INTO THE KIT.
10. The officer should now have one control swab and four hand swabs collected and ready for transport to the laboratory. Fill out the information for each swab in the envelope provided. Place the swabs and information sheet into the envelope. Place the evidence seal over the envelope flap, initial on the tape and bring or mail used kit to the laboratory. NOTE: DO NOT RETURN ACID BOTTLE.

11. If rush results are needed, please contact the Central Forensic Laboratory in Frankfort. Reports will be available on the BEAST website when completed.

### **GUNSHOT RESIDUE ANALYSIS-by SEM/EDS**

Gunshot residue is formed by the ignition of the primer mixture when a firearm is discharged. This results in the formation of microscopic particles that are blown out of various openings in the firearm.

Gunshot residue particles usually have a spheroidal and noncrystalline morphology. Particles characteristic of gunshot residue are typically composed of antimony, barium, and lead. Particles consistent with gunshot residue can have a combination of two of the three elements listed above. These particles are consistent with gunshot residue, but may also originate from other sources. The composition of gunshot residue can have other elemental compositions not listed here depending on the type of ammunition and firearm involved.

Gunshot residue can be deposited on the hands by: firing a weapon, handling a weapon, being in the proximity of a discharging weapon or coming into contact with an object with gunshot residue on it. The examination itself cannot determine the relative likelihood of these listed actions.

The morphology and elemental composition of particles on the adhesive lifts are determined by scanning electron microscopy/energy-dispersive x-ray spectrometry (SEM/EDS) at the Central Forensic Laboratory.

The Kentucky State Police Forensic Laboratory provides Gunshot Residue Adhesive Lifter Kits (GSR-SEM/KY [Q]) consisting of the following:

1. Instruction sheet
2. Gunshot Residue Analysis Information Form
3. One pair of gloves
4. Two (2) adhesive lifters (right hand and left hand)
5. Police Evidence seal



## **Collection of Sample Guidelines**

### **Gunshot Residue from the Hands:**

Follow the specific instructions included in the KSP (adhesive lift) GSR-SEM kits. Always sample the hands of a suspect as soon as possible. Collect gunshot residue samples at the scene whenever possible. If collection at the scene is not possible, then bag the hands of the suspect before transporting in a police vehicle.

If possible, always wash your hands before collecting the samples. Always wear the gloves included in the kit. Do not substitute with other gloves.

Avoid touching the surface to be sampled. Avoid wet or bloody areas.

Gunshot residue particles are continually lost from the hands due to normal activity. The optimal window of opportunity for sampling the hands of a living individual is up to 4 hours after the shooting incident. The Kentucky State Police will not analyze gunshot residue adhesive lifts collected from the hands of a living individual if 4 hours have passed since the shooting incident. Please refer to the case acceptance policy section.

### **Gunshot Residue from Clothing:**

Sample collection depends on the item(s) to be sampled such as: size, condition, and prior handling. Additional factors can influence the number of samples collected and where to sample, such as: preservation of other evidence (DNA, other trace evidence), known case circumstances, requirements of the investigation, and retention of GSR.

The most likely areas to sample include, but are not limited to:

- Right and left cuffs and wrists of long sleeved shirts or jackets
- Right and left shoulders if a long gun is used
- Pockets – if it is known the subject placed his or her hands in pockets
- Back waistband – if it is believed that is where the gun was carried
- Gloves (sample like hands)

It is preferred that clothing be sent to the laboratory for the collection of possible gunshot residue. However, if clothing cannot be removed immediately from the subject (before placing in a police vehicle), then the clothing should be sampled at the scene to minimize contamination and the loss of GSR.

If clothing is removed from the subject for submission to the laboratory, it is recommended that the subject remove the item himself/herself and place it into a large paper evidence bag. Properly seal the paper evidence bag for submission to the Central Forensic Laboratory. Never store any GSR evidence near a firearm, firearm components or any surface that may have been exposed to firearms.

Use the Gunshot Residue Adhesive Lifter Kit (GSR-SEM/KY [Q]) to sample the area(s) of interest. Simply strike out "right hand" and/or "left hand" and write in the area being sampled.

Collection:

1. If possible, wash your hands before collecting sample(s). Put on the gloves included in the kit. Do not substitute with other gloves.
2. Carefully remove the cap from the vial labeled with the area to be sampled.
3. Depending on the type of firearm used by the subject, while holding the vial cap, press the adhesive lifter to the appropriate area(s) of the clothing. This is repeated until the adhesive lifter is no longer sticky.
4. Put the cap back on the labeled vial after sampling the area. These steps can be repeated, as needed, with a new adhesive lifter for other areas of the same piece of clothing. Make sure each adhesive lifter is labeled with the area that was sampled.
5. A new GSR-SEM adhesive lifter kit is used for each piece of clothing.
6. After each area of the item is sampled, the adhesive lifter is sealed. Place lift(s) back into the GSR-SEM kit. Fill out the Gunshot Residue Analysis Information form and return to the kit box. Place the Police Evidence seal on the box, then initial seal. Mail or hand deliver the sealed kit, along with a KSP 26, to the Central Forensic Laboratory.

Do not submit clothing from any subject that has sustained a gunshot wound. Only submit clothing (outer garments) that may have been exposed to gunshot residue. Please refer to the case acceptance policy section.

Analysis of gunshot residue particles collected from clothing can be problematic. There is no way to determine how long gunshot residue may remain on clothing. Studies have shown that clothing may retain some gunshot residue particles after washing.

NOTE: Clothing from any subject that has a bullet hole may be submitted to the Firearms section for distance determination. Please refer to the Firearm Identification section of this guide. The GSR-SEM kits cannot be used for muzzle-to-target distance determination.

**Gunshot Residue from Vehicles:**

If a vehicle is suspected to have been used in a drive-by shooting, used by the shooter to leave the scene of a crime, or shots were fired inside a vehicle, samples can be collected for gunshot residue analysis.

If a vehicle is suspected to have been used in a drive-by shooting, samples can be taken from the exterior and interior surfaces around the window. However, smooth surfaces and areas exposed to the wind from an open window are less likely to retain gunshot residue particles.

If the shooter uses a vehicle to leave the scene of a crime, contact areas within the vehicle, such as the steering wheel, gearshift lever, and door handles are good areas to sample.

If the weapon is discharged inside a vehicle, GSR is usually found on most surfaces inside the vehicle. However, areas exposed to the wind from an open window are less likely to retain gunshot residue particles.

Precautions should be taken before collecting samples from vehicles. If the vehicle is also to be sampled for other evidence (fingerprints, DNA, other trace) a strategy of sampling for each type of evidence has to be established to prevent possible contamination and loss of ALL evidence.

If samples from exterior surfaces of the vehicle are required, they should be sampled as soon as possible at the scene.

Use the Gunshot Residue Adhesive Lifter Kit (GSR-SEM/KY [Q]) to sample the area(s) of interest. Simply strike out "right hand" and/or "left hand" and write in the area being sampled.

Collection:

1. If possible, wash your hands before collecting sample(s). Put on the gloves included in the kit. Do not substitute with other gloves.
2. Carefully remove the cap from the vial labeled with the area to be sampled.
3. Depending on the circumstances, while holding the vial cap, press the adhesive lifter to the appropriate area(s) of the vehicle. This is repeated until the adhesive lifter is no longer sticky.
4. Put the cap back on the labeled vial after sampling the area. These steps can be repeated, as needed, with a new adhesive lifter for other areas of the vehicle. Make sure each adhesive lifter is labeled with the area that was sampled.
6. After each area of the vehicle is sampled, the adhesive lifter is sealed. Place lift(s) back into the GSR-SEM kit. Fill out the Gunshot Residue Analysis Information form and return to the kit box. Place the Police Evidence seal on the box, then initial seal. Mail or hand deliver the sealed kit, along with a KSP 26, to the Central Forensic Laboratory.

It is not necessary to submit multiple kits from a single vehicle since it is not possible to determine the position where the shooter was firing from by gunshot residue analysis.

**Submission Reminders:**

Fill out the Gunshot Residue Analysis Information form as completely as possible and return with the kit.

Fill out a KSP 26 when submitting the evidence to the laboratory.

The kits may be mailed or hand delivered to the Central Forensic Laboratory.

NOTE: GSR-SEM adhesive lifter kits should be taken on victims of shootings. However, they should not be submitted to the laboratory for analysis. Please see the case acceptance policy below.

**Case Acceptance Policy: GSR-SEM ONLY**

The information below is the case acceptance policy for the GSR-SEM adhesive lift kits for gunshot residue analysis. This information is to assist an agency in the submission of evidence for gunshot residue analysis.

In some circumstances, the analysis of samples for GSR will provide NO additional investigative information. The following evidence will NOT routinely be analyzed for GSR.

1. GSR kits collected from ALL victims (including suicides).\*
2. GSR kits collected from live subjects after 4 hours have passed since the shooting incident.
3. GSR kits collected from subjects that are known to have washed their hands prior to samples being taken.
4. GSR kits collected from subjects apprehended in the possession of a firearm.
5. Clothing worn at the time a subject is shot.
6. GSR kits collected from clothing of subjects that have sustained a gunshot wound.

NOTE: When adhesive lifts from the hands and clothing from the same subject are submitted for gunshot residue analysis, the clothing will only be analyzed if the adhesive lifts from the hands test negative for GSR.

\*Written or electronic communication between the analyst and the prosecutor should provide information as to the reason any victim kits should be submitted.

GSR analysis may be completed if the case information presented explains the investigative value gained from GSR analysis.

Evidence that is received and not analyzed for any of the above reasons will be reported as not analyzed.

## TOOLMARK IDENTIFICATION

Toolmark examinations are forensic comparisons to determine whether or not a particular tool can be associated with a mark left at a scene. Generally, when any two objects come in contact with sufficient force, the softer of the two will be characteristically marked, i.e., damaged, by the harder. These markings may be class in nature or individualized enough for an examiner to identify a suspect tool to a toolmark found at a scene of a crime.

The Firearm Identification Section conducts Toolmark Identification Analysis.

If submitted, tools are to be processed for biological or trace evidence or latent fingerprints, these examinations **MUST** be done **PRIOR** to submission to the Firearms Section.

### **Value**

Toolmark evidence can possibly link the suspect in possession of a tool to the scene of a crime. Assuming the conditions for collection and preservation have been met, an examiner can possibly identify a particular tool as having made the evidence mark. Do not submit tools found at the scene of a crime if you cannot associate a suspect to the evidence tool.

### **Information Determined**

An examination of a toolmark can possibly determine the type of tool used and if the mark is of value for comparative purposes. Most tools become individualized through use and or abuse and have the potential to leave marks of comparative value. Common toolmarks found at scenes include:

- Impressions produced by a perpendicular force acting against an object. Examples of tools that can make impressions include punches, hammers, and some gripping tools.
- Scrape marks that are made by moving the tool laterally across the object. Examples of such tools include flat bladed tools such as crowbars, pry bars and screwdrivers.
- Shearing or pinching marks that occur when the object is caught between opposing blades. Examples include bolt cutters, wire cutters, scissors and tin snips.

Generally, multi-toothed cutting blades such as saws, when used to completely cut through an object do not leave comparable marks; however, circumstances in which an incomplete cut is present may be of value.

### **Collection of Evidence**

Whenever possible, the actual evidence toolmark should be submitted to the lab. This may mean having to cut part of a doorway or window sill. Photographs depicting the mark as

found are often helpful for the examination as this allows the examiner to orient the action of the tool.

When collecting cut wire ends or other material that must be removed, ALWAYS indicate which end is the evidence cut and which was cut by the investigator.

If collection of the evidence bearing the actual mark is not practical, please perform the following steps:

- Photograph overall and close ups using oblique lighting
- Make moulage casts of each mark using forensic casting material such as Mikrosil or Forensic-Sil. These materials are non-destructive, providing the opportunity for multiple casting attempts. Do not use modeling clay or other materials that will not retain the necessary detail for comparison.
- Ensure no air bubbles are in the cast once removed; repeat the process if air bubbles are present.
- Do not package in plastic as the casts tend to sweat and degrade when sealed in plastic. Use small boxes or paper envelopes. Mark the packaging for later identification.

When collecting the suspect tool, make sure to wrap or package the working end of the tool to protect and retain any trace evidence that may be present. This could further link the tool to the toolmark. Always package the tool and the toolmark separately and never touch the suspect tool to the evidence.

### **Shipment**

Toolmark evidence can be mailed to the laboratory by registered mail if rigid containers are used. Please mark the evidence "Attention Firearms" and include the proper submission paperwork. In situations where large items of evidence are to be submitted, it may be necessary to hand carry them to the laboratory.

## **SERIAL NUMBER RESTORATION**

The serial numbers on firearms are often removed or altered in an attempt to prevent the identification of the original owner. The serial number can sometimes be restored depending on the degree of obliteration or alteration.

All modern firearms manufactured post 1968 are required by federal law to be stamped with a unique serial number. Many firearms, particularly shotguns and rifles made prior to the Gun Control Act of 1968 are not serialized so the absence of a serial number does not necessarily indicate an altered firearm.

When a number is stamped into a metal object, the properties of the metal are changed. Although the visible number may have been removed, often the altered metal has not. Several techniques exist that react with this altered metal revealing the original stamped number. This is commonly referred to as "raising the serial number", but the restored visible digits are not always permanent.

### **Value**

Restoration of an obliterated or altered serial number can possibly provide the information needed to trace the item back to its original owner or link a suspect to a crime scene.

### **Submission**

Many restoration kits are available for purchase; however, the process is destructive and not repeatable. If a restoration attempt has been made before submission to the laboratory, no further restoration can be done.

Forward any object to the laboratory properly marked and packaged for later identification. Contact the lab in your area if the evidence is too large to transport to the lab. Arrangements can possibly be made for an examiner to come to the evidence.

The laboratory does not routinely trace firearms through the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives using the restored serial number; this is the responsibility of the investigating officer once the restored number has been reported.

## SHOE PRINT and TIRE TREAD EVIDENCE

Shoeprint or tire tread impressions are routinely left at crime scenes. These impressions can be found on various surfaces in two-dimensional and three-dimensional forms. Almost all impressions, including partial impressions, have potential value for forensic comparisons. The examination of detailed shoeprint and tire tread impressions can possibly result in the identification of the suspect's shoes or tires from the suspect's vehicle.

Shoeprint and tire tread comparisons are conducted by the Firearm Identification Section.

### Photography and Collection of Evidence

Whenever possible, the item bearing the original print should be submitted for comparison; however, proper documentation of the print should always be conducted prior to collection. Most collection techniques are destructive in nature so it is critical photographs be taken prior to any collection attempt.

#### Photography

General crime scene photographs should be taken to relate the impression to the crime scene. Examination-quality photographs must be taken to obtain maximum detail for forensic examination. All impressions should be photographed using both methods.

- **General crime scene photographs** of shoeprint or tire tread impressions should include close-range and long-range photographs. These photographs should show the relationship of the impressions to the surrounding area.
- **Examination-quality photographs** should be taken using a tripod and oblique lighting. A scale must be in every photograph. The purpose of these photographs is to produce a natural size enlargement that can be used for forensic examination. The following steps should be followed to produce examination-quality photographs:
  - Place a linear scale next to and on the same plane as the impression.
  - Place a label in the picture to correlate the impression within the crime scene.
  - The camera should be mounted on a tripod and positioned 90 degrees to the impression.
  - Adjust the height of the camera or the zoom lens to fill the frame with the impression and scale.
  - The camera back must always be in the same plane as the impression.
  - A detachable flash with extension cable should be used, if available, to flash across the print at a very low angle. A bright flashlight may be used as well. Block out bright ambient light to increase the contrast from the flash or flash light.
  - Focus on the bottom of the impression not on the scale.
  - Take several images with lighting from various angles and bracket the exposure. For low light conditions, exposure times may be long, so care should be taken to not shake or jar the camera during the exposure.
- Photographs of impressions in snow are difficult to take due to the lack of contrast. Snow print wax can be used to lightly coat the impression to provide contrast.



When applying the wax, the can must be held far enough away and sprayed at an angle so as not to disturb the print. Light should be directed toward the print or impression from the side to prevent the detail from being washed out.

## Collection of Evidence

Submit the evidence bearing the original impression if possible. If the evidence cannot be submitted, use one of the following appropriate techniques to recover the impression after taking photographs.

- **Casting three-dimensional impressions** should be done using a hard dental stone material rather than the relatively soft plaster of paris or other modeling plasters. Mix the material according to the included instructions, typically to the consistency of pancake batter. Begin pouring the mixture just outside of the actual impression and allow the material to flow down into the impression. Continue pouring onto the accumulating casting material, moving across the impression evenly. Never pour directly onto the impression as this will cause damage. Allow the cast to harden before removing and then allow to dry for an additional 48 hours to cure; do not package in plastic. A shallow box such as a pizza box can be used as packaging to protect the cast.
- **Lifting three-dimensional impressions** transfers a residue or dust impression to a lifting film, allowing the impression to be transported for photography and examination. Several techniques are readily available. Some of the more common are listed here:
  - **Electrostatic lifts** are made using a Mylar film and a power source to lift dry dust or residue prints from porous and non porous surfaces. This technique can only be used on dry origin prints and will not work if the impression were made when wet or were to become wet. Once lifted, the print on the film is fragile and easily damaged. The film itself contains a residual static-electrical charge and should be properly stored as soon as practical. The film should not be rolled or folded; it can be taped inside a new clean file folder. Used or old file folders or other low grade materials such as cardboard boxes should not be used as the charged film will pull the dust from these materials, contaminating the print.
  - **Gelatin lifters** can be used to lift impressions from porous and non-porous surfaces. Black gelatin lifters work well for lifting light-colored dry or wet impressions. White gelatin lifters can be used to lift impressions developed with fingerprint powders or impressions dark enough to contrast with the white background. Transparent gelatin lifters can be used to lift impressions developed with fluorescent powders and should not be used on original non-enhanced prints.
  - **Adhesive lifters** can only be used to lift impressions from smooth surfaces. Transparent tapes, palm print lifters or specific shoe print lifters can be used to lift powdered impressions, provided they are transferred to a contrasting colored card.

## Chemical Enhancement of Prints

Numerous techniques for the enhancement of shoeprints are available, particularly those made in blood. These techniques are analogous to those used for fingerprint

enhancement/development. The impressions should always be documented with photographs first before utilizing any enhancement techniques. ALWAYS collect any blood evidence prior to any enhancement attempts.

### **Shoeprint and Tire Tread Database**

The laboratory does not maintain a searchable database of shoe sole pattern designs and is typically limited to comparisons of suspect footwear to recovered impressions.

Published references, although not inclusive, are available for possible determination of tire tread patterns.

### **Shipment**

Due to the general fragile nature of shoeprint / tire tread evidence, shipping is not recommended.

## **BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE: BLOOD AND OTHER BODY FLUIDS**

Evidence in this category includes blood of human or animal origin, semen, and saliva submitted for body fluid identification. It does not include samples of blood or urine submitted for the determination of the presence of drugs, alcohol, or poisons. See the section on Toxicology for such evidence.

When blood or other body fluid stains have been identified, further characterization can be performed through DNA analysis. DNA analysis is based on the understanding that no two persons, except identical siblings, have the same DNA. DNA profiles from forensic case samples are routinely entered into a computer database. These profiles are routinely searched at our state and/or national level against other forensic case and offender samples.

### **Blood Evidence**

#### **Value**

Blood evidence can be of value in crimes such as murder, rape, assault, robbery, burglary, hit-and-run accidents, and game law violations. Blood evidence may aid an investigation by locating the crime scene, by identifying the weapon used, by proving or disproving a suspect's alibi, or by eliminating suspects. It can also be used for the identification of bodies when samples specified as being from relatives of the missing person are available for comparison.

#### **Information Determined**

1. Analysis must be performed on a stain to determine that it is blood, since the appearance of blood varies greatly depending on the age and condition of the stain.
2. If the sample is blood, the species origin may then be determined. Usually, it is necessary to determine if the blood is presumptive for human. In certain cases, however, it may be necessary to determine from what animal a bloodstain originated. This can be done, but in most cases, only to the level of the taxonomic family used in animal classification.
3. Blood may be further characterized through DNA analysis. Different individuals have a different type due to the genes they received from their parents. The Central Forensic Laboratory examines fifteen different sites within an individual's DNA. At each site there are several different types. Each of these types has a certain frequency of occurrence in the population. By multiplying together this frequency of occurrence at each site, a statistical estimation can be made as to how often a particular profile would be observed in the general population.
4. The sex of the person from whom the sample originated can be determined by DNA analysis.

5. DNA analysis of blood and other body fluids is regularly performed when necessary.
6. Private laboratories perform DNA analysis on cases requiring paternity, Y STRs, and mitochondria testing. These services may require an additional cost, and will be addressed at the time of request.
7. Generally, DNA analysis will be limited; see [case acceptance policy and quick reference guide](#).
8. Additional information may be obtained from the size, shape, and distribution of bloodstains at the scene. This information may be used to reconstruct the events that occurred during the bloodshed. This examination may be performed at the crime scene. Detailed photographs taken at the scene showing measurements of the bloodstains can greatly aid the analysis. Blood spattered clothing and other items can be evaluated at the laboratory. Contact the nearest laboratory when this type of analysis is desired.

### **Other Body Fluids of Significant Value**

#### **Value**

Depending on circumstances of the case, it is sometimes helpful to identify seminal stains, or saliva. DNA analysis is performed on seminal stains in order to determine if the unknown sample matches the DNA profile of a suspect's standard. A differential extraction technique is used on seminal stains to separate sperm cells from the cells of vaginal secretions and therefore may aid in separating DNA profiles from the male and female portions of the stain.

There are no specific tests to identify feces; therefore, it should not be submitted for identification. Some cells containing DNA may be present in human feces. However, it is very difficult to obtain a DNA profile from feces.

#### **Information Determined**

1. Seminal stains. A suspected seminal stain may be identified by testing for the presence of prostatic acid phosphatase, spermatozoa or prostate specific antigen (p30). Semen may be further characterized by DNA analysis.
2. Saliva stains. The presence of amylase is presumptive for saliva. Saliva may be further characterized by DNA analysis.
3. Urine. The laboratory no longer has a test to characterize urine. However, some cells containing DNA may be present in a urine sample/stain. Depending on the quantity of these cells, it may be possible to obtain a DNA profile.

4. Other. It is sometimes possible to perform DNA analysis on samples that cannot be identified serologically. These include but are not limited to sweat, skin cells, muscle tissue, teeth, bone, and hair roots.

### **Collection of Sample and Standards**

Since blood and other body fluid evidence is biological and is rapidly decomposed by bacteria and mold, it is absolutely essential that such evidence is handled properly. Please follow these instructions carefully for each type of situation in which stains of blood or other body fluids are found. **IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL THE LABORATORY.** Remember safety measures for biological hazards. Always wear disposable gloves when handling material stained with blood or other body fluids. To prevent cross contamination of samples, these gloves should be changed before collecting each exhibit. Disposable utensils would be preferred, however at a minimum, utensils used to collect evidence should be cleaned with 10% bleach between each item collected. A mask or other protective clothing may be advisable in some cases. Please check with your agency's safety protocols for biological hazards.

#### **Stains on Garments or Fabrics**

1. Make sure that all stains and clothing are **DRY!** If the stain is **wet**, it must be air dried **away** from heat and sunlight, preferably in a secure, ventilated room. The victim's items should be separated from those of the suspect during drying.
2. Package each item separately to avoid contamination and in paper to avoid further decomposition. Paper bags are recommended. **DO NOT USE PLASTIC** since plastic does not "breathe" and holds in moisture, permitting bacterial and fungal growth.
3. Avoid unnecessary handling of garments with blood or seminal stains.

#### **Stains on Surfaces**

1. If there are items that need to be examined for both body fluids and fingerprints, consult with the Forensic Biology unit before submitting for fingerprints.
2. Whenever possible, submit the bloodstained item itself for analysis. If this is impractical, photograph the stain while on the item, then detach or cut out the part with the stain for submission. Carefully package to avoid contamination or loss. Do not put any tape directly on the stain.
3. Bloodstains can be swabbed off items that are too large for submission. These blood stains should be photographed before being removed. Swab the blood generously onto a sterile cotton-tipped applicator that has been slightly dampened with distilled water. Swab in a manner which will distribute concentrated blood over the entire swab, if possible. For a control swab, moisten

a separate swab with the water used for collecting the blood stain. Do not swab an unstained surface for a control. Air-dry and package the stain and control swabs separately in paper.

4. If the stain is moist, let it air dry first, or swab it onto a cotton tipped applicator and then air dry.
5. A control sample of any liquid used during the collection process should also be collected. If using distilled water, moisten a cotton tipped applicator, allow to air-dry and label as "Control."
6. Collect generous portions of the samples to be analyzed.

### **Standard samples for comparison**

If DNA analysis is necessary on evidence samples, blood or buccal standards are required from the victim, the suspect, and from anyone else who may have been a contributor to the biological stain in question. If blood standards are to be collected, they should be drawn in purple-capped tubes (i.e., tubes with EDTA as the preservative), or stained on a DNA blot card. If buccal standards are to be collected, use four sterile cotton-tipped applicators and have the individual rub the applicators firmly on the inside cheeks. Allow the swabs or DNA blot card to air-dry before packaging. The standard should then be submitted to the lab as soon as possible, along with the rest of the evidence. Blood tube samples should be stored in an evidence refrigerator until transported to the lab.

### **Shipment**

Deliver biological evidence to the laboratory as soon as possible. Check Appendix A for the closest laboratory performing serological analysis. It is best to deliver the evidence in person; however, if this is impossible the evidence should be kept as cool and dry as possible; then forwarded by way of registered mail or commercial carrier to the appropriate laboratory. Do not use staples to seal packaging since they easily puncture disposable gloves and skin and are a possible source of infection. The outer package should be marked to the attention of the *Forensic Biology Section*. An envelope containing the laboratory request form (KSP 26 or pre-log form) needs to be taped to the outside of the package. When submitting evidence, it is important that the request for analysis form (KSP 26 or pre-log form) be included. Please provide all information requested, as this will expedite the process of analysis. Each item submitted should be listed along with the specific examinations desired. The package should be marked with a biohazard label.

### **Rape Evidence**

Evidence collected in rape or sodomy cases includes a variety of unknown and known samples, which are relatively constant from case to case. This hair, fiber, and biological evidence is covered in separate sections in this manual, but a separate section was considered necessary to explain rape evidence.

## **Value**

Evidence in rape cases is likely to link the suspect to the victim or the individuals to some location. Body fluids, hair or foreign fibers may be transferred during a sexual assault. While the specifics of each type of evidence are discussed in the sections on serology and hairs and fibers, this section will deal with these types of evidence as they relate to rape cases. The Kentucky State Police Forensic Laboratory has sexual assault evidence collection kits available free of charge. One is for the victim (female or male) and one for the suspect. This evidence is essential for effective forensic analysis.

### **The Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit for Female or Male Victim**

This victim's kit consists of labeled packages for properly collecting and storing evidence, a set of instructions, and a Victim's Medical History and Assault Information Form. Although trained medical personnel collect these items, each item is discussed below so the investigator can understand why this sample is requested. All envelopes should be sealed with tape, initialed over the tape, and properly labeled.

1. **Pubic hair combings.** A paper towel, a comb, and an envelope are provided to collect any loose hair and fibers from the pubic region. This sample will be used to determine if any foreign hair similar to the suspect is present, or if any fibers are present that may be used to link the suspect or the scene to the victim. This process should be gentle so that attached hairs are not unnecessarily pulled from the subject.
2. **Pulled pubic hairs.** An envelope for at least 30 pubic hairs pulled from various pubic locations is provided. A minimum of 30 hairs is necessary because of the range and variability of hair. Several hairs must be forcibly pulled, but pain can be reduced by gently tugging on large tufts of hair so that some loosely attached hairs are also pulled.
3. **Pulled head hairs.** An envelope for at least 30 head hairs pulled from various locations from the head is also provided. A minimum of 30 hairs is necessary because of the range and variability of hair. Several hairs must be forcibly pulled, but pain can be reduced for the subject by gently tugging on large tufts of hair so that some loosely attached hairs are also pulled.
4. **Blood sample.** Blood should be drawn into an EDTA tube, then placed on the filter paper cards provided. This is used as a standard.
5. **Buccal sample.** Four cheek swabs are requested. These are sometimes used as a back-up DNA standard.
6. **Vaginal or Penile swabs.** Four vaginal or penile swabs are requested. These are necessary to detect semen and to determine the DNA profiles present. These must be air dried and placed in the provided white envelope.

7. Other evidence swabs. There are three envelopes containing four swabs each to be used for other specimens relevant to the case. There is a check off area on the envelope for marking whether the swabs are anal swabs (for cases involving anal sodomy), oral swabs (for cases involving oral sodomy), external genital swabs, or dried secretion swabs. If more than one sample is required, please be sure the samples are separated from each other and properly marked as to the type of sample and/or where it was collected.
8. Underpants. Collect any underwear worn by the victim after the assault.

It is recommended that you contact your forensic biology unit before submitting any clothing (besides underwear) or bedding material to the laboratory. If clothing items or bedding are submitted, package them individually in paper bags.

### **The Suspect Sexual Assault Evidence or Biological Reference Collection Kit**

The kit for suspects consists of labeled packages for evidence, instructions, and a Request for Examination form. Although these items are usually collected by trained medical personnel, each item is discussed so the investigator can understand why this sample is requested. All envelopes should be sealed with tape, initialed over the tape, and properly labeled.

1. Penile swabs. This sample consists of four swabs dampened with water and then used to swab the outer surface of the penis. This sample may contain vaginal secretions from the victim. These must be air dried and placed in the provided envelope.
2. Pubic hair combing. A paper towel, comb, and envelope are provided to collect any loose hair and fibers in the pubic region. This sample is used to determine if any foreign hairs similar to the victim are present, or if any fibers are present that may be used to link the victim or the scene to the suspect. This process should be gentle so that attached hairs are not unnecessarily pulled from the subject.
3. Pulled pubic hairs. This sample consists of at least 30 pulled pubic hairs from various pubic locations. A minimum of 30 hairs is necessary because of the range and variability of hair. Several hairs must be forcibly pulled, but pain can be reduced for the subject by gently tugging on large tufts of hair so that some loosely attached hairs are also pulled.
4. Pulled head hairs. This sample consists of at least 30 pulled head hairs from various regions of the scalp. A minimum of 30 hairs is necessary because of the range and variability of hair. Several hairs must be forcibly pulled but pain can be reduced for the subject by gently tugging on large tufts of hair so that some loosely attached hairs are also pulled.



5. Blood sample. Blood should be drawn into an EDTA tube, then placed on the filter paper cards provided. This is used as a standard.
6. Buccal sample. Four cheek swabs are requested. These are sometimes used as a back-up DNA standard.
7. Control swabs. If swabs were moistened with water or saline in any step, moisten the two control swabs with the same fluid, and then allow them to air dry and place in the provided white envelope.
8. Other evidence swabs. There is an envelope containing four swabs to be used for other specimens relevant to the case. There is a check off area on the envelope for listing whether the swabs are dried secretion swabs or other swabs. If more than one sample is required, please be sure to separate each type of swab from the other and to properly mark the samples as to what type of sample and/or where they are collected from.

It is sometimes appropriate for the suspect's underwear or other clothing to be submitted. Each item of clothing should be packaged separately in a paper bag.

Please note that swabs are provided in the kits. If there are no medical personnel available, suspect samples, except the blood sample, can be collected by an investigator or by the suspect himself under supervision.

### **General Collection Information**

1. Blood or buccal standards are necessary from any individual who may have contributed to a stain in order for complete analysis to be performed.
2. Hair analysis cannot be performed without an adequate standard sample for comparison.
3. NEVER lick the seal of the envelopes containing biological samples. Use tape and not staples to seal packages. The collector's initials should be written across the tape in indelible ink.
4. Try to minimize the amount of bulk evidence that is submitted. This particularly applies to clothing and bedding.
5. Be sure all envelopes and bags are properly identified with the description of the item, where and/or from whom the item was collected, the collector of the evidence, and the date and time of collection.
6. Do not cross contaminate evidence by packaging two items in the same package.

7. Provide detailed facts to the analyst. The request form should bear the names of all victims and suspects, sex, age, case history, and types of analysis requested.
8. Remember to use disposable powderless gloves in handling evidence and use any other protective equipment as directed by your agency. All packaged evidence containing blood or other body fluids should also be marked as "BIOHAZARD."
9. All items should be packaged in paper.
10. Please contact the Forensic Biology Unit if there are questions regarding the collection, preservation, and submission of biological evidence.
11. For shipping information, see shipment paragraph under Biological Evidence (this section).

## DNA DATABASE

All forensic unknowns collected from crime scenes will be considered for entry into the DNA database; therefore, an independent request for database entry is not required. It is required that the location where an item was located be provided to the laboratory. This information is vital for determining eligibility for database entry. The DNA database, which houses DNA profiles, has two major indices used in forensic cases:

- Forensic Unknown- contains crime scene sample profiles believed to be from the alleged suspect.
- Convicted Offender- contains profiles from certain offenders, or those adjudicated delinquent, who are required by law to provide a sample.

The DNA database also has the capacity to store profiles from unidentified human remains and profiles involved in missing person investigations. Information on submitting samples involved in a missing persons investigation follows in the next section. If you have questions, please contact the laboratory about submission of such samples.

The KSP laboratory participates in the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) which is maintained by the FBI. This allows for searching of qualifying samples within the State DNA Index System (SDIS), as well as across the nation via the National DNA Index System (NDIS). These databases allow the searching of forensic samples against each other in an attempt to link cases. Forensic samples are also searched against offender's samples in an attempt to link an offender to a crime. When cases are linked to each other or to an offender, this is termed a "hit". Hits will be reported to the investigating officer(s) as an investigative lead.

In the event of an offender hit the submitting agency will be contacted to determine if the case is unsolved. A prompt reply to this inquiry will facilitate rapid verification of the offender information. Once an offender hit is verified the officer will be notified via a hit notification letter. If the officer determines that the individual is a viable suspect in the crime, the officer should obtain a blood or buccal standard from the suspect and submit it to the Forensic Biology unit at the Central Laboratory for analysis. A KSP-26 or pre-log form referencing the DNA database hit should accompany the submission of the suspect's standard. Offender samples maintained in the database are not intended for court purposes but only for searching and supplying investigative leads; therefore, a confirmation sample from the suspect is always required in the event of a hit that will be pursued legally. The suspect's standard will be compared to the crime scene evidence and a statistical evaluation will be reported to the officer in a KSP-35.

When submitting a case with a known suspect, who is in the offender database, it is still required that a blood or buccal standard is obtained. It is preferable that the standard be submitted with the evidence. Since offender samples are not intended for court there is no advantage to submitting a case with a known suspect simply for comparison to the offender database.

Our participation in NDIS requires that we follow stringent guidelines in determining sample eligibility for entry into the databases. A sample from a victim, even if left at a crime scene,

is not allowed in the forensic unknown database. Also, if state statute does not allow the databasing of suspect's standards (blood or buccal sample) submitted for comparison in an investigation, then those samples are not allowed in the database. At this time Kentucky law does not allow the maintenance of these samples for purposes of searching. Mixtures are extremely problematic for database searches and some mixtures are of no value for searching and cannot be entered into the database. DNA analysts are trained in the interpretation of DNA profiles for entry into the database and will make the determination on allowable samples. If a sample is deemed allowable for database entry, this may be reported in the KSP 35.

Qualifying forensic unknowns collected from crime scenes that are believed to be from an alleged suspect may be entered into the database(s). This includes both cases with unknown suspects (unsolved) and cases where a matching suspect's standard (solved) was provided. The presence of a DNA match to a suspect does not prevent the sample from being added to the database, as this sample may prove useful in the investigation of other unsolved cases.

Name searches may be requested to determine if a sample is present in the DNA database. The search should be requested only if the individual in question is a person of interest in an active investigation, and there is no probable cause or the person cannot be located to obtain a standard. Requests must be in writing on forms which can be obtained by contacting the DNA Database Section. Information provided will be for informational purposes only and is not intended for use in criminal proceedings.

### **Missing Persons Investigations**

The Missing Persons Database is a central repository for all information pertaining to missing persons. It is part of the DNA Database Section housed in the Central Forensic Laboratory in Frankfort, KY. The database personnel will provide assistance in filing a missing person's report, advise on collecting family reference sample(s) as well as provide DNA sample collection kits and profile entry into NamUS. NamUS is a federally funded website that has been created to help solve missing person and unidentified human remains cases. The testing and collection kits are offered at no cost to the agency or the reporting party.

The collection of all missing person's data is important in the creation of a missing person's file. A complete file is essential to solving a missing persons case. Often, files are incomplete and are not useful to medical examiners, DNA personnel, and law enforcement. The following procedures will help streamline the data collection and make the creation of a missing persons file easier and more useful to all agencies involved.

### **Filing a Missing Persons Report**

**\*\*It is essential to gather all data pertaining to a missing person as soon as possible after the person is reported missing. \*\***

#### **A. Personal Identifiers:**

- Name and aliases (also the reporting party's relationship to missing person)
- Address (from missing person and from the reporting party)
- Date of birth
- Social security number
- Date of last contact
- Potential whereabouts
- Clothing/jewelry worn when last seen

**B. Biological Identifiers:**

- sex
- race
- height
- weight
- hair color
- tattoos
- DNA sample from personal belongings and family members
- Eye color

**C. Medical Identifiers:**

- Dental records
- X-rays from any physical injury
- List of broken bones
- List of physical abnormalities (one foot shorter than the other, amputations, etc.)
- Scars

**Submission of Information:**

Information can be submitted via a copy of the KSP-26 or pre-log form or by utilizing the missing persons report form provided by the DNA Database Section.

All information needs to be sent to the Missing Persons Database at the **Kentucky State Police Central Forensic Laboratory, 100 Sower Blvd. Suite 102, Frankfort, KY 40601**. The information can be submitted electronically via email to database personnel. Information will be entered into the missing person's database of NamUs. After 30 days, the reporting agency will be notified that a DNA sample(s) should be submitted and the missing persons report needs to be completed, if not done previously. A kit will be provided for the collection of DNA samples from family members who are willing to submit. The kit and testing are provided free of charge. The sample will be entered into the DNA database and used for missing person purposes only.

Once uploaded to NamUs, the missing person file will be monitored and updated as new information is made available. This website will be viewed by both the public and law enforcement. Case sensitive information will only be viewable by law enforcement. Because NamUs houses information from both missing person and unidentified human remains, it will be easier to cross reference remains with those reported missing.

The missing person's information should also be submitted and entered into NCIC. The reporting agency will be responsible for both submission into NCIC and NamUs. The

missing persons database will work with NCIC to make sure that all information is in both systems.

Please keep in mind that it is crucial that medical records, dental records and DNA samples are collected in the early stages of the missing person report. **Please contact the laboratory, if you have questions.**

## TRACE EVIDENCE

Trace analysis is only conducted at the Central Forensic Laboratory. The trace analysis section is that section of the laboratory that examines evidence that does not conveniently fit into the other classifications. Paint, glass, tape, hair, and fibers are the most common types of trace evidence. If you have any questions about the types of analysis the Trace Section can do in an investigation, please contact the Central Forensic Laboratory at (502) 564-5230. As can be concluded from the title, trace evidence refers to the size and quantities of evidence that can be collected. Paint chips, a few bits of glass, and single fibers are examples. Because of the small size and quantity of many types of trace evidence, it is important to completely seal each item's packaging in order to prevent the loss or cross-contamination of evidence. Many times, trace evidence that is too small to be seen without the aid of a microscope can be transferred. For this reason, submission of items that may have transferred material is encouraged.

The Kentucky State Police Laboratory has Trace Evidence Kits available to help in the collection and preservation of trace evidence. These kits contain zip-lock plastic bags for samples like soil, round metal "pillboxes" for small particles such as paint and glass, paper envelopes with folded paper packets, a scalpel, and evidence seals.

The Laboratory also has Trace Evidence Tape Kits available to help in the collection and preservation of certain types of trace evidence, especially hairs and fibers. Once any visible hairs and fibers are collected using the Trace Evidence Kit, the Tape Kit can be used to collect hard-to-see hairs and fibers and other very small pieces of evidence. The Tape Kits contain tape pads and plastic sheets to put the tape on. DO NOT use the Tape Kits to collect paint evidence, as the adhesive on the tape may interfere with analysis of the paint. DO NOT use the Tape Kits to collect hair and fiber evidence from accident reconstruction scenes, as loose hairs and fibers from the scene would be difficult to differentiate from impacted hairs and fibers from the accident.

### Hair

Hair is a common type of evidence found in a variety of different types of criminal cases. The identification, examination, and comparison of hair evidence is performed in the Trace analysis section.

### Value

Hair evidence can be of particular value in the investigation and prosecution of a variety of criminal cases. These commonly include crimes such as accident investigations, homicide, rapes, assaults, robberies, and game law violations. Hair identifications and examinations provide important information in an investigation. Microscopic comparisons cannot limit the source to a single individual, but with DNA analysis, further testing and additional results are now available.

### Information determined

1. The analyst can determine whether the sample is of human or animal origin.
2. If the hair is of animal origin, microscopic examinations may allow the analyst to identify the species from which it came, if required by the investigation.
3. If the hair is human, the possible race of the person, as well as the area of the body from which it originated, may be determined.
4. Hair damage or treatment can also be determined. Indications of hair being burned, crushed, cut, bleached, dyed, or artificially waved are often exhibited on individual hairs. Examination of the root may show whether the hair has been pulled out (forcibly removed) or has fallen out naturally.
5. Hair comparisons with a hair standard can be made. Such comparisons can yield the following results: (a) that the hairs are different, (b) that the hairs are similar with respect to microscopic characteristics and originated either from the same person or from another whose hairs exhibit the same microscopic characteristics, or (c) that no conclusion can be reached.
6. If a microscopic comparison has been done, additional DNA analysis may be performed.
7. In a homicide or rape in which the suspect is unknown and no probative DNA results identifying the suspect have been obtained, the examination of hairs on a victim's clothing (and/or bedding, if applicable) may be used as an investigative tool in conjunction with DNA and the CODIS system. The victim's hair standards need to be submitted for this type of analysis.

### **Evidence Collection**

1. Since hair evidence is generally small in nature, care should be taken to protect evidence from loss or contamination. Unknown hair(s) should be placed in a piece of paper which is folded up before being placed in an envelope.
2. Visual searches and searches with additional magnification can be used in the detection of hair evidence.
3. Recovery of evidence should be the most direct but least intrusive technique practical. For hair evidence, this could include picking or taping. If the item of interest is something that can be packaged, i.e., bedding or clothing, package the item for analysis and allow the analyst to collect the hairs.
4. If the location of a foreign hair is important, it should be collected and packaged separately.
5. Package clothing or evidence items separately. Before submitting clothing that is wet or bloody, air-dry over a clean sheet of paper, and then place each garment in a separate bag. Include the paper with the evidence.
6. If a hair comparison is requested, it is absolutely necessary that an adequate known sample be submitted. This consists of at least thirty (30) pulled hairs from the head and/or pubic region of the body. Collect the hairs from all areas of the region: for head hair standards, for example, collect from the front, back, top, and both sides of the head. Because of their limited features, microscopic comparisons cannot be performed on arm, leg, chest, or underarm hair. Do not collect known samples from these parts of the body.



7. In some circumstances, facial hair comparisons can be performed. If the suspect and/or victim have facial hairs of at least one-half inch long, collect a standard of thirty (30) hairs for comparison.
8. A minimum of 30 hairs is necessary because of the range and variability of hair.
9. Several hairs must be forcibly pulled, but pain can be reduced for the subject by gently tugging on large tufts of hair so that some loosely attached hairs are also pulled.
10. **In homicide cases, the head and pubic hair standards of the victim need to be collected at autopsy.**
11. Known DNA samples will also be necessary if DNA analysis is to be performed on a hair sample.
12. Label the sample containers with the case number, exhibit number, and exhibit description. Seal the containers with evidence tape and initial over the tape.

### **Fibers and Fabric**

Fiber and fabric comparisons and identifications can be encountered in a variety of criminal cases. A trace analyst performs this analysis.

#### **Value**

Fiber identification can be of great value in many types of investigations. Cases involving rape, homicide, accident investigation, robbery, kidnapping, and assault can have fiber evidence. A fiber or fabric comparison can tell us if an unknown fiber could have come from a known piece of fabric.

#### **Information Determined**

1. The fiber type can be determined by microscopic or instrumental examination when found individually or as part of a fabric. Polyester, nylon, acrylic and spandex are examples of synthetic fibers. Wool, mink, and silk are examples of fibers from animal sources. Cotton, linen, hemp fibers, and jute are examples of plant fibers. The fibers in paper are generally woody in origin. Asbestos is a mineral fiber.
2. Comparisons of fibers include the analysis and comparison of fiber type, color, dyes, optical properties, fiber diameter, cross-sectional shape, and if a piece of fabric, its weave or knit pattern. Unknown fibers can be compared to a known fabric. Unknown fabric can be compared to a known fabric.
3. Sometimes a physical match can be made between two fabrics. A physical match means that two pieces that are now separate were one piece at an earlier time.
4. Ropes and cords can be analyzed.
5. Fabric impressions may be found in a number of situations. The impression of a suspect's or victim's garment may remain on a surface of a vehicle in an accident investigation. Often, fibers will be impacted into the impression.
6. A fabric can be examined to determine if it was cut or torn.

## **Collection of Evidence**

1. Since fiber evidence is generally small in nature, care should be taken to prevent loss or contamination. Small samples should be placed into one of the metal pillboxes provided in the Trace Evidence Kits.
2. Visual searches and searches with additional magnification can be used for the location of fiber evidence.
3. Recovery of evidence should be the most direct but least intrusive technique that is practical. This could include picking up with forceps or tape lifts. Individual fibers usually cannot be seen with the naked eye. Tape lifts are therefore recommended on areas where contact might have occurred.
4. If the item of interest is something that can be packaged, i.e., bedding or clothing, package the items for analysis separately and allow the analyst to collect the fibers. Before submitting clothing that is wet or bloody, air-dry over a clean sheet of paper, and then place each garment in a separate bag. Include the paper with the evidence.
5. If fabric or fiber impressions are desired from an accident reconstruction scene, do not use tape to collect the evidence. It is best to collect the entire item (i.e., visor, glove compartment) and allow the analyst to collect the impacted fibers.
6. Known samples need to be submitted for comparison purposes.
7. Label the sample containers with the case number, and exhibit number. Seal the containers with evidence tape and initial over the tape.

## **Paint**

### **Value**

Paint chips and paint smears can be transferred from one automobile to another in a car crash. They may also be left on the clothing of a pedestrian who has been the victim of a hit-and-run. Paint from a house or business may be on the tools of a burglar. Criminal mischief cases can include paint evidence.

### **Information Determined**

Two types of analysis are available: comparison and identification. A comparison is between a known sample and an unknown sample. A paint comparison can tell us if an unknown paint could have come from a known paint. Identification can give the make, model, and approximate year of manufacture of original-finish paint using the Paint Data Query.

### **Collection of Paint Evidence**

1. All samples from painted surfaces should be collected so that all the layers of paint are present. In other words, the paint should be sampled down into the unpainted surface. Put the chips into one of the metal "pillboxes" provided in the

- Trace Evidence Kits. Do not use envelopes to package paint chips. Do not use tape to transfer or pick up paint samples.
2. When a foreign smear is collected, the underlying paint should also be collected, down to the unpainted surface.
  3. Known samples (including all paint layers) need to be submitted when a paint comparison is requested. Known samples should be taken as close to the damaged area as possible
  4. Sometimes it is better to submit a small or easily removed item (trim or molding from a vehicle) as-is and let the laboratory remove any foreign paint.
  5. Before submitting clothing for trace paint analysis, air-dry over a clean sheet of paper and then place each garment in a separate bag. Include the paper with the evidence.
  6. If submitting a tool such as a crowbar for paint analysis, wrap the tool in plastic or place it in one of the plastic bags in the Trace Evidence Kit.
  6. Label the sample containers with the case number and exhibit number. Seal the containers with evidence tape and initial over the tape

## **Glass**

### **Value**

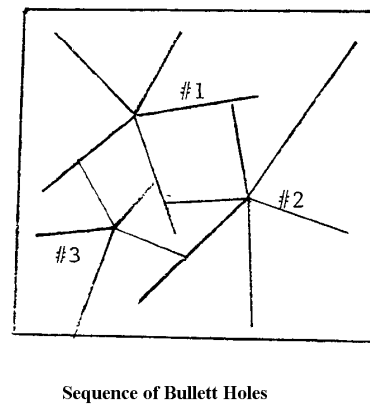
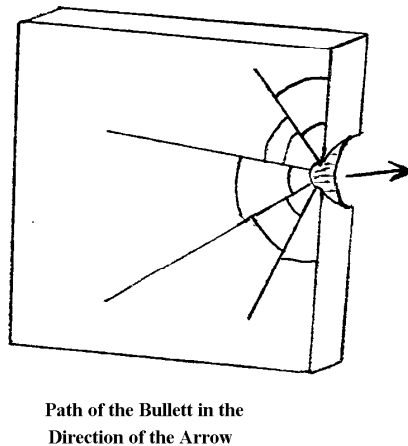
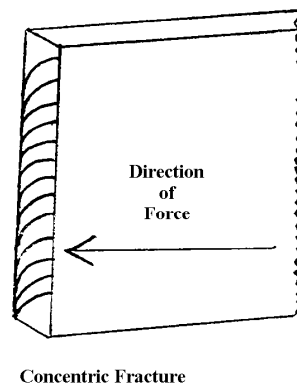
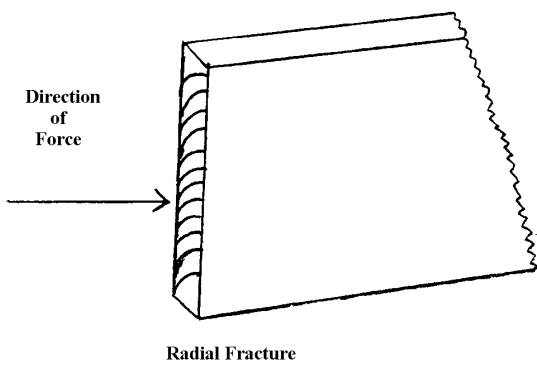
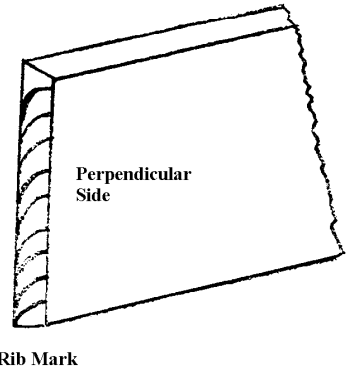
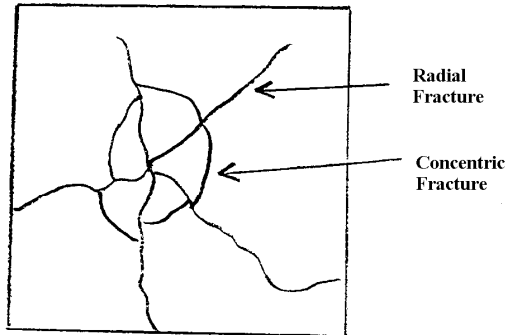
Glass is found in many types of cases including burglaries and homicides. Glass fragments can be found on shoes, clothing, in hair, on a baseball bat and many other places. A glass comparison can tell us if an unknown piece of glass could have come from a known piece of glass. Physical matches can be made with glass. A physical match means that two pieces that are now separate were one piece at an earlier time.

### **Information Determined**

1. Most glass analysis consists of comparing the morphological characteristics, refractive indices, elemental compositions, and densities of two or more samples.
2. Sometimes a fractured glass object, such as a headlight lens, can be reconstructed. Reconstruction can be used to find the direction of breakage, to determine the original shape and size of the object, and to make a physical match.
3. The direction of force used in breaking certain types of window panes can be determined by characteristics left on the glass due to the breakage. (See figures on page 61).
4. When a window is broken by a bullet firing through it, it is possible to determine the bullet's direction due to the characteristics left on the glass by the bullet. This applies to specific types of window glass. (See figures on next page.)

5. A determination of the sequence of bullet holes can be made by examination of the characteristics left on the glass due to the bullets passing through. This applies to specific types of window glass. (See figures on next page.)

GLASS BREAKAGE



### **Collection of glass evidence**

1. When collecting glass samples, it is best to make sure that a representative sample of known glass is collected. Collecting the four corners of a broken window does this best. When this is not the case or when the glass broken is not a window, collect all the glass that is available.
2. If more than one type of glass is broken, collect representative samples of each different type and package separately.
3. The round pillboxes are the best containers for small glass samples. If the glass pieces are extremely small, use the Tape Kit to collect the glass.
4. Breaking glass can fly back and lodge in the hair and clothing. If clothing is to be submitted, allow it to air-dry over a clean sheet of paper and then place each garment in a separate bag. Include the paper with the evidence.
5. The soles of shoes frequently pick up glass fragments, as do the cuffs of jeans. If the item of interest is something that can be packaged (i.e., clothing, shoes, or a tool), package each item separately and allow the analyst to collect the glass.
6. For the reconstruction of glass, lenses, or panes, collect all the glass possible and carefully package to prevent further breakage.
7. Direction of force is best determined at the scene from pieces of glass still in the frame. The lab cannot make such a determination from one isolated piece. If such material is to be submitted, be sure to remove as much glass as possible from the frame and mark the pieces to indicate the inside or outside.
8. Label the sample containers with the case number and exhibit number. Seal the containers with evidence tape and initial over the tape.

### **Physical Matches**

#### **Value**

Physical matches can be made with most hard and some soft items. Examples of "hard" items would include glass, ceramic, hard plastic, brick, large paint chips, wood, and metal. Examples of "soft" items include cloth, matches from a matchbook, and paper. A physical match means that two pieces that are now separate were one piece at an earlier time. Some "soft" items such as cloth can stretch and a physical match between two soft items would be less specific.

#### **Information Determined**

Physical matches are made based upon the visible characteristics of the pieces, their unique points of weakness, and the unique force applied that created the pieces. Plastic vehicle pieces from a hit-and-run would be one example. The stereomicroscope is usually used to examine each piece for common features.

### **Collection of evidence for physical matches**

1. Collect all the material possible and carefully package to prevent loss and further breakage.
2. Label the sample containers with the case number and exhibit number. Seal the containers with evidence tape and initial over the tape.

### **Lamp Filament Examination for On/Off Determination**

#### **Value**

Lamp filaments can be used to determine whether or not a lamp was incandescent (on) at a time of impact. This is usually performed on automobile lamps. Any lamp on the outside of a vehicle can be examined. This includes the headlamps, tail lamps, brake lights, turn signal lights, and running lights.

#### **Information Determined**

Light is generated when a filament is very hot (4000 degrees F). This also causes the filament to be ductile (soft). When a great force is applied to a soft filament it will deform. If the glass bulb around the filament is broken when the filament is very hot, oxidation will occur. Oxidation colors are then created.

Filaments are examined using a stereomicroscope. We look at the color, shape and broken/melted ends. We look for glass that may be fused to the filament. We may also examine the glass bulb that contains the filament.

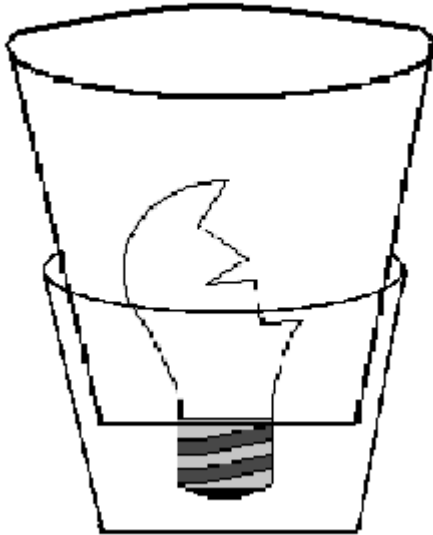
Sometimes an analyst cannot determine whether a filament was incandescent or not at a time of impact. The filament may not have the features needed to make a determination. This may mean that the filament was off or that the force applied was not great enough to cause damage to the filament. Another reason for an inconclusive result is that most of the filament may have been lost in the crash and there is not enough left to observe the necessary features.

#### **Collection of filaments**

1. At the scene the officer should NOT test the filaments by turning the lights on or off. Once the bulbs are removed, the officer may check the position of the switches.

2. It is best to remove the entire fixture, or as much as possible, all in one piece.
3. Any loose pieces of filament should be collected.
4. The Styrofoam cup method for packaging glass is diagramed below.
5. The packaging should be such that the filaments and bulbs are protected from further breakage and loss.
6. Label the sample containers with the case number and exhibit number. Seal the containers with evidence tape and initial over the tape.

- Cut a small hole in the bottom of the cup
- Place the bulb-end inside the cup and secure
- Use tissues or other soft material to pack around the bulb
- Place another cup under the first cup
- Cover the cup top to retain any pieces that may become loose
- Secure with tape to prevent any loss or contamination



### **Unknown Substance and Product Tampering**

#### **Value**

This topic encompasses a wide variety of substances. Some examples include:



- acid thrown on clothing
- pepper spray
- furniture polish in a beverage
- unknown powders
- antifreeze
- rat poison

Submission of possible standards is very valuable in determining the source of product contamination. If ingesting a substance has physically harmed a victim, they should be taken to a hospital. Any information that the doctor can provide indicating the source of harm would be very helpful.

### **Information Determined**

A wide variety of tests and instrumentation is available to identify an unknown substance or contaminant. Sometimes we cannot determine the identity of a substance; this may be due to sample size or the fact that some analyses are not within our testing abilities. In product tampering cases, it is highly recommended that the officer get a toxicology/poison screening for the victim done at a medical facility to help ascertain what the material may be. Biological materials such as mold or anthrax are not tested at the Forensic Lab.

### **Collection of evidence**

1. Obtain as much sample as practical.
2. Package the sample to reduce possibility of contamination or loss. For example, meat tainted with antifreeze should be placed in a zip-lock bag or airtight container and placed in the freezer. **Any non-liquid food product with suspected contamination should be immediately frozen in an air-tight container to preserve the evidence. Any liquid food product with suspected contamination should be immediately refrigerated in an air-tight container to preserve the evidence.**
3. If you are not sure how to package the evidence, call the Trace section at 502-564-5230 to find out the proper packaging.
4. Label the sample containers with the case number and exhibit number. Seal the containers with evidence tape and initial over the tape.

### **Soil**

#### **Value**

Soil is frequently found on clothing, shoes, tools, and on vehicles.

**Information Determined**

Most soil analysis consists of comparing two or more samples by their color, mineral content, and density. The presence of pesticides and herbicides has also been used in soil comparison.

**Collection of soil evidence**

1. Clothing or shoes should be dried over a clean sheet of paper and then placed in individual paper bags with the paper.
2. Known soil samples should be collected as follows:
  - a. one sample at the point of suspected origin;
  - b. three samples (in a triangle pattern) approximately ten feet away from the point of suspected origin
3. These samples should be taken from approximately the same depth as the questioned sample. If a shoe print is one quarter of an inch deep, do not sample an inch or more in depth.
4. The zip-lock plastic bags in the trace kit are convenient for such samples. One bag about half-full (1/4 of a cup) of soil would provide an adequate sample
5. Label the sample containers with the case number and exhibit number. Seal the containers with evidence tape and initial over the tape.

**Tapes and Adhesives****Value**

Tape, such as duct or electrical, may be found in cases involving homicide, robbery, kidnapping, and assault. Adhesives by themselves, such as glues, may be found in a variety of cases as well.

**Information Determined**

A comparison between a known sample and an unknown sample may be made. This can tell us if a piece of tape could have come from a certain roll, or an adhesive could have come from a certain container. Sometimes, a physical match can be made between the ends of a known and unknown tape. A physical match means that two pieces that are now separate were one piece at an earlier time. Tape can also be examined for other trace evidence, such as hairs and fibers, and torn ends that may have DNA from saliva on them. In some circumstances, the originating source of an unusual tape may be determined because of its unique characteristics.

**Collection of tape and adhesive evidence**

1. Use non-stick aluminum foil to package the tape. Plastic may interfere with DNA analysis and will stick to the tape.
2. Avoid wadding or balling the tape up.
3. Known samples should be submitted for comparison purposes.
4. Label the sample containers with the case number and exhibit number. Seal the containers with evidence tape and initial over the tape.

**Miscellaneous Trace Evidence****Value**

Trace evidence also includes a "Miscellaneous" section. This would include safe insulation, plastics (including garbage bags), cosmetics, lubricants, rubber, ink, dyes, wood, herbicides, pesticides, plaster, concrete, building materials, petroleum products, acids, alkalis, other corrosive materials, etc.

**Information Determined**

The information determined is dependent upon the substance to be analyzed. Often a comparison is performed and a known sample would be submitted.

**Collection of miscellaneous evidence**

1. In collecting such evidence, use a container that will protect the items from breakage and loss. If you are not sure how to package the evidence, call the Trace section at 502-564-5230 to find out the proper packaging.
2. Label the sample containers with the case number and exhibit number. Seal the containers with evidence tape and initial over the tape.
3. If you have any questions about whether the Trace Evidence Section can do a certain type of analysis, contact the lab at 502-564-5230.

## **FIRE DEBRIS**

Fire Debris analysis is a difficult field, both for the investigator and the chemist analyzing the material. During a fire involving an ignitable liquid, the ignitable liquid (e.g., gasoline, kerosene, mineral spirits, etc.) will undergo change. The more volatile components will be lost to a much greater extent than the components of lower volatility, and that which remains has been absorbed into wood and carpeting of the structure or soil underneath. There are situations in which one sample will show ignitable liquids and another will not, even though the samples were taken from areas quite close together.

### **Value**

The presence of an ignitable liquid, i.e., a material used to spread or increase the rate of burning, will be indicative of arson if there is no good, legitimate reason for its presence.

### **Information Determined**

Laboratory analysis can determine if an ignitable liquid is present in the sample. The volatility range and general chemical composition can also be determined. If an alcohol or other highly volatile product is suspected, please let the analyst know by putting the information on the KSP-26 or pre-log (lab request form) or by letting the analyst know when the evidence is brought into the lab.

### **Collection of Samples and Standards**

1. An ignitable fluid can be a liquid or a gas. Normally, liquids are used. If a suspected flammable liquid is found near the site or in the possession of a suspect, estimate its volume and pour a sample into a jar for submission to the lab. The forensic laboratory provides such jars and one is provided in the standard issue Arson Evidence Collection Kit.
2. For evidence at the fire scene, collect samples with a porous nature near the point or points of the suspected origin. In some instances, the most useful evidence will consist of material that has been relatively protected from intense heat, such as from beneath furniture or in a crawl space. Examples of materials commonly submitted are charred wood, rags, paper, insulation, soil and clothing.
3. Since ignitable liquids are volatile, evidence must be stored in air-tight containers. The laboratory provides "paint" cans for this purpose. One can should be used for each suspicious location or object. **Do not use plastic bags since ignitable liquids will pass out through the plastic, and never use paper bags or envelopes.**

4. The evidence should be of sufficient quantity. In most cases, the one-gallon cans should be one-half to three-quarters full or have an air space of two (2) inches at the top of the can.
5. After placing the evidence in the can, the lid should be secured in place by hammering or by stepping on and around the lid. If the object is too large for the one gallon can, it is perfectly acceptable to chop, cut or saw the evidence to make it fit inside of the air-tight container. (DO NOT USE GASOLINE POWERED TOOLS).
6. Fill in the information requested on the label on the lid. Do not forget to seal with evidence tape, and put your initials and date on the tape.
7. Store the evidence at as low a temperature as possible until it can be brought to the lab.
8. List all evidence to be submitted on a laboratory Request for Examination form (KSP-26 or pre-log) and fill in all other information requested.
9. If DNA is requested for bloody clothing from an arson/homicide scene as well as ignitable liquid analysis, please put the evidence in the paint cans and **FREEZE THE CAN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

For advice and/or assistance, contact a Kentucky State Police Arson Investigator through a nearby State Police post or contact the Central Forensic Laboratory (502-564-5230).

### **Shipment**

Currently, only the Central Forensic Laboratory provides Fire Debris Analysis. Postal regulations prohibit the mailing of flammable liquids. This does not include fire debris, which can be mailed. (Via certified mail). If flammable liquids are requested for analysis, please use Federal Express or United Parcel Service and clearly mark the container as evidence with flammable contents.

Please arrange for pickup of evidence as soon as possible after receiving the laboratory reports.

### **Explosives**

#### **Shipment**

For explosive devices, follow the instructions of the explosive expert for disposal and evidence collection. For blast scenes, package debris in plastic bags or arson cans if possible. Call the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) lab for advice on exploded material, blasting caps, and other detonating material. Analysis of explosives is currently being handled by the ATF.

## **SOLID DOSAGE DRUG IDENTIFICATION**

The solid dosage drug section is responsible for the analysis of exhibits suspected of containing controlled substances. This evidence includes plant material, pharmaceutical preparations, illicit tablets/capsules, powder/solid, paraphernalia, residues and liquids. This evidence does not include identification of controlled substances in biological specimens; refer to the Toxicology Section. Solid dosage identification is available at all six (6) laboratory locations in the state and provides this service for local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.

### **Information Determined**

1. An identification of any and all controlled substances present in an exhibit.
2. Identification of precursors in a clandestine laboratory can be determined if present.
3. A net weight, volume, or count of the material tested will be obtained. If the exhibit's weight includes the packaging it will be noted on the report as a gross weight.

### **Requirements of Submission**

1. All evidence submitted to the laboratory must be accompanied by a legible request for examination form. This form should, ideally, be completed before arriving at the laboratory and filled out properly. It should include exhibit number designation along with a brief description of the item being submitted for testing.
2. All evidence of this nature should be brought to the laboratory in a properly sealed package. Evidence can be submitted in a plastic evidence bag, envelope, brown paper bag, and/or cardboard box. Please do not submit evidence in zip-lock bags, zipper plastic bags or sandwich plastic bags as the outermost packaging. (These bags as interior packaging are fine).
3. The agency's name and a unique identifier (case number, citation number and/or suspect's name) should be visible on the outside package. Inner packages should bear the item (exhibit) number and associated subject's name, if applicable.

### **Collection of Samples**

Only submit items that need analysis. For example, items such as rolling papers, paraphernalia not containing controlled substances, and/or personal belongings do not need to be submitted with items that require testing. If omission of these items is not possible, separately package drug exhibits.

Do not place any suspected drug evidence directly into a manila envelope, brown paper bag (exception: wet marijuana), or any package that has seams or holes in which the evidence can readily escape. Place all items in a secure package (e.g. taped plastic bag, ziplock bag, closed knotted plastic bag, etc.) prior to placement in outer package to prevent loss or cross-contamination. Label all inner bags with a minimum of an item number, or any information needed in association with that item (i.e. location found, subject's name). The inner package can be the original packaging. The inner package

need not be sealed but should be securely closed to prevent cross contamination between exhibits.

In cases dealing with unusually large quantities of evidence, the officer is encouraged to call the laboratory for assistance in packaging and receiving. By calling ahead, the officer allows the laboratory to prepare for the evidence arrival and the officer can be advised if he/she is needed to stay until evidence has been weighed and sampled.

### **Tablets and Capsules**

#### ***(illicit and pharmaceutical preparations)***

1. Tablets and capsules should be counted and/or weighed. This count and/or weight should be noted on the request for examination form.
2. Generally speaking it is best to submit the entire exhibit, as more than one tablet or capsule may be needed for the extraction and identification of the active ingredient. However, in cases where there are large amounts of tablets and/or capsules, it is encouraged that an officer submit a representative sample.
3. It is discouraged for an officer to submit tablets and/or capsules merely to be counted.

### **Powder/Solid**

1. Powder/Solid should be packaged in a manner that prevents leakage and cross contamination between exhibits. If the original container has holes of any sort, the officer should place this bag inside of a secure package.
2. Unless otherwise advised by the laboratory, all illicit powder/solid substances should be submitted for testing. This allows for an accurate weight and representative sampling. An accurate weight is beneficial to the officer as well as the prosecuting attorney for sentencing guidelines.

### **Liquids**

#### ***(non clandestine)***

1. Place in a secure container to prevent spillage; it is encouraged that this container be placed inside of a zip-lock or zipper plastic bag inside of the outer most package in the event the container bursts during transportation. This will help prevent cross contamination of other cases and allow for the safety of individuals who may come in contact with the package.

### **Plant Material**

#### ***(marijuana, peyote cactus, opium poppy, various species of psilocyn/psilocybin mushrooms, khat, etc.)***

1. Fresh/wet plant material should NOT be placed in a plastic bag. This will lead to degradation of the sample due to mold and mildew, possibly

leading to fungal growth that can cause serious respiratory complications and the exhibit to be insufficient for analysis.

2. Unless otherwise advised by the laboratory, all plant material should be submitted for testing. This allows for an accurate weight and representative sampling. An accurate weight is beneficial to the officer as well as the prosecuting attorney for sentencing guidelines.
3. In cases involving the cultivation of marijuana where there are five (5) or more plants, it is recommended that a sample be taken from five to ten plants and placed in individual envelopes. A good sample would consist of a handful of leaves. If the plants are mature, some of the flowering top should be included in the sample. Before samples are taken and sent to the laboratory, it is a good idea for the officer to take photos of the plants for his/her own records. An officer should also take a total count of the plants and measurements of the area of cultivation should be recorded. A note should be made on the request for examination form that the material submitted is from a cultivation case. It is encouraged in large cultivation cases that the officer call the laboratory for proper sampling techniques due to the varying sizes of cultivation cases and sentencing guidelines.
4. In non cultivation cases where the plants are small enough but mature, the officer may submit the entire plant. Immature plants often do not have the chemical constituents present for the identification of marijuana; a plant must have more than the seed leaves to be identified. The officer should try to remove as much soil from the root system as possible without destroying it. If the plants are large, the officer should refer to the above paragraph on how to submit the evidence.
5. In cultivation cases involving mushroom spores, please call the laboratory for assistance in evidence retrieval and submission. These cases vary in size and growth apparatuses.
6. If a plant is suspected as being Khat, the officer should store the plant material in a cold storage unit such as a freezer until it is submitted to the laboratory. This particular plant material is heat sensitive and the controlled substance breaks down quickly over time.
7. Peyote Cactus should be submitted in a rigid container such as a bucket to preserve the plant material

### **Clandestine Laboratories**

Probably no other area of law enforcement requires as much chemical knowledge as does the investigation of clandestine drug laboratories. A clandestine laboratory is an illegal preparation of illicit substances such as, but not limited to, methamphetamine. These laboratories may contain chemicals that are hazardous to the individuals working in or around them. It is important to make sure there are individuals on site that are adequately trained in dismantling these operations and disposing of the chemicals properly. Keep in mind these chemicals may be flammable, explosive, toxic and/or carcinogenic and the fire department or other appropriately trained emergency personnel may be required.



1. Methamphetamine Clandestine Laboratory Collection Kits are recommended. These kits can be found at any of the state police post and DESI branches. These kits are typically not distributed at the laboratories. These kits contain instructions on how to collect evidence, vials for collecting liquids, and smaller vials for collecting residual evidence, zip-lock bags, and swabs. Before submitting the kit to the laboratory, the officer should discard any container from the kit that is not used in collecting evidence.
2. If an officer suspects an operational clandestine laboratory is producing something other than methamphetamine, he/she should contact the laboratory for instructions on collection of evidence and safety issues. Please keep in mind everyday products are used in the preparation of illicit drugs and may be valuable in the identification process.

## **Residues**

Generally speaking if a residue can not be seen, it can not be identified. If a substance is removed from the original package, this package does not need to be submitted to the laboratory for testing. If this package is pertinent to the officer's case, he/she should package it in a separate container and indicate its importance on the request for examination form.

## **Syringes**

1. Syringes are a serious hazard due to the possibility of transmissions of diseases such as hepatitis, HIV, and AIDS. At the time of printing, syringes will not be analyzed, unless visible signs of residue are present on the syringe and the individual evidence is accompanied by a written and signed request (true copy) from the prosecutor indicating sufficient justification for the examination (on a case-by-case basis). In addition, syringes will not be given priority over other exhibits in the same case, even if accompanied with a prosecutor's letter. This ensures that the analysis is needed and promotes the safety of the chemist, the investigating officer, and any individuals who handle the package in transportation. If a syringe is accepted for testing, it must be packaged properly by placing the syringe in a sharps container or some other puncture resistant container. It is also important for the officer to label the packaging and the Request for Examination form (KSP-26 or pre-log) as a BIOHAZARD.

## **Sharp Objects**

(broken glass, razors, knives, etc.)

1. These items should be placed in a sharps container or some other puncture resistant container. Do not wrap the items in tape to preserve the sample. It is very dangerous for an examiner to remove the tape and it may destroy the evidence.

## **Biohazards**

Periodically drugs are hidden by suspects in their body cavities (vagina, mouth, anus, etc.) For the safety of the officer, laboratory personnel, and court personnel, the evidence and request form **must** be labeled with a BIOHAZARD sticker. This evidence should be placed inside of a package within the outer most package. This will prevent contamination of the packaging and will ensure the safety of the individuals handling the evidence. It is also very important to note in the history of the case where the item was found.

### **Shipment**

First determine which laboratory the evidence should be submitted to by either contacting the laboratory, the evidence custodian within the officer's agency, or the KSP Post in the area. The evidence can be directly delivered to the lab or mailed. If the evidence is to be mailed, postal regulations require the evidence to be sent via Registered Mail. Registered Mail requires a signature upon receipt and this receipt is returned to the sender via the Post Office. Please do not send evidence through regular mail, as there is no way to track the evidence and it could get lost. Also, make sure the package being sent is sealed. It is recommended that the evidence be placed inside of a sealed package within the mailing envelope. On the outside of the mailing envelope, the officer should put "ATTENTION: CS or IDCS" (controlled substance or identification controlled substance), so that the contents will not be so obviously marked for others but still adequate for the laboratory to know which section should sign for the evidence.

## **BLOOD ALCOHOLS & TOXICOLOGY**

Blood and urine can be analyzed to determine alcohol and drug concentrations (not syringes). Urine samples will not be examined for drugs if a suitable blood sample is received, unless the case type is a sexual assault, murder, or homicide. Each Kentucky State Police Forensic Laboratory location has the ability to determine the alcohol content of blood and provide expert testimony as to these findings. The Central Laboratory in Frankfort also has the capability to do toxicological analysis of biological specimens for the presence of drugs.

### **Blood Alcohol and Intoxicants**

#### **Value**

The alcohol, inhaled solvents, and drug levels of samples (blood, urine, and suspected volatiles only), can assist in the determination of the level of intoxication of a person while operating a motor vehicle.

#### **Information Determined**

Toxicological evidence submitted from subjects for screening will usually be limited to blood and urine. Blood and urine specimens are sufficient to screen for drugs of abuse and are generally adequate in all DUI cases. Each of these specimens can be the evidence of choice, depending upon the request.

The submission of whole blood specimens in a Blood/Urine Collection Kit is sufficient for the determination of alcohol content. Blood alcohol or other volatile analysis will be performed as requested.

**Drug analysis will follow standard operating procedures for the Toxicology section. Drugs of interest should be specifically requested.**

#### **Collection and Shipment**

The Forensic Laboratory makes available kits for the collection of blood and urine for DUI cases. These kits are obtainable free of charge from each of the laboratory location. These kits have a pre-paid mailer attached and can be forwarded to the laboratory servicing your area for blood alcohol by placing the sealed kit in the mail. Following the blood alcohol determination, the sample will be forwarded by the laboratory system to the Central Forensic Laboratory for the drug screen, if required.

Even though the sample containers have preservatives, be sure to avoid extreme heat, such as a car dash or a trunk in summer.

If a kit has expired, replace the blood tubes provided with gray/lavender vacutainer hospital tubes.

A copy of the Investigating Officer's Report, listed below, can be found on the Styrofoam container of each kit. Instructions for use of the KSP Blood/Urine Collection Kit are included on the following pages. These instructions are included with each kit.

<b>INVESTIGATING OFFICER'S REPORT</b>	
NAME OF SUBJECT _____	
OFFENSE _____	
DATE OF INCIDENT _____	TIME _____ AM-PM
COUNTY _____	
INVESTIGATING OFFICER _____	
DEPARTMENT _____	
DATE BLOOD DRAWN _____	TIME _____ AM-PM
FACILITY WHERE DRAWN _____	
BLOOD DRAWN BY _____	
CASE OR CITATION NO. _____	
LAB NO. _____	
WAS SUBJECT GIVEN BREATH ALCOHOL <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
IF YES, RESULTS: _____	
<p><b>CHECK APPROPRIATE BLOCKS</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ALCOHOL</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DRUG SCREEN IF <u>BAC</u> IS BELOW .10% (IN DUI CASES)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DRUG SCREEN (SPECIFY) _____</p>	
<b>CHAIN OF POSSESSION</b>	
RECEIVED FROM _____	
BY _____	
DATE _____	TIME _____ AM-PM

**FORENSIC LABORATORIES  
KENTUCKY STATE POLICE  
BLOOD/URINE COLLECTION KIT**  
For Alcohol and or Drug Determination

**Purpose**

This kit is designed to contain blood and urine specimens obtained from DUI, criminal and death investigations in which only an alcohol and/or general drug screen is needed. **This kit is not sufficient for a full toxicological study.**

**CONTENTS OF KIT**

- One (1) 10-mL blood tube containing sodium fluoride and potassium oxalate.
- Two (2) 7-mL blood tubes containing EDTA
- One (1) 60-mL plastic screw-cap container
- One (1) direction sheet
- Two (2) police evidence seals for resealing kit box after collection of evidence
- One (1) zip-lock bag

**DIRECTIONS FOR HANDLING SPECIMENS**

**Instructions to the investigating officer:**

1. Fill in the "Investigating Officer's Report" completely and legibly.
2. Witness the collection of samples.
  - a. For alcohol/drug analysis: Fill all collection tubes/containers provided.
3. Return filled blood tubes to Styrofoam holder.
4. Place Styrofoam holder and filled plastic urine bottles in zip-lock bag and return zip-lock bag to kit box.
5. Reassemble kit box and affix red evidence seals where indicated on box top.
6. Submit to Forensic laboratory or refrigerate until sample can be transported. (DO NOT FREEZE).

**Instructions to physician or technician drawing sample**

1. Clean skin with non-alcohol disinfectant
2. To insure proper mixing of the anticoagulants, slowly invert the tubes completely at least five times. (Do not shake vigorously.)
3. "Facility where drawn" refers to the hospital, office etc.

If necessary to replace kit vials, do so using hospital vials appropriate for collection of whole blood, preferably containing the same types of anticoagulants/preservatives found in the kits.

## **BREATH ALCOHOL MAINTENANCE PROGRAM**

The Breath Alcohol Maintenance Program is established by the Kentucky State Police to ensure proper calibration and maintenance for evidential breath alcohol measuring devices located throughout the state. Field service technicians for this program are assigned to the Central, Western, Northern, Eastern and Southeastern Laboratory Branches, and the program is administered through an office located at the Central Laboratory Branch.

### **Value**

All state evidential breath alcohol measuring devices are assigned to the Breath Alcohol Maintenance Program. Field technicians maintain and ensure proper calibration of instrumentation and provide expert testimony in court regarding service activities and maintenance documentation.

Evidentiary breath alcohol instruments used in the Commonwealth includes the Kentucky Model Intoxilyzer ® 5000EN, the Kentucky Model Intoxilyzer ®8000. The Breath Alcohol Maintenance Program also provides calibration services for portable breath testing devices for any law enforcement agency within the commonwealth.

## APPENDIX A: LABORATORY CONTACT INFORMATION

The following is a list of the laboratories, and a list of services offered at each laboratory. Submissions may be made in person or by registered or certified mail to the nearest regional laboratory or to the Central Laboratory. The KSP Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) Section located at 1266 Louisville Road, Frankfort, KY 40601 provides latent print capabilities. The telephone number is (502) 782-9821.

### **CENTRAL FORENSIC LABORATORY BRANCH**

Phone: (502) 564-5230

FAX: (502) 564-4821

Kentucky State Police  
Central Forensic Laboratory  
100 Sower Blvd., Suite 102  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-8272

#### **Services offered:**

##### *Toxicology and Drug Analysis*

Blood Alcohol/Toxicology

Drug and Other Unknown Controlled Substance Identification

##### *Trace Analysis*

Paint, Plastics, and Tape

Glass and Headlamps

Soil

Arson

Hair Identification and Comparisons

Fiber Comparisons and Fabric Impressions

Gunshot Residue

Oils and Lubricants

Physical Match Comparisons

Pesticides and Herbicides

Unknown Substances (other than Controlled Substances)

Product Tampering and Lachrymators (Pepper Sprays)

Miscellaneous Analyses

##### *Forensic Biology*

Body fluid Identification

Bloodstain Pattern Analysis

DNA Analysis

##### *DNA Database*

##### *Firearms Identification*

Identification of Firearms, Bullets, and Cartridge Case

Determination of Muzzle-to-Target Distance



Identification and Comparison of Inked Impressions  
Identification and Comparison of Plaster Casts  
Tool Mark Identification  
Related Firearms and Comparative Microscopy  
Open Case Search  
Serial Number Restoration

*Breath Alcohol Maintenance Program*

Maintaining breath alcohol measuring device  
Ensuring calibration of such devices

**WESTERN FORENSIC LABORATORY BRANCH**

Phone: (270) 824-7540

FAX: (270) 824-7029

Kentucky State Police  
Western Forensic Laboratory  
1081 Thornberry Drive  
Martin Plaza Mall  
Madisonville, Kentucky 42431

**Services offered:**

*Blood Alcohol*

Blood Alcohol

*Drug Analysis*

Drug and Other Unknown Controlled Substance Identification

*Forensic Biology*

Body fluid Identification

*Breath Alcohol Maintenance Program*

Maintaining breath alcohol measuring devices  
Ensuring calibration of such devices

**JEFFERSON FORENSIC LABORATORY BRANCH**

Phone: (502) 426-8240

Fax: (502) 426-4531

Kentucky State Police  
Jefferson Forensic Laboratory  
3600 Chamberlain Lane, Suite 410  
Louisville, Kentucky 40241

**Services offered:**

*Blood Alcohol*

Blood Alcohol

*Drug Analysis*

Drug and Other Unknown Controlled Substance Identification

*Forensic Biology*

Body fluid Identification

Bloodstain Pattern Analysis

*Firearms Identification*

Identification of Firearms, Bullets, and Cartridge Case

Determination of Muzzle-to-Target Distance

Identification and Comparison of Inked Impressions

Identification and Comparison of Plaster Casts

Tool Mark Identification

Related Firearms and Comparative Microscopy

Open Case Search

Serial Number Restoration

**NORTHERN FORENSIC LABORATORY BRANCH**

Phone (859) 441-2220

FAX: (859) 441-0848

Kentucky State Police  
Northern Forensic Laboratory  
5690 East Alexandria Pike  
Cold Spring, KY 41076

**Services offered:***Drug Analysis*

Drug and Other Unknown Controlled Substance Identification

*Blood Alcohol*

Blood Alcohol

*Forensic Biology*

Body fluid Identification

Bloodstain Pattern Analysis

*Breath Alcohol Maintenance Program*

Maintaining breath alcohol measuring device

Ensuring calibration of such devices

**EASTERN FORENSIC LABORATORY BRANCH**

Phone: (606) 929-9142

FAX: (606) 929-9364

Kentucky State Police

Eastern Forensic Laboratory  
1550 Wolohan Drive Suite 2  
Ashland, Kentucky 41102

**Services offered:**

*Blood Alcohol*

Blood Alcohol

*Drug Analysis*

Drug and Other Unknown Controlled Substance Identification

*Firearms Identification*

Identification of Firearms, Bullets, and Cartridge Case

Determination of Muzzle-to-Target Distance

Identification and Comparison of Inked Impressions

Identification and Comparison of Plaster Casts

Tool Mark Identification

Related Firearms and Comparative Microscopy

Open Case Search

Serial Number Restoration

*Breath Alcohol Maintenance Program*

Maintaining breath alcohol measuring device

Ensuring calibration of such devices

**SOUTHEASTERN FORENSIC LABORATORY BRANCH**

Phone: (606) 877-1464

FAX: (606) 878-0643

Kentucky State Police  
Southeastern Regional Laboratory  
1001 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
London, Kentucky 40741

**Services offered:**

*Blood Alcohol*

Blood Alcohol/Toxicology

*Drug Analysis*

Drug and Other Unknown Controlled Substance Identification

*Breath Alcohol Maintenance Program*

Maintaining breath alcohol measuring device

Ensuring calibration of such devices

**APPENDIX B: THE FOLDED PAPER PACKET**

1. Obtain a square piece of paper or cut one in a square of the approximate size needed to hold the material in question.
2. Make a diagonal fold (A).
3. Then fold B and C together.
4. Then fold at D
5. Open and place the sample in the center of the square and refold in the same manner.
6. Tuck triangle E into the slot formed by the folds of B and C.
7. Initial and date the packet formed.

