

ILLINOIS STATE POLICE DIRECTIVE ENF-040, CLANDESTINE DRUG LABORATORIES

RESCINDS: ENF-040, 2017-056, revised 09-08-2017.	REVISED: 01-23-2023 2023-133
RELATED DOCUMENTS: None	RELATED CALEA STANDARDS (6th Edition): None

I. POLICY

The Illinois State Police (ISP) will:

- I.A. Establish guidelines for the safe handling, dismantling, and disposal of clandestine drug laboratories by properly trained and equipped specialists.
- I.B. Cooperate with and assist federal, state, and local agencies during the investigation of clandestine drug laboratories.
- I.C. Provide initial training to all ISP officers and local law enforcement recruits attending the ISP Academy to ensure awareness of the dangers and proper procedures relating to investigation of clandestine laboratories.

II. DEFINITIONS

- II.A. Clandestine Laboratory Certified Officer - personnel trained within the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) guidelines in areas such as:
 - II.A.1. Collecting and packing samples for evidentiary purposes
 - II.A.2. How to render a laboratory safe
 - II.A.3. Inherent dangers
 - II.A.4. Procedures for manufacturing illicit drugs
 - II.A.5. Proper use of protective clothing
 - II.A.6. Proper use of safety gear
 - II.A.7. Ventilation procedures
- II.B. Clandestine laboratory - an illicit operation, consisting of a sufficient combination of apparatus and chemicals, that has been, is being, or could be used in the manufacture or synthesis of controlled substances.
- II.C. Conducted Electrical Weapon (CEW) – a tool used by an officer to aid in establishing control of a subject by means of conducted energy and by use of neuromuscular incapacitation and/or pain compliance by probe deployment and/or direct contact.
- II.D. Decontamination - reducing the level of contamination and the spread of contamination upon exiting the clandestine laboratory scene.
- II.E. Precursor - a primary chemical that is changed into the finished product.
- II.F. Solvents - substances used to separate or purify chemicals in a reaction.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES

| III.A. Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI)

| III.A.1. Will designate an individual to serve as the Statewide Clandestine Laboratory Program Coordinator who is responsible for:

III.A.1.a. Ensuring ISP Clandestine Laboratory Certified Officers meet all applicable OSHA guidelines (29 CFR 1910) for handling hazardous materials.

III.A.1.b. Maintaining proper training and certification records.

III.A.1.c. Developing a system to schedule and monitor, through initial and annual medical exams and incident reports, the health and safety of Clandestine Laboratory Certified Officers.

III.A.1.d. Maintain records of program activities that include, but are not limited to, arrests/citations, the number of clandestine laboratories discovered/dismantled, and the type and quantity of drugs.

III.A.1.e. Provide administrative oversight of fiscal transactions, inventory records, and any other program related issues associated with the Clandestine Laboratory Program.

III.A.2. Zone Commanders will:

III.A.2.a. Ensure all officers comply with OSHA guidelines (29 CFR 1910) and ISP Clandestine Laboratory Standard Operating Procedures when involved in the investigation and dismantling of clandestine laboratories.

III.A.2.b. Immediately contact the appropriate Methamphetamine Response Team (MRT) supervisor.

III.A.2.b.1) The MRT supervisor will assign Clandestine Laboratory Certified Officers to handle waste disposal and evidence gathering.

III.A.2.b.2) If needed, the supervisor may call the local Metropolitan Enforcement Group (MEG) or Task Force (TF) for assistance, provided the MEG/TF officers have the equipment and current certification to assist.

III.A.2.c. In conjunction with the Clandestine Laboratory Program Coordinator, gather, compile, and report information on clandestine laboratories seizures to the DEA through the Clandestine Lab Reporting Information System (CLARIS).

NOTE: Any other statistical data requested such as number of meth lab seizures and meth arrests are run via CLARIS on an as needed basis.

III.A.3. ISP Clandestine Laboratory Certified Officers will:

III.A.3.a. Adhere to all ISP Clandestine Laboratory Standard Operating Procedures while investigating clandestine drug laboratories.

III.A.3.b. Obtain the DEA Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) number from the Methamphetamine Program Office (part of the Statewide Investigative Support Command) and electronically report all clandestine lab seizures into CLARIS. The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) will electronically submit clandestine labs submitted to CLARIS to the El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC).

NOTE: Electronic reporting of clandestine labs into CLARIS is accepted by the DEA as a replacement to the paper reporting requirements of the EPIC-143 report form.

III.A.4. Investigative units or the MRT will coordinate investigative activity with Federal Law Enforcement Agencies when appropriate.

| III.B. Division of Patrol (DOP)

Any ISP officer having knowledge of, or receiving information concerning, a suspected clandestine laboratory will:

- III.B.1. Notify troop headquarters, which will then notify the MRT supervisor and/or designated investigative supervisor.
- III.B.2. Secure possible suspects, keeping in mind possible contamination of the suspects and officers.
- III.B.3. Adhere to the general precautions in paragraph IV.B. of this directive.
- III.B.4. Relinquish control of the scene to MRT or DEA upon their arrival.
- III.B.5. Provide security during processing of the laboratory/vehicle, if required.
- III.C. Division of Forensic Services (DFS)
 - III.C.1. All ISP forensic laboratories will assist the DEA and ISP troops through the proper receipt and analysis of specific clandestine laboratory materials. (Materials that officers should **not** submit to an ISP forensic laboratory for analysis or to an ISP evidence vault are listed in Addendum 1 of this directive.)
 - III.C.2. Scene and Evidence Services Command
 - III.C.2.a. Due to the specialized hazards associated with clandestine laboratories, only Clandestine Laboratory Certified Officers will respond to investigate such laboratories.
 - III.C.2.b. Based on the criteria in paragraph III.D.2.a. of this directive, Scene and Evidence Services will **NOT** investigate or transport materials from a clandestine laboratory.

IV. PROCEDURES

IV.A. Hazards

- IV.A.1. Clandestine laboratories are frequently operated with little or no safety precautions.
- IV.A.2. Immediate dangers include fire, explosion, inhalation of harmful fumes, and skin contact with dangerous chemicals.
- IV.A.3. Hazardous chemicals are found in clandestine laboratories and therefore, should be approached with extreme caution and only by Clandestine Laboratory Certified Officers as outlined in paragraph IV.D. of this directive.

IV.B. General precautions

Until Clandestine Laboratory Certified Officers arrive and take control of a suspected clandestine laboratory, an ISP officer will take the following general precautions:

- IV.B.1. Evacuate, secure, and isolate the area immediately around the site to maintain a safe distance from the suspected laboratory and avoid being downwind and downgrade from the area.
- IV.B.2. Refrain from entering the structure/vehicle or moving any vehicle.
- IV.B.3. In a life-threatening situation, if a decision is made to enter the suspected drug laboratory, it is critical to exit as soon as possible.
- IV.B.4. Never smell, taste, or touch chemicals or unknown substances from a suspected laboratory.
- IV.B.5. Due to the possibility of fire, avoid open flames or any action that may produce a spark.
- IV.B.6. To avoid ingesting harmful substances, refrain from:
 - IV.B.6.a. Eating

- IV.B.6.b. Drinking
 - IV.B.6.c. Smoking
 - IV.B.6.d. Chewing any product (gum, tobacco, etc.)
- IV.B.7. Refrain from touching the:
 - IV.B.7.a. Eyes
 - IV.B.7.b. Nose
 - IV.B.7.c. Mouth
 - IV.B.7.d. Other mucous membranes
- IV.B.8. If firing a weapon is necessary, remain aware of the danger of explosion caused by flash-over in a flammable vapor/solvent - saturated environment.
- IV.B.9. Due to the inherent risk of explosion in a clandestine laboratory environment, the deployment of a Conducted Electrical Weapon (CEW) is not recommended. The CEW shall not be discharged if the deploying officer has reason to believe the subject has been exposed to flammable liquids, or the discharge would occur in a flammable or explosive environment.
- IV.B.10. To avoid the build-up of hazardous fumes, ventilate the area.
- IV.C. Only Clandestine Laboratory Certified Officers can handle, dismantle, and dispose of clandestine drug laboratories.
 - IV.C.1. For clandestine laboratories encountered inside residential or business structures or other similar environments, no less than two equipped and **Clandestine Laboratory Certified Officers** will enter the location for the handling/dismantling process. Additionally, no less than two persons who are equipped with personal protective clothing and are certified first responders and additionally trained in Respiratory Protection Standards, i.e., firefighters, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) officers, will remain outside of the lab and immediately accessible for officer rescue.
 - IV.C.2. Labs in open-air environments will require two clandestine laboratory-certified and equipped officers to respond to the lab for processing and dismantling of the lab. One officer will assess and process the lab while the other acts in officer rescue capacity.
 - IV.C.3. A clandestine laboratory certified officer who is trained as a site safety officer (and may be one of the two officers identified in paragraph IV.C.1. of this directive) will act as the site safety officer and retain overall authority for the safety of the officers involved in dismantling the clandestine drug laboratory.
 - IV.C.4. Only one clandestine laboratory certified officer needs to be present while awaiting the arrival of a licensed hazardous waste contractor.
 - IV.C.4.a. The site safety officer should make the determination if any additional law enforcement personnel shall standby. This is in addition to the clandestine laboratory certified officer in cases of high traffic areas or security concerns.
 - IV.C.4.b. These additional law enforcement personnel do not need to be clandestine laboratory certified.
 - IV.C.5. Only one clandestine laboratory certified officer is needed to transport and secure packaged and segregated items and place them into a predetermined container.
- IV.D. The DEA is responsible for facilitating the disposal of apparatus, ingredients, and waste found at the laboratory site. If the clandestine laboratory is not processed as noted in paragraph IV.C. of this directive, the DEA will **NOT** fund the disposal, as it cannot accept liability for laboratories processed by non-certified personnel.

IV.E. Collection of Evidence

Only Clandestine Laboratory Certified Officers will direct the collection of potential evidence at each clandestine laboratory.

IV.E.1. The best evidence to submit for analysis is the final product of the manufacturing process. Field-testing should be used to determine the evidentiary value of the suspect material.

IV.E.2. If necessary, officers will submit representative samples of liquids or solvents suspected of containing the final product.

IV.E.2.a. Sampling a "One-Pot" or "Shake & Bake" reaction vessel is dangerous, and ANY environmental change to the vessel (opening, agitating, venting, etc.) could cause an increased risk of fire or explosion. Extreme caution should be taken during the sampling process. Sampling should be considered on a case-by-case basis by a clandestine laboratory certified officer, or MRT supervisor.

IV.E.2.b. Sampling a "One-Pot" or "Shake & Bake" reaction vessel will only be conducted by clandestine laboratory certified officers wearing the appropriate chemical/flame resistant Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

IV.E.3. If a final product is not available, the analysis of precursors may be necessary to determine the yield potential of a clandestine laboratory.

IV.E.3.a. When precursors are collected in commercially sealed containers, they will not require analysis.

IV.E.3.b. Precursors in unsealed containers or in solution may require analysis. The need for analysis will be decided on a case-by-case basis by contacting an ISP, or DEA as needed, forensic laboratory.

IV.E.4. Packaging

Proper packaging will provide safety to staff and protect samples from contamination.

IV.E.4.a. Only one representative sample of each liquid or solvent suspected of containing final product will be submitted (or precursors on a case-by-case exception).

IV.E.4.b. A 30 ml sample will be packaged in a 40 ml vial with a Teflon lined screw-cap. The vials should not be filled more than three quarters full.

IV.E.4.c. Place the vials in a polypropylene, screw-cap bottle and then seal them in a 4.5 ml Kapac type evidence bag.

IV.E.4.d. Submit only one sample vial in each Kapac bag.

NOTE: These packaging guidelines for clandestine laboratory materials are consistent with those of the DEA.

IV.E.5. Submission Criteria

If possible, the case agent will make a determination as to whether to submit the case for federal or state prosecution prior to forwarding the evidence to an ISP forensic laboratory for analysis. If the prosecution will be at the federal level, the officer will forward the evidence to a DEA laboratory.

IV.E.5.a. Unless stated on the DFS Evidence Receipt form, ISP 6-036, the ISP forensic laboratory will perform a qualitative analysis only.

NOTE: The ISP 6-036 is only used when evidence is taken directly to the ISP forensic laboratory without going to an evidence vault first.

IV.E.5.b. If a quantitative analysis (analysis for purity) is required, the case agent must make this request accompanied by the case acceptance from the U. S. Attorney's Office.

IV.E.6. Submission Data

IV.E.6.a. Detailed information is required to document the collection of each sample for laboratory submission.

IV.E.6.b. Such documentation shall include:

IV.E.6.b.1) A detailed description of the original container.

IV.E.6.b.2) The wording present on each original container submitted as evidence.

IV.E.6.b.3) If possible, photographs of the container and overall clandestine laboratory set up.

IV.E.7. Hazardous Materials

Due to the explosive/flammable/corrosive dangers associated with transporting and/or handling hazardous materials, the clandestine laboratory materials outlined in Addendum 1 will **NOT** be submitted to an ISP forensic laboratory or an ISP evidence vault.

IV.E.8. Acceptance Criteria

IV.E.8.a. No clandestine laboratory material will be accepted by an ISP forensic laboratory or an ISP evidence vault unless each submission has been coordinated with the local ISP investigative unit and the DEA.

IV.E.8.b. This ensures:

IV.E.8.b.1) Proper coordination with the DEA for hazardous materials clean-up responsibility.

IV.E.8.b.2) Intelligence information is collected for all clandestine laboratories.

IV.E.8.b.3) Clandestine laboratory certified personnel are directing the collection, packaging, and submissions to each ISP forensic laboratory.

IV.E.9. Latent Fingerprint Requests

IV.E.9.a. Abandoned laboratory materials may require latent print processing.

IV.E.9.b. The following submission procedures will be followed when latent fingerprints are detected in a clandestine laboratory investigation.

IV.E.9.b.1) Any packaging and/or containers requiring processing for latent prints will be emptied of materials before submission to the laboratory.

IV.E.9.b.2) Any compressed gas tanks requiring processing for latent prints must be empty prior to submission to the ISP forensic laboratory.

IV.E.10. Non-Compliance

Failure to comply with these departmental procedures in the submission of clandestine laboratory materials to an ISP forensic laboratory or an ISP evidence vault may result in the rejection of the submission until the requirements of this policy are fulfilled.

| Indicates new or revised items.

-End of Directive-

**ILLINOIS STATE POLICE DIRECTIVE
ENF-040, CLANDESTINE DRUG LABORATORIES
ADDENDUM 1, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS USED IN CLANDESTINE
LABORATORIES**

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RELATED DOCUMENTS: None	RELATED CALEA STANDARDS (6th Edition): None

The following is a list of hazardous chemicals and compounds commonly found in clandestine laboratories that pose a great threat to the physical well-being of law enforcement officers and citizens who may be exposed to them. Due to the inherent dangers associated with transporting and/or handling, the following materials found at clandestine laboratories **will not** be submitted to an Illinois State Police (ISP) forensic science laboratory or evidence vault unless prior written approval is obtained from the Laboratory Director or the Statewide Evidence Custodian (SEC), respectively:

1. Anhydrous ammonia
2. Red phosphorous
3. Lithium or sodium metals
4. Hydriodic acid
5. Iodine crystals
6. Freon or other gases
7. Carburetor cleaner, unless suspected of having methamphetamine suspended in the carburetor cleaner
8. "Coleman" fuel, unless suspected of having methamphetamine suspended in the "Coleman" fuel
9. Engine starting fluids or additives, unless suspected of having methamphetamine suspended in the engine starting fluids or additives
10. Gasoline, unless suspected of having methamphetamine suspended in the gasoline
11. Lacquer thinner, unless suspected of having methamphetamine suspended in the lacquer thinner
12. Kerosene, unless suspected of having methamphetamine suspended in the kerosene
13. Mineral spirits, unless suspected of having methamphetamine suspended in the mineral spirits
14. Paint thinner, unless suspected of having methamphetamine suspended in the paint thinner
15. Naphtha, unless suspected of having methamphetamine suspended in the naphtha
16. White gas, unless suspected of having methamphetamine suspended in the white gas
17. Denatured alcohol
18. "Heet" gas antifreeze
19. "Liquid Fire," "Rooto," "S-T," and/or heavy-duty sulfuric acid drain opener
20. Heavy-duty liquid lye drain opener
21. Lye
22. Tile and grout cleaners containing sodium hydroxide
23. Tile and grout cleaners containing hydrochloric acid
24. Acids or bases not suspected of containing precursors or final product
25. Ammonium Nitrate
26. Butane
27. Any other compound, chemical, or substance known to be unduly hazardous by laboratory or evidence vault personnel
28. Any gas not used for its intended purpose which is hazardous by nature used in the production/manufacturing of a controlled/synthetic substance

Indicates new or revised items.

-End of Addendum-