

Distributed from the ISPFS List-serve on 1/24/2013

Subject: Breath Alcohol Operator Training--Your Response Required

ISPFS needs each BTS and Operator to access the website

<http://isp.idaho.gov/forensic/onlineTrainingPreregistration.html> and enter their contact information for the new online training program. Officers that do not provide the required information will not be able to access the new online login for BTS and Operator Training and will not be able to recertify as a breath testing operator or BTS in Idaho.

ISPFS and Research Triangle International Incorporated (RTI) have partnered to develop new online training and certification for breath testing specialists and breath testing operators. This program has been successful in several other states and will be very effective in Idaho. The intent with this training is to standardize the training format and raise the level of training being offered to all operators and BTS officers. The training will include virtual instruments to use and other technology improvements. This change has been made in response to IDAPA 11.03.01 paragraph 13 subsection 4 related to standardized training of breath testing operators. In the next few months (we will let you know later exactly when), ISP will discontinue all "in person" courses and BTS officers will no longer be authorized by ISP to teach "in person" courses. All recertifying BTS and Operators will be required to complete online training at their convenience before they expire. The training format is currently in testing by ISPFS. The BTS designation and importance is NOT going away! BTS officers will continue to receive more advanced training and a BTS officer will now oversee a live "practical proficiency test" with each operator at the end of the operator online portion to ensure the officer understands the proper operation of the instrument. While BTS officers will no longer be doing the classroom training, they will be heavily involved in training with each operator as they interact during the required practical competency test. BTS officers will also continue to be relied upon to oversee the program in their department and provide advanced court testimony support for their local prosecutors. The ISPFS Regional Breath Testing Coordinators in CDA, Meridian, and Pocatello will administer a live practical proficiency test for each BTS at the completion of the BTS online training program.

More information will be coming soon about the new training programs. ISPFS, Idaho Prosecuting Attorney Association, and POST have worked on the format of the training so that each officer in Idaho will receive an equivalent level of training and the documentation of successful training will be reported to and recorded at POST and ISPFS. Certificates of completion will be uploaded to the ISPFS website for download.

Many other changes will be coming to the breath testing program this year, including online logging of instruments submitted to ISPFS for repair or calibration. We are also working with Lifeloc to develop a "performance verification station" that will not require alcohol solutions or wet bath simulators. You simply put the instrument in the station and it does all the work and documentation for you. These performance verification stations will be available sometime in mid to late 2013. Last year we

implemented online reporting of each breath testing instrument certification. That download is available by instrument serial number on the ISPFS Alcohol website.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Matthew Gamette 208-884-7217 or Jeremy Johnston at 208-209-8706.