



Idaho State Police


Service Since 1939



Colonel Ralph W. Powell
Director

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor

To: All Idaho Evidence Custodians, County Sheriffs, Police Chiefs, Officers of the Court

From: Matthew Gamette, ISPFS Laboratory System Director 

Subject: ISP New Toxicology Method for Cannabinoids

Date: September 9, 2015

Idaho State Police Forensic Services (ISPFS) has validated and implemented a new toxicology method that allows confirmation of delta-9-THC (the active component of marijuana), hydroxy-THC (an active metabolite of delta-9-THC), carboxy-THC (an inactive metabolite of delta-9-THC), cannabinal, and cannabidiol. I am pleased to make this announcement due to many customer requests for this service. We have invested significant fiscal and personnel resources on this validation project. Many dedicated ISPFS forensic scientists have done great work on this validation project.

This method is currently approved for qualitative use only because we are required by accreditation standards to gather enough data to establish an uncertainty of measurement before reporting quantitative results. We anticipate being able to quantitatively report delta-9-THC as soon as enough data has been collected and evaluated to report the uncertainty of measurement. We are hoping to be able to report quantitative data in less than a year, but that estimate is based on an assumption of good data returns and fortunate circumstances.

Since we are now able to confirm a wider range of cannabinoids, we anticipate resubmission requests utilizing this new method. Due to limited stability of cannabinoids, we are limiting those cases that will be accepted for resubmission. If your case meets the following criteria, automatic acceptance of your case for testing with the new method will occur (provided the case is properly prelogged). If you are unsure if your case meets the criteria, please contact Toxicology Discipline Leader Delisa Downey (delisa.downey@isp.idaho.gov) or CDA Lab Manager Anne Nord (anne.nord@isp.idaho.gov). The criteria for resubmission are as follows:

- The sample must be blood, and the original testing must have confirmed carboxy-THC.
- Resubmission must occur within one month of the original report date.

We realize that some cases may have "extenuating circumstances." If you believe your case has extenuating circumstances, please contact Delisa Downey or Anne Nord **before** resubmission. Extenuating circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the laboratory management.

Thank you for your patience as we developed this new method. We are extremely excited to offer these new services as we grow our offerings available to our customers.

700 South Stratford Drive • Meridian, Idaho 83642-6202

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER