

May 25th, 2012

Idaho Police Chiefs, Sheriffs, and Prosecuting Attorneys:

RE: Drug Chemistry in the Pocatello Laboratory

The Idaho State Police Forensic Services is pleased to announce that controlled substance cases will be accepted back in the Pocatello laboratory for analysis starting June 15, 2012. The drug chemist, Scott Hellstrom has finished his controlled substance training program in the Meridian ISPFS lab and will be relocating to Pocatello.

Due to some shipping problems (misplaced evidence and packages) we have recently experienced with the United States Postal Service (USPS), ISPFS encourages each submitting agency to evaluate their shipping method for evidence (especially controlled substances) to the laboratory. Agencies using USPS should use options such as "Registered Mail" or "Express Mail" which require a signature at every point in the transit process. Postal inspectors encouraged ISPFS to use one of these two shipping methods for evidence. Other USPS shipping options only track shipments at pickup and delivery and do not have an "in transit" chain of custody. ISPFS urges agencies to use an appropriate commercial carrier (UPS, FedEx, etc.) or appropriate USPS shipping option (Registered Mail or Express Mail) for evidence transfer to the lab. The laboratory will return your evidence using one of these recommended options.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time. We are pleased to have you back!

Sincerely,

Shannon Larson

Idaho State Police

Pocatello Laboratory Manager