



Solano County District Attorney

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Bureau of Forensic Services

# PHYSICAL EVIDENCE BULLETIN

## URINE AS A SAMPLE FOR ALCOHOL DETERMINATION

PEB 3: Revision 1.4

**Document ID:** EV-1.03  
**Approval:** Laboratory Director  
**Standard:** 4.1-4.4.5, 5.7.1-5.7.3, 5.8.1-5.8.4

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**Category:** Evidence  
**Type:** Administrative  
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# INTRODUCTION

The degree of alcohol influence is based upon the amount of alcohol in the bloodstream. There is a direct correlation of alcohol in urine with alcohol in blood at a particular time. Therefore, urine can be used to determine a blood alcohol level. However, certain precautions must be taken

## SAMPLING, COLLECTING, PRESERVING, AND MARKING

The following summarizes the important considerations in the collection and preservation of urine samples for alcohol analysis:

1. In urine alcohol cases a precaution is necessary that is not an element in blood sample cases. The subject must first empty his bladder (first void). After waiting at least 20 minutes, the analysis sample is collected. It is important to carefully note the time on sample label and sample envelope when voiding is done in each instance.
2. When urine is submitted for alcohol analysis, the sample taken after the first voiding should be forwarded to the laboratory. Even if a small amount of urine is collected, it is sufficient for the determination of alcohol.
3. A member of the police agency, preferably the arresting officer, should supervise the collection of the sample so there will be no question as to the source or that tap water might have been placed in the sample jar.

## PACKAGING

 Solano County Office of the District Attorney Bureau of Forensics		Laboratory Barcode Only
<b>URINE SAMPLE FOR ALCOHOL/DRUG ANALYSIS</b>		
Type of Drug Suspected (Check box and, if known, indicate): <input type="checkbox"/> Stimulants (Cocaine/Methamphetamine) <input type="checkbox"/> Opiates (Heroin/Codeine/Morphine) <input type="checkbox"/> Depressants (Benzodiazepines/Barbiturates) <input type="checkbox"/> Cannabinoids (Marijuana) <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Please list):		
Subject's Name (Last, First, MI)	Driver's License	Date of Birth
Agency	Agency Case No.	Offense(s)
Investigating Officer (Print)	Badge No.	Offense Date
<b>VOID SAMPLE</b>		
Circle Type of Specimen Submitted	Time of Void	Time of Sample
Witnessing Officer/Person		Date/Time
<b>CHAIN OF POSSESSION:</b>		
Received From	Receive By:	Date: <small>Rev. 05/04/10</small>
<b>FOR LABORATORY USE ONLY:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Sealed <input type="checkbox"/> Unsealed <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ #Vials: _____		

Envelope Front

Envelope Back

PLACE EVIDENCE SEAL HERE

Arresting Officer should seal with tape provided in kit and initial/date across the seal

**INSTRUCTIONS TO INDIVIDUALS COLLECTING URINE SAMPLES FOR ALCOHOL/DRUG ANALYSIS**

1. Submitting officer must witness the consent of the subject to provide a urine sample and supervise the collection thereof. The collection should be handled in such a manner as to ensure the source of the urine and to prevent the substitution of tap water for the sample.
2. **FOR ALCOHOL ANALYSIS** - Have subject void bladder. Wait at least 20 minutes and then have the subject provide a minimum of 10cc of urine in the enclosed specimen cup recording collection time of sample on front of this envelope.
3. **FOR DRUG ANALYSIS** - Collect in the enclosed container a minimum of 10cc of urine from the subject recording collection time of sample on front of this envelope.
3. Secure cap on specimen cup tightly!
4. Label the urine sample bottle with the label provided giving:
  - a. Full name of Subject
  - b. Date, time and initials of person collecting sample
5. The submitting officer should initial the seal on the urine sample.
6. The information on this envelope is to be completed by the submitting officer.
7. The urine sample is to be placed in this envelope and sealed.
8. Transport or arrange to transport the envelope to the Forensic Laboratory (Monday through Friday 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.)

SUBJECT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 INITIALS OF PERSON \_\_\_\_\_  
 DRAWING OF BLOOD/OR WITNESS TO URINE  
 DATE \_\_\_\_\_ TIME \_\_\_\_\_  
 WITNESSING OFFICER \_\_\_\_\_

Specimen Label

1. **Clean and dry** specimen containers with tight fitting screw caps have been provided by the laboratory for collecting urine samples. A dry preservative has been added to the vials. The preservative is 750 mg of sodium fluoride in a three (3) ounce container.
2. Sample bottles shall be secured tightly, labeled and sealed in a urine envelope.

## RE-EXAMINATION

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The laboratory does not routinely examine materials that have been previously examined by another laboratory. Re-examination requests must be made in writing by the submitting agency with an endorsement by the prosecuting attorney having jurisdiction in the case.

## EVIDENCE DISPOSITION

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Envelope Back

Urine samples submitted for analysis will be retained by the laboratory for one year at which time it will be returned to the submitting agency.

**Evidence from outside agencies will be retained for one year and returned to the submitting agency. The laboratory will not be responsible for destruction of evidence.**

**For further information on collection of blood for forensic alcohol analysis contact the laboratory directly.**

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