



# Colorado Springs Police Department

## General Order

### 1060 Blood Alcohol Procedures

#### Section 1000 – Patrol Functions

Effective Date: 2/6/2021

Supersedes Date: 1/7/2019

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## .01 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to specify the process for collecting and processing blood alcohol specimens.

## .02 Cross Reference

[GO 530 Intoxicated Persons](#)

[GO 831 Collection of Physical Evidence](#)

[C1-11 Special Purpose Vehicles](#)

[P1-11 DUI Enforcement](#)

[P1-62 Criminal Offense Exceptions](#)

## .03 Discussion

The Colorado Springs Police Department utilizes the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for analysis of blood and/or urine samples for both drug and alcohol content. The Toxicology Laboratory conducts testing for numerous law enforcement agencies across the state and is certified by the CDPHE Certification Unit for all testing conducted.

## .04 Policy

Arresting officers will take persons to either the Memorial Hospital Emergency Room Central or Memorial Hospital Emergency Room North, or other location designated by Memorial Hospital, to obtain blood alcohol specimens. Officers will adhere to hospital procedures as well as those established in this General Order.

## .05 Definitions

*Blood Evidence Kit:* A kit purchased by and distributed to various hospitals by the DUI Unit that is designed for the safe and accurate collection of blood specimens to be laboratory-analyzed for

alcohol and/or drug content. The kits will be available at Memorial and Penrose/St. Francis Hospitals.

The kit consists of:

- Two 10 ml. vacutainer tubes, each containing 100 mg. of sodium fluoride and 20 mg. of potassium oxalate (Each tube is supplied with a label already affixed)
- One safety needle tube assembly
- One Providone-Iodine USP prep pad
- One cardboard box/cradle for vacutainer tubes
- One cardboard mailer & vacutainer box.
- Request for Analytical Service Form with four sealing labels, two for the vacutainer tubes and two for sealing the vacutainer and mailer boxes.

## **.10 Arresting Officer Procedures**

The arresting officer will ensure that the following actions are taken. Although many of these actions will routinely be done by the phlebotomist, it is the arresting officer's responsibility to ensure the protocols are followed:

- The arresting officer will ensure a complete blood evidence kit is used, prior to any collection taking place.
- The phlebotomist will draw two blood samples in the vacutainer tubes. A seal will be placed over the stopper of each tube, to assure that the samples are not tampered with. The officer will write the suspect's name on the seal as well as the date and time of draw. Both the phlebotomist's and officer will place their initials on the seals as well. In felony cases, three blood draws should be taken one hour apart. A new blood collection kit is to be used for each draw.
- Identity of person collecting sample (phlebotomist).
- The tubes are to be placed back into the original vacutainer box, and the boxes sealed with the two remaining seals. The vacutainer box will then be placed into the cardboard mailer.
- The arresting officer must complete the Request for Analytical Services Form. The phlebotomist conducting the blood draw should sign the form. This form must remain with the packaged specimen. For evidence accountability purposes, it is imperative that in addition to the other required information, the most serious criminal or traffic charge known to the arresting officer be written on the "offense" line in the upper left portion of the form and that at least one reference number (e.g., offense number, crash report number, summons number, etc.) be listed.
- A case report number must be placed on the Request for Analytical Services Form.
- Any variance to the usual contents of two tubes of blood should be noted in the comments box (e.g. "one tube of blood only", etc.). When multiple kits are drawn from the same

individual for the same case, each kit must be listed on separate request forms and as separate items, be placed into a locked evidence refrigerator at a patrol division. In this case, the same case-numbers will be listed on all request forms. With multiple submissions from the same persons, kits can be differentiated from each other by including the time of the draw indicated on the request forms as well as circling the applicable draw number #1,#2,#3 on the request form.

- Blood kits are to be deposited in a locked refrigerator at a patrol division.

## **.12 Mobile Blood Alcohol Testing Vehicle**

When blood specimens are drawn from an arrested person in the Mobile Blood Alcohol Testing Van (MBAT Vehicle) during official deployments, the arresting officer will ensure that the procedures in section .10 listed above are followed.

After the specimen has been sealed, the phlebotomist will turn the collection kit over to the arresting officer who will later place the kit into a locked DUI refrigerator at a patrol division.

## **.15 Specimen Collection at Other Hospitals**

If blood specimens must be drawn from arrested persons at a medical facility other than Memorial or Penrose Hospitals, the officer should advise the hospital staff that a "legal blood sample" is needed, and ensure that the procedures in .10, above, are followed.

After the specimen has been sealed, the phlebotomist should sign the request form. The officer will then transport the sealed specimen(s) to and place into a locked DUI refrigerator at a patrol division.