



Counterfeit Pharmaceuticals

What are counterfeit pharmaceuticals? They are made to look like legitimate medications but could be contaminated, contain the wrong ingredient, and/or contain no active ingredient. Counterfeit tablet submissions to the Crime Lab have significantly increased throughout the entire state since 2019. Each lab received numerous fake tablets made to look like legitimate prescriptions such as oxycodone (Oxycontin, Percocet) and alprazolam (Xanax). They were found to contain a wide range of drugs:

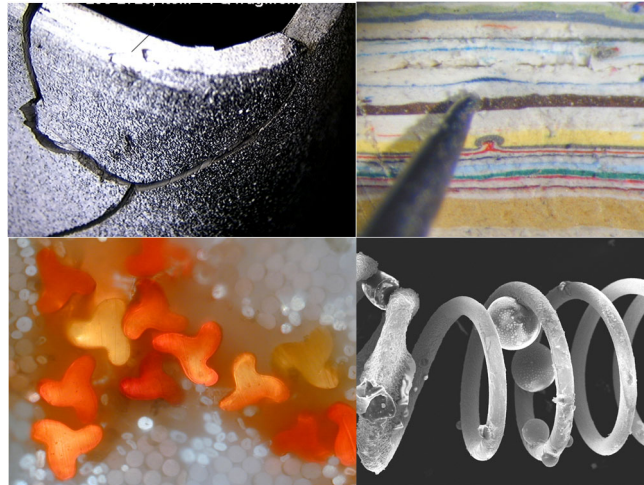
- Fentanyl
- Acetyl fentanyl
- Fluorofentanyl
- Furanyl fentanyl
- Methoxyacetyl fentanyl
- Acetaminophen
- Caffeine
- Heroin
- Flubromazolam
- Clonazepam
- Estazolam
- Etizolam
- Flualprazolam
- Bromazolam

Any evidence found to contain fentanyl may be repackaged by the scientist in a hard-sided container or 4-6 mil plastic bag upon return to the agency in accordance with the Forensic Services Guide.

Please make sure to communicate with the appropriate Materials Analysis supervisor regarding specific needs for tablet submissions and testing.



The **CLD Forensic Services Guide (FSG)** (<https://wsp.wa.gov/forensics/crimlabs.htm>) offers a good description of the evidence types encountered in the Materials Analysis Section. The FSG also has instructions on collecting reference samples and identifying potential evidence.



Remember to provide all information on the Request For Laboratory Examination (RFLE) form <https://wsp.wa.gov/forensics/crimlabs.htm>

This will help us to route and prioritize evidence to the appropriate sections and scientists, and gives us contact information for questions.

Remember your contact phone number and email address on the RFLE!



Washington State Patrol

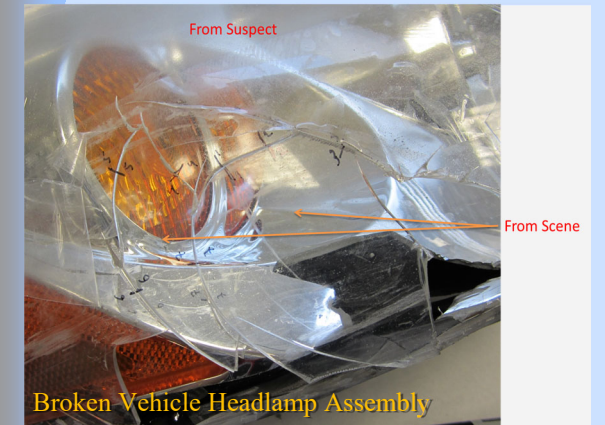
2203 Airport Way S Bldg A Suite 250
Seattle, WA 98134-2028
Phone: 206-262-6002
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3000-210-031 (R 1/23)



Washington State Patrol
Crime Laboratory Division

Materials Analysis Unit



Materials Analysis Supervisors

Marysville – Ms. Alison Kidder-Mostrom 360-654-1195
Seattle - Mr. Jeff Jagmin 206-262-6109
Spokane – Ms. Devon Hause 509-625-5454
Tacoma – Ms. Jane Boysen 253-538-3246
Vancouver – Mr. John Dunn 360-993-3806



Materials Analysis Unit



The WSP Crime Laboratory Division provides forensic science analysis and training services to criminal justice agencies throughout the state of Washington in several forensic disciplines. The Materials Analysis Section provides chemical and microanalysis of a wide variety of materials.

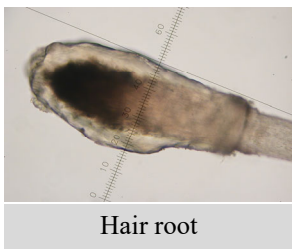


Clandestine lab

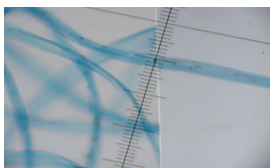
Materials Analysis Evidence

The following is a summary of many common materials examined:

- Seized drugs, including cannabis
- Pharmaceuticals
- Materials from suspected clandestine drug laboratories
- Ignitable liquids in fire debris
- Explosives and post-blast explosive residues
- Selected poisons and chemical unknowns
- Hairs, fibers, fabric, and cordage
- Clothing damage assessment
- Paint, surface coatings, polymers
- Impression evidence (shoe, tire, etc...)
- Physical matches of broken/torn materials
- Vehicle lamps
- Glass
- Other miscellaneous materials



Hair root



Microscopic Fiber Comparison

Impressions

Impressions (shoe prints, tire tracks, etc.) are likely the most overlooked evidence encountered at crime scenes. No matter the nature of the scene the perpetrator must enter and leave the scene so impressions should be considered at every scene. The WSP Crime Laboratory system provides the following services related to impressions: comparison of questioned impressions against potential known sources and make model searches of the impressions in an attempt to identify the shoe or tire that could have made the impression. Shoe make/model searches are accomplished using the SoleMate database software. Tire make/model searches are accomplished using manual searches of industry publications. For the best results there are specific requirements for photographs of impressions submitted to the laboratory. Contact either the Spokane, Seattle, or Marysville crime laboratory for more information or if you would like to discuss training opportunities for the proper documentation, collection, and preservation of impressions.



Training Opportunities

Training our user agencies is a high priority. We have developed training for our customers to highlight the value and significance of forensic trace evidence.

Training includes recognition, collection, storage, and submission of trace evidence to our labs, development of investigative leads, and how the Materials Analysis Unit can assist in crime scene reconstruction.

Please contact your local laboratory to arrange for this training. We will be happy to work with you to provide the training at the time and location you desire at no cost to your agency.

Drug Law Changes

Engrossed Senate Bill 5476 has reshaped drug possession laws in the State of Washington. The Crime Laboratory will test seized drug evidence for deferred cases. Drug evidence related to Officer Safety and matters of Public Health will continue to be a priority for testing by the Crime Laboratory.

Second Substitute House Bill 1210 replaced “marijuana” with “cannabis”. Crime Laboratory reports have been adjusted to reflect this change in terminology.

Contact the Crime Laboratory for additional information or questions related to drug testing.

Other Legal Updates

The State of Washington Appeals court ruled in State v. Denton that routine backlogs do not justify undue delays in bringing a defendant to trial. When needed, the Crime Laboratory expedites analysis to meet court deadlines. It is important to coordinate such rush requests with the Materials Analysis supervisor.

When DNA Doesn't Help

Materials Analysis can provide useful investigative information in cases where DNA evidence isn't probative. Physical evidence may be used to corroborate or disprove victim, suspect, or witness statements. For example, a claim is made that buttons were cut off a shirt. A damage assessment analysis can determine whether the buttons were torn or cut off the shirt, corroborating or refuting the statement using physical evidence.



Buttons torn off, not cut.