



**DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY
115 PURPLE HEART DRIVE
DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, DELAWARE 19902**

**Armed Forces Medical
Examiner System**

AFMES-DFT

June 5, 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Explanation of Toxicology Testing Assignments for DFT Customers

This memorandum provides clarification for customers of the Division of Forensic Toxicology (DFT) at the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System (AFMES) for testing requests and reported results.

REQUESTS FOR TESTING:

Testing will be assigned based on case type or history, current DFT policy, or by specific customer request. When submitting samples using an AFMES Form 18, in addition to describing the incident in the summary section, please include any observations about the subject or their behavior observed during the incident, and indicate if any alcohol/drug paraphernalia was located at the scene.

REPORTED RESULTS:

Customers may observe inconsistencies between testing reported by DFT and testing requests submitted in official documents (i.e., AFMES Form 18 or accompanying memorandum). This may occur for the following reasons:

1. Discrepancies between an AFMES Form 18 and additional documents submitted with the case. In this event, testing will be assigned based on the more comprehensive request and will address all requests from the submitted documents.
2. Emerging drug trends and evolving terminology for brand, slang, and street names. DFT assigns testing panels to properly balance customer requested testing with current drug trends and laboratory capabilities.

See TAB 1 for a list comparing testing requests to testing performed/reported. Please note this list is not comprehensive and is subject to change.

If you require assistance with your testing requests, or explanations regarding testing performed, please contact DFT using the information provided below. We can assist with testing recommendations based on case history, as well as provide clarification regarding drugs and nomenclature.

Respectfully,

Division of Forensic Toxicology
Armed Forces Medical Examiner System
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TAB 1: Testing requests and actual DFT testing performed/reported

TESTING REQUESTED & CASE HISTORY	AFMES TESTING MAY INCLUDE:
"Spice, K2, Cannabimimetics, Synthetic cannabinoids, SynCans, Sycan, Synthetic marijuana, Black Magic"	Synthetic Cannabinoids
"Blue Lotus"	Synthetic Cannabinoids*
"Delta-8, Delta-8-THC"	Drugs of Abuse Panel
"CBD, Cannabidiol, Phytocannabinoids"	Phytocannabinoids
"Vaping, e-liquids, e-cigarettes"; Vaping paraphernalia observed	Synthetic Cannabinoids
"Smell/odor of marijuana/weed/cannabis"; marijuana cigarettes/blunts/bongs, marijuana paraphernalia observed	Drugs of Abuse Panel
"Bath Salts, cathinones, phenethylamines, designer/substituted amphetamines"	Expanded Drug Panel
"Kratom, Mitragynine"	Ketamine, Psilocin, PCP, Mitragynine Panel Expanded Drug Panel
"Hallucinogens"	Expanded Drug Panel
"Acid, LSD, Lysergic Acid Diethylamide"	Lysergic Acid Diethylamine Expanded Drug Panel
"Psilocin, Psilocybin, mushrooms, 'shrooms"	Ketamine, Psilocin, PCP, Mitragynine Panel Expanded Drug Panel
"Alkaloids"	Expanded Drug Panel

* "Blue lotus" terminology is currently associated with synthetic cannabinoid use and NOT use of the blue lotus plant or its alkaloids, including apomorphine and nuciferine.