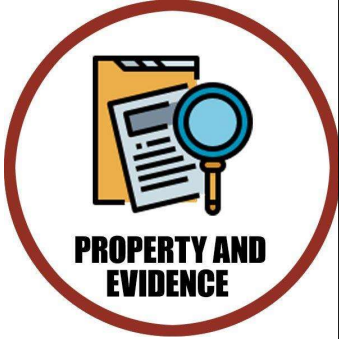




Property Technician Advanced Certification

Texas Association of Property & Evidence Inventory Technicians

1



Disclaimer

2

T.A.P.E.I.T. Disclaimer

Welcome to T.A.P.E.I.T. Conference

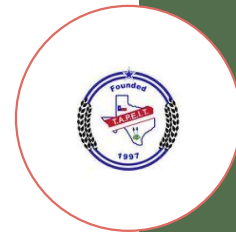
T.A.P.E.I.T.'s goals and objectives are to educate, guide, and direct you in working in a Property Room. T.A.P.E.I.T. will provide you with what we believe to be the "BEST PRACTICES" when dealing with property and evidence. T.A.P.E.I.T. will provide you with information on how to process, package, store, maintain chain of custody, inventory, audit and proper ways to dispose of the property and evidence. What we teach is information that can be used as a guideline in creation of Policy and Procedures that work for your department. Each department is unique and must adapt to different courts, prosecutors and follow both Federal and State Laws.



3

Objectives

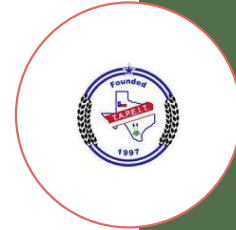
- Responsibilities
 - To review the responsibilities of the Evidence technician.
- Audits and Inventories
 - To discuss the procedure of Audits and Inventories.
- Standard Operating Procedures
 - To define SOPs and their use.



4

Objectives

- Laws
 - To review the appropriate laws for property and evidence.
- Dispositions and Destructions
 - To discuss the methods of destructions and formats of dispositions.
- Ethics
 - To impress the importance of ethics and high moral character.



5

Reminders & Refreshers

6



Chain of Custody

- Every item requires documented, unbroken, secure chain of custody from collection through disposition.
- Item should be packaged, uniquely identified and stored to preserve.

7

Evidence Packaging

Your packaging should outlast you.

Prevent cross contamination.

8

In order to
preserve and
prevent cross
contamination

Correct Packaging

Correct Labeling

Proper Environment

You cannot contaminate area or
item next to other items packaged

9



**Special
Handling**

10

Currency

- “Rule of Two”
- Count by denomination
- Sealed in tamper proof bag
- Keep a log, either manually or automated
- Keep segregated from general storage
- Can be deposited in an account



11

Currency

- Based upon audits, direct observations, and feedback from numerous property officers, there is a significantly high error rate in money counts by booking officers.
- Errors can be related to simple arithmetic calculations.
- Method to reduce this error rate
 - document the number and type of coins and bills for each denomination
 - $3 \times .25 = .75$
 - $4 \times \$1 \text{ bill} = \4.00
- Should be a subtotal for each denomination as well as a total for the money within the package.
- Double checking the math will help to reduce error rate



12

Currency Envelope		<u>MONEY ONLY</u>	
☐ Evidence ☐ Found Property ☐ Recovered Stolen ☐ Safekeeping			
Case # _____		Item # _____	
_____ X \$100 = \$ _____	_____ X \$1.00 = \$ _____		
_____ X \$50 = \$ _____	_____ X \$0.50 = \$ _____		
_____ X \$20 = \$ _____	_____ X \$0.25 = \$ _____		
_____ X \$10 = \$ _____	_____ X \$0.10 = \$ _____		
_____ X \$5 = \$ _____	_____ X \$0.05 = \$ _____		
_____ X \$1 = \$ _____	_____ X \$0.01 = \$ _____		
Subtotal \$ _____	Subtotal \$ _____		
Total Amount \$ _____			
Entered (in envelope) & Sealed by: _____ Date/ Time: _____			
Verified by: _____ (second officer counting money)			
Date/ Time of Collection: _____		Collected By: _____	
Location of Collection: _____		Offense: _____	
Victim: _____		Offender: _____	

13

Currency Verification

- Verification by a second party should occur regardless of the dollar amount.
- The package or label should contain the booking and verifying officer's name printed in a legible manner along with signatures or initials and employee number.
- Verification of the count is necessary to ensure that the amount of money has been counted correctly, and that a second person is responsible for both a correct count and the sealing of the money in the envelope or bag.



14

Currency

- Money should be sealed in a container that is tamper resistant and can be filed in an easily retrievable manner.
- Money should be stored separately from general evidence items in a location with enhanced security.



15

Jewelry/Valuables

- Valuables
 - Coin Collections
 - Stamp Collections
 - Precious Metals
- Individually documented and packaged
- Enhanced security



16

Firearms

- Packaging
 - protects the employee, protects the evidentiary value of the item, and permits efficient storage.
 - easily identifies the item as a firearm, and permits the reading of identifying make, caliber, model numbers, and serial numbers.
 - should also safeguard the evidence from cross-contamination.
- Firearm safety must be a priority.



17

Do you provide firearms training to your personnel?



Safe handling of firearms



Identification of make, model, caliber



Locating serial number



Visual confirmation of a safe firearm

18

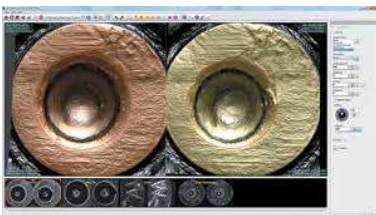
Firearms

- Firearms may be stored in a variety of containers, such as gun boxes, gun bags, kraft paper, Tyvek bags, paper bags, or manila envelopes.
- Some agencies elect to not package their firearms at all.
 - This is not recommended due to the possibility of cross-contamination of DNA related material.
- TCIC/NCIC check
- Etrace-tracing the firearm ownership by ATF
- NIBIN-National Integrated Ballistic Information Network

eTrace 4.0



19



- NIBIN is a national database of digital images of spent bullets and cartridge cases that were found at crime scenes or test-fired from confiscated weapons. ATF manages the system and provides the equipment to crime labs around the country.
- When a gun is made, the manufacturing equipment etches microscopic markings — somewhat like fingerprints — onto the gun's metal parts. These markings, called tool marks, are transferred to a bullet or cartridge case when the gun is fired.

20

eTrace

eTrace is a web-based application that tracks the purchase and/or use history of firearms used in violent crimes.

Key in generating investigative leads to help solve violent crimes across the country.

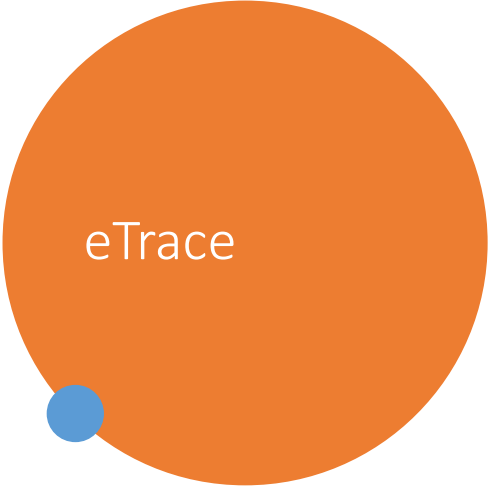
These leads help law enforcement agencies quickly identify potential firearm traffickers and suspects in criminal investigations.

21

HOW ATF TRACES CRIME GUNS



22



- Firearms tracing through eTrace provides for the systematic tracking of a recovered firearm from the original manufacturer or importer, through the subsequent distribution chain (wholesaler/retailer) to identify an unlicensed purchaser.



23

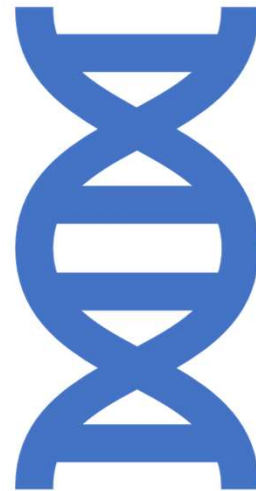
eTrace

- Etrace.atf.gov
- Have administrator go to POC Administrative Functions and add user
- User will Request eTrace account
- Create a Trace Request
- Follow prompts and complete form
- Always use routine, NEVER urgent



24

Special Handling Biological Evidence



25

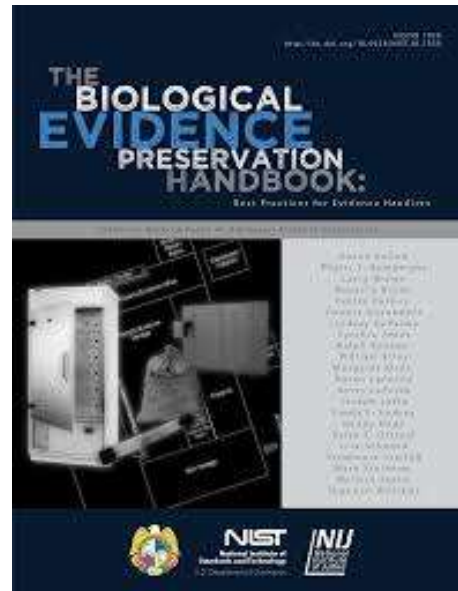
Snip from Introduction of Biological Evidence Reservation Handbook

INTRODUCTION

Across the nation, headlines tell the story of evidence that has been mishandled, misplaced, lost, or destroyed. Often the blame for these mishaps is directed toward property and evidence custodians housed in law enforcement agencies nationwide. Many law enforcement agencies do not properly address, recognize, or support the efforts of their property rooms. Although these agencies bear ultimate responsibility for maintaining the integrity of the evidence, the real problem lies with a systemic failure to properly account for evidence from collection through final disposition. This failure reduces the public's confidence in the criminal justice system to produce just results in criminal and civil proceedings.

26

The **Biological Evidence Preservation Handbook** is a guidance document created to help law enforcement agencies, forensic laboratories, medical examiner and coroner offices, and the courts properly handle, store, and retain biological evidence (such as blood, semen, saliva, hair, tissue, or other materials containing DNA).



27

Biological Evidence Preservation Handbook

- Offers guidance for individuals involved in the
 - Collection
 - Examination
 - Tracking
 - Packaging
 - Storing
 - Disposition
 of biological evidence.

28

- It was developed by the **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)** and the **National Institute of Justice (NIJ)** to address the fact that DNA evidence can be crucial for solving crimes, confirming guilt, or exonerating the innocent—but only if it is preserved correctly over time.



29



Key purposes of the handbook:

- **Standardization:** Provide consistent practices for storing and maintaining biological evidence nationwide.
- **Preservation:** Ensure that DNA and other biological material remain intact and suitable for testing, even decades later.
- **Chain of custody:** Outline procedures for tracking and documenting evidence to maintain its integrity in court.

30



Key purposes of the handbook:

- **Legal compliance:** Help agencies meet requirements for evidence retention set by state and federal laws.
- **Practical guidance:** Offer recommendations for packaging, environmental conditions (temperature, humidity), and handling methods that reduce contamination or degradation

31

This Handling Guide Provides Information

- Provides Best Practices
- Provides acceptable level of storage conditions

Table III-I: Short-Term Storage Conditions Matrix¹

Type of Evidence ²	Frozen	Refrigerated	Temperature Controlled	Room Temperature
Liquid Blood ³	Never	Best	Less than 24 hours	
Urine	Best	Less than 24 hours		
Dry Biological Stained Item ⁴			Best	Acceptable
Wet Bloody Items (if cannot be dried)	Best	Acceptable	Less than 24 hours	
Bones	Acceptable		Acceptable	Acceptable
Hair			Best	Acceptable
Swabs with Biological Material		Best (wet)	Best (dried)	
Vaginal Smears			Best	
Feces	Best			
Buccal Swabs			Best	Less than 24 hours

32

Why does this matter?



Justice system impact: Properly preserved evidence has been key in both convicting offenders and exonerating wrongfully convicted individuals.



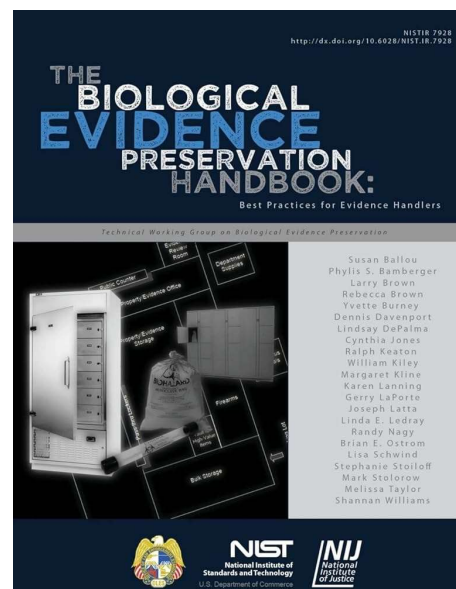
Long-term storage challenges: Agencies often have limited resources and space, so the handbook also addresses cost-effective and scientifically sound solutions.

33

Core message: **biological evidence is uniquely valuable**, and with proper storage, it can remain viable for decades—helping solve cold cases and prevent wrongful convictions.

<https://www.nist.gov/system/files/documents/forensics/NIST-IR-7928.pdf>

Be familiar with this document.



34



35



36

DPS Crime Laboratory Policy

4. All lithium-ion batteries must be removed from items submitted for seized drugs analysis (e.g., e-cigarettes) prior to submission.
 - a) *If unable to be removed, lithium batteries are treated as a flammable hazard, labeled, and isolated when encountered due to safety, explosion, and fire concerns.*



37

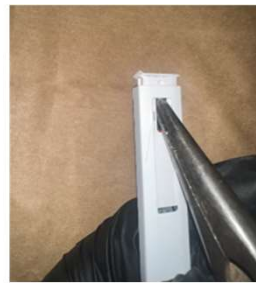
How to Remove Battery from Cake Type Pens



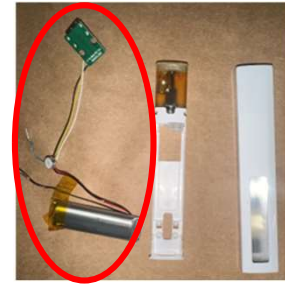
Use a blade to cut around the end portion.



Use a blade to lift the sticker.



Insert pliers under where the label was located. Push up to remove the inner contents.



Remove battery portion and dispose. Place the inner contents back in the vape pen.

Note: Recommended to photograph before and after.
Follow your department policy and procedure.

38

Best Practice

- Remove lithium batteries PRIOR to submission to the property room.
- They are a fire hazard.



39



Inventories &
Audits

40

FORMER SHERIFF'S DEPUTY PLEADS GUILTY **New Jersey Scandal** **and missing drugs: Investigation** **ust': Former state trooper strikes plea de**

DON FERRELL **PLEADS GUILTY**

December 19th, 2023

A New Jersey police lieutenant swiped county prosecutor's evidence room — "substantially different" condition questions about what he was doing.

Kevin T. Matthew, 47, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, pleaded guilty to stealing \$10,000, the New Jersey Attorney General's office said.

Two razor blades were found in his office at the Bergen County prosecutor's office.

June 26th, 2024

DESOTO, Texas — Police Texas I-Team found the department for years, v

It began in January 2023, when a police officer found marijuana that he later, the drugs.

According to the program Friday after pleading guilty to five criminal charges related to his theft while still on the force.

April 5th, 2024

Giancarlo DiGenova, who resigned his position, received a probationary sentence Friday after admitting including a felony grand larceny count for the Rolex watch.

BURLINGTON — A former Vermont State Police officer received a probationary sentence and was ordered to take a course in anger management Friday after pleading guilty to five criminal charges related to his theft while still on the force.

Another Chief convicted of theft from the evidence room!

Illinois · 361 Hits

Ex-Tilton police chief sentenced to probation for stealing weapons from evidence locker

August 26th, 2024

DANVILLE — A former Tilton police chief has been sentenced to probation for stealing handguns from the city police department in 2021.

David Cornett, 68, pleaded guilty on Friday to three counts of stealing weapons from a law enforcement agency. Vermilion County Judge Robert J. Smith sentenced the chief to probation for the sentence negotiated between the State Appellate Court and Cornett's defense attorney Aaron Weiner.

In exchange for his plea, the state dismissed three counts of misconduct and one additional count of theft — all misdemeanors.

And there are MORE!

41

Checks and Balances

Audits & Inventories are Necessary

Protect your Agency

Protect the Employees

Protect Yourself

42

Inventories

- Provides for the accountability of all items submitted to the care, custody and control of the department.
- An integral part of the inventory process is to ensure that all items of property are accounted for.
- Involves matching each piece of paperwork with its corresponding piece of property.



43

When to conduct inventory?

- Annually
- Personnel changes
- Suspected issues
- Ideal situation is for past & new Property Officers to conduct a joint inventory.
- Chiefs and Sheriffs should also consider an inventory when taking over as leader of the agency.
- Standard does not suggest each package be opened, but only comparing the package with the associated paperwork or computer record.



44



Thoughts?





Have you experienced going through a manual system to a barcoded system?



A new Records Management System?



How was this handled?



What do you suggest?

45



46



What does your property room look like?



47



- Organization is KEY!
- We must dispose and destroy to maintain order and space.



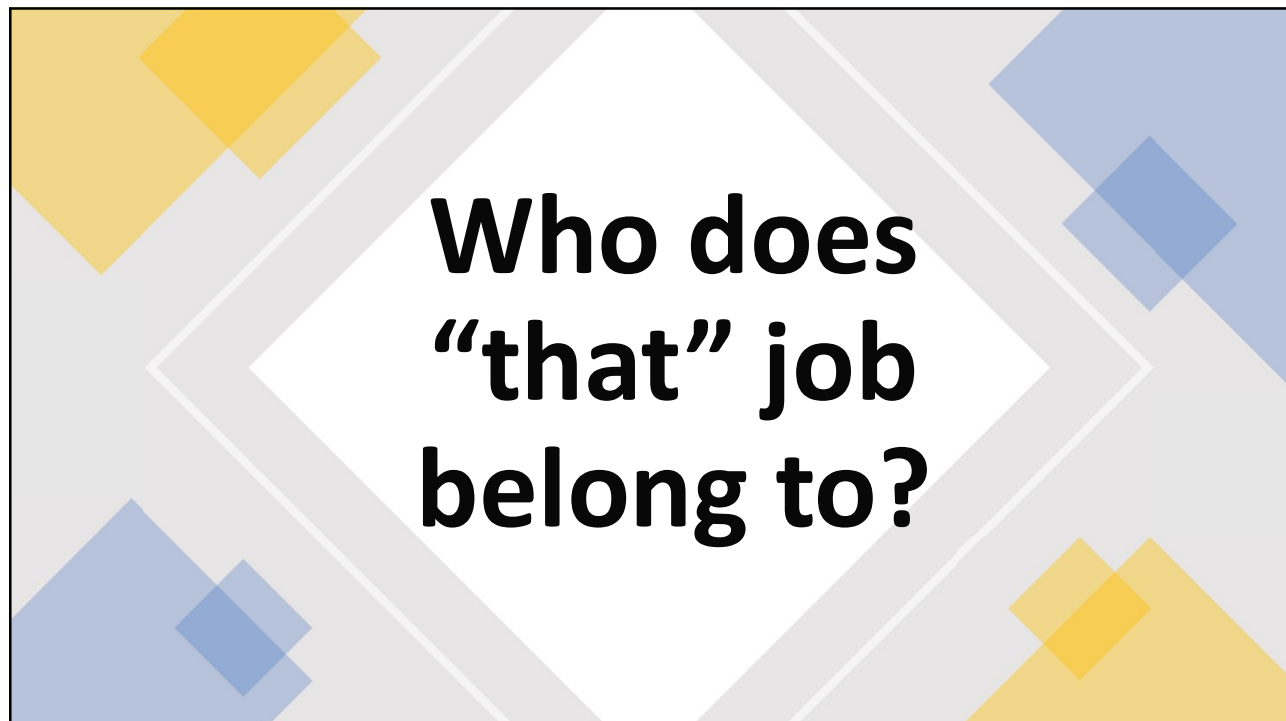
48



Fundamental-
But Necessary

- Items of evidence/property in your room should be able to be located...and not just by you!
- You need a logical system
- Limited Locations
- Specified locations

49



**Who does
“that” job
belong to?**

50



When was the last time your agency...

- Disposed of items?
- Auctioned items?
- Completed a destruction order?
- Burned or destroyed narcotics?
- Mailed a certified letter?

51



52

When to purge...

- Law enforcement agencies should have a systematic review process assuring that each item of property and evidence is evaluated for possible purging.
- The property room inventory should be kept free of items that are no longer needed in order to avoid the need for additional storage space and staffing.
- Most common review system used in property rooms utilizes the statutes of limitations as a review date.
- After establishing the time limits that are most suitable for the department, a system needs to be developed to add a review date to every item of evidence.

53

In general, the property officer should not be making final decisions on the disposition of *evidence*.

The property officer should be considered the guardian of the items and not the decision-maker of its final disposition.

Such procedures provides for a good internal control by separating responsibilities and duties.

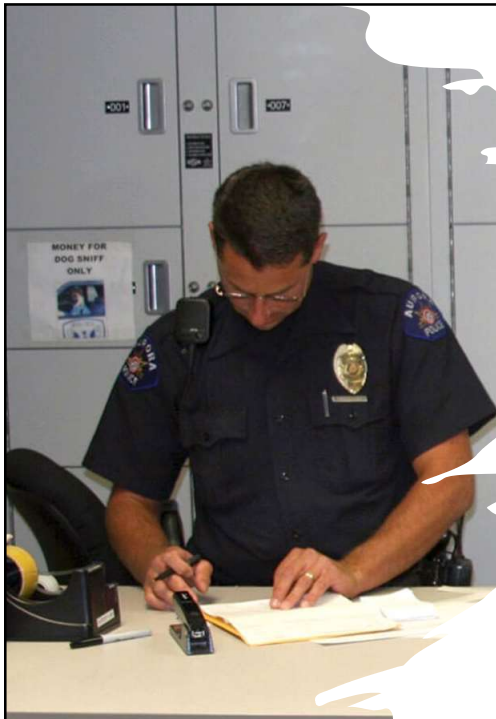
54



Dispositions & Purging

- Establish time limits
 - Found/Abandoned
 - 30-90 days
 - Safekeeping
 - immediately
 - Prisoner property
 - immediately
 - Class C & Juvenile
 - short term

55



Dispositions & Purging

- Identify items that may be released
 - Is the case disposed?
 - Do you have an officer disposition signed?
 - DNA, did you send out the proper notifications?
 - Do you have a court order?
- Obtain authorization to release
 - Send officer dispositions/get authorization from your DA on applicable items.

56



Dispositions & Purging

- Follow up on requested authorizations
- Follow up on cases where owners are waiting for release

57



Dispositions & Purging

- Homicides
 - Indefinite
 - Defendant dies
 - Unidentified DNA has NO statute of limitations
 - Long term storage

58

Dispositions & Purging

- Court Orders
 - Keep all copies of your court orders with your original paperwork.
 - Seizures will also require court orders so that you are clear on what evidence is being acquired by your department.

59



Destroy

- Shred **ALL** personal/sensitive documentation.
- Burn all bio/narcotics and pornographic material.
- Burn/erase digital media.
- Crush, chop, melt firearms/weapons. Make unusable and serial number not legible.
- Small agency option: combine burns with neighboring agency.

60



Disposals

- Throw away
 - Heavy duty trash bags w/ zip ties
- Return to Owner
 - Send owner notifications ASAP via certified mail.
 - Get DL/ID information and check for Criminal Histories when releasing firearms.
 - Court orders are required for release of ALL firearms collected as evidence.

61



Disposals

- Auction
 - Use your City/County Facilities for Auction, Online Auction services, etc.
- Diversion
 - You will either have a Seizure/Court order for property awarded to your dept. or you will need some type of Diversion Form for your agency that goes up the Chain for Approval, along with a memo from the Unit requesting the property that states what the actual property will be used for.
 - Your Quartermaster should tag the property and from that point on, they will be responsible for tracking it, through the disposal stage. Make sure you document your paperwork.
 - Court Orders are optional for diversions.

62

Disposals

- Donation
 - Your agency may allow you to donate Abandoned/Found Bicycles.
 - New clothing that cannot be returned to a store can be donated to shelters.
 - Ammo can go to your Range Masters.
 - Some labs will also take it for test firing.



63

Expunction

- Is a type of lawsuit in which a first-time offender of a prior criminal conviction seeks that the records of that earlier process be sealed, making the records unavailable through the state or Federal repositories.

64

Sealed Record

- Is the practice of sealing or, in some cases, destroying court records that would otherwise be publicly accessible as public records.

65

Expunctions

- Expunction/Sealing Order
 - All original paperwork/hard copies are to be forwarded to the open records specialist.
 - Delete all names and add “expunged per court order”
 - Active evidence
 - Send disposition authorization with “expunged/sealed” stamped on it.
 - Check for co-defendants before disposing
 - Make copies
 - Make sure to eliminate the names

66

Documentation

- Retain any paper with an original signature
 - This includes all paperwork that relates to each piece of property.
 - This is your chain of custody.
 - Includes Court Orders, Owner notifications, dispositions, etc.
 - Digital records are acceptable.



67

Returning Firearms



- Run a thorough check on person and firearm prior to release.
 - Criminal History
 - Domestic Violence
 - Felonies
 - Mental Illness
 - Dishonorable discharge

68

Prohibited Weapon

- Define
 - Penal Code 46.05
 - Explosive weapon; machine gun; short-barrel firearm; firearm silence; armor-piercing ammunition; chemical dispensing device; zip gun
- No release without a court order

69

Destroying Drugs Health & Safety Code

- Sec. 481.154. RULES. (a) The director may adopt reasonable rules and procedures, not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter, concerning:
 - (1) summary forfeiture and summary destruction of controlled substance property or plants;
 - (2) establishment and operation of a secure storage area;
 - (3) delegation by a law enforcement agency head of the authority to access a secure storage area; and
 - (4) minimum tolerance for and the circumstances of loss or destruction during an investigation.
- (b) The rules for the destruction of controlled substance property or plants must require:
 - (1) more than one person to witness the destruction of the property or plants;
 - (2) the preparation of an inventory of the property or plants destroyed; and
 - (3) the preparation of a statement that contains the names of the persons who witness the destruction and the details of the destruction.
 - (c) A document prepared under a rule adopted under this section must be completed, retained, and made available for inspection by the director

70



71

Bio-Hazard



Items should be stored in a container that will protect anyone handling it from accidental exposure.



The package should be marked in a manner to indicate that it possibly contains bio-hazardous materials.



Any wet items should be dried before packaging.



Sharp items should be put in puncture proof packaging.

72



73

Personal Protection

There are many types of personal safety equipment that can be used. Most common among these are good latex or nitrile gloves.

Respirators are recommended for any item that tends to shed particulate matter.

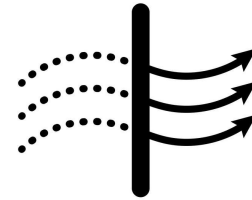
Eye protection should be used when there is a likelihood of foreign items getting in your eyes.

74

Air Purification

Needs a HEPA
and Carbon
filter

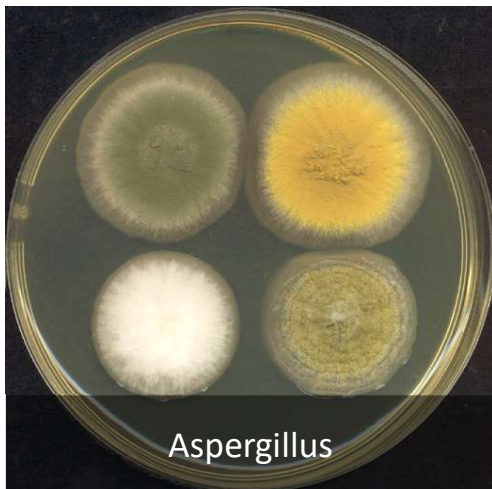
Must clean
the air



VectorStock®

VectorStock.com/27860925

75



Aspergillus



Black Mold

Mold Exposure

76



77

What do these acronym's mean?

CCP

PC

TABC

H&S

78

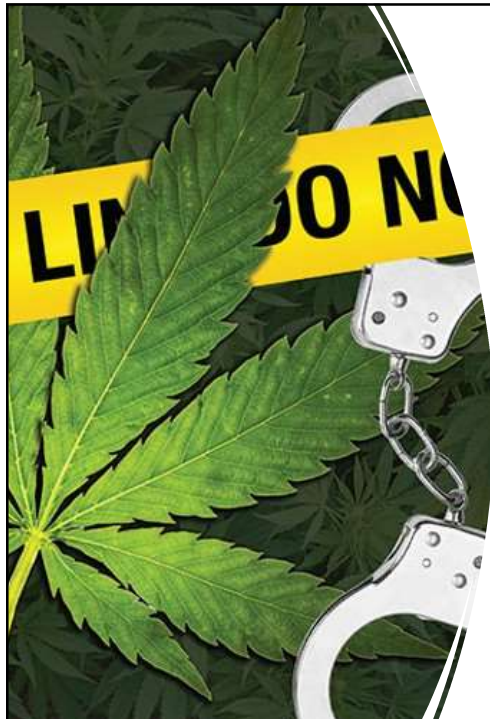
CCP- Code of Criminal Procedure

PC- description of law and penalty

TABC- Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code

H&S- Health & Safety Code

79



Possession of Marijuana

- Under 2 oz.: Class B misdemeanor;
- 2-4 oz.: Class A misdemeanor;
- 4 oz. to 5 lbs.: State jail felony;
- 5-50 lbs.: 3rd degree felony;
- 50-2000 lbs.: 2nd degree felony;
- Over 2000 lbs.: TDC for life or 5-99 yrs. and \$50,000
- Texas Health & Safety Code 481.032

80

Sale

- .25 oz. or less: Class B misdemeanor (if no remuneration);
- .25 oz. or less: Class A misdemeanor (with remuneration);
- .25 oz. to 5 lbs.: state jail felony;
- 5 lbs. to 50 lbs.: 2nd degree felony;



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- 50-2000 lbs.: 1st degree felony;
- Over 2000 lbs.: Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice institution for life or 10-99 yrs. and/or \$100,000;
- Delivery to minor under 17 who is enrolled in school and over .25 oz.: 2nd degree felony;
- Within drug-free zone: penalties doubled

82

Cocaine and Heroin

- Less than 1 g.: state jail felony;
- 1-4 g.: 3rd degree felony;
- 4-200 g.: 2nd degree felony;
- 200-400 g.: 1st degree felony;
- 400 g. and over: 10-99 yrs. or life at Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice institution and/or \$100,000



83



OCCUPATION CODE 2154.304

- Sec. 2154.304. SEIZURE OF ILLEGAL FIREWORKS. (a) The state fire marshal, a fire chief, a fire marshal, their deputies, or a peace officer may seize illegal fireworks.
- Fireworks seized in the enforcement of this chapter shall be kept in the custody of the seizing agent or the sheriff of the county in which the fireworks were seized.

84

OCCUPATION CODE 2154.304

- (b) The owner of the seized fireworks may file an action contesting the seizure in a district court in the county in which the fireworks were seized.
- (c) **Not later than the 30th day after the hearing on the seizure, the court may authorize the return of part or all of the confiscated fireworks. The court shall order any fireworks not returned to be destroyed. If an action contesting the seizure is not filed by the 30th day after the seizure, the seizing agent or the sheriff shall destroy the fireworks.**



85



86

New Laws 2023



- Art. 56A.306 (a-1) CCP, which sets a retention time of five years on SANE kits turned over to LE where no police report was made.
- Sec. 420.0432 GC, which sets a five-business day victim notification for DNA hits related to SANE kits unless it interferes with investigation or prosecution.

87

New Laws 2025



In Texas, House Bill 1261, which went into effect on September 1, 2025, changed the way law enforcement agencies notify the public about unclaimed and abandoned property. The law allows agencies to post notices online, including on their social media accounts, to help reunite owners with their property.

88

Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 18.17 (abandoned/unclaimed property)

Before: If the police had abandoned or unclaimed property (like lost items, evidence, or seized goods not picked up), the law required them to notify people by **certified mail** or by publishing a notice in a **newspaper**.

Now: Instead of sending letters or paying for newspaper ads, they can legally post the **same information** on the **city/county's official website** *and* on their **official social media page**.

89

Laws

- Code of Criminal Procedure
 - Chapter 12
 - Statute of Limitations
 - Chapter 18
 - Art. 18.17 – Disposition of abandoned or unclaimed property
 - Art. 18.18 – Disposition of gambling paraphernalia, prohibited weapon, criminal instruments and other contraband
 - Art. 18.181 – Disposition of explosive weapons and chemical dispensing devices
 - Art. 18.183 – Disposition of money pending disposition
 - Art. 18.19 – Disposition of seized weapons
 - Art. 18.191 – Weapons involved in Mental Health Cases



90

Laws

- Code of Criminal Procedure
 - Chapter 38
 - Art. 38.34 – Photographic Evidence in Theft cases
 - Art. 38.43 – Biological Evidence
 - Art. 38.50 – DWI Evidence
 - Chapter 47
 - Art. 47.06 – Property sold
 - Art. 47.07 – Owner may recover
 - Chapter 59
 - Art. 59.06 – Disposition of Forfeited Property
 - Chapter 64
 - Art. 64.01 – Motion for forensic DNA Testing



91

Laws

- Health and Safety Code
 - Chapter 481
 - 481.152 – Seizure and summary forfeiture and destruction of controlled substance plants
 - 481.153 – Seizure and summary forfeiture and destruction of controlled substance property
 - 481.154 – Rules
 - 481.159 – Disposition of controlled substance property or plant
 - 481.160 – Destruction of excess quantities



92

Laws

- Alcoholic Beverage Code
 - Chapter 103
 - 103.03 – Seizure of illicit beverages
 - 103.04 – Arrest of person in possession
 - 103.05 – Report of seizure
 - 103.06 – Beverage delivered to commission



93

Laws

- Texas Administrative Code
 - Title 37 – Public Safety and Corrections
 - Chapter 13 – Controlled Substances
 - Sub-chapter G – Forfeiture and Destruction
- Government Code
 - Government Code 420.33 – Sexual Assault Chain of Custody
- Federal Firearms Code
 - Section 18 922 Chp. 44 – Prohibited from firearm possession



94

No Limitation

- Murder and Manslaughter
- Sexual Assault Under Penal Code 22.02, 22.021
- Sexual assault where DNA is present but does not match the victim or any known individual
- Continuous Sexual Abuse of a child PC 21.02
- Indecency w/Child (PC 21.11(a)(2))

95

No Limitation

- Failure to stop and render aid TC 550.021
- Trafficking of a person PC 20A.02(a)(7) or (8)
- Continuous trafficking PC 20A.03
- Compelling prostitution PC 43.05(A)(2)

96



No Limitation

Name a scenario in which property/evidence with no limitation may be disposed?

97

10 Years

- Theft of Estate,
- Theft by Public Servant of Government Property
- Forgery
- Injury to Elderly or Disabled PC 22.04
- Sexual Assault, except as provided by Subdivision (1)
- Arson
- Trafficking PC 20A.02 (a)(1), (2-4)
- Compelling prostitution PC 43.05

98

7 Years

- Misapplication of fiduciary property or property of a financial institution
- Securing execution of document by deception
- Money laundering
- Credit card or debit card abuse PC 32.31

99

7 Years

- Fraudulent use or possession of identifying information PC 32.51
- Exploitation of a child, elderly or disabled PC 32.53
- Medicaid Fraud PC 35A
- Bigamy PC 25.01

100

5 Years

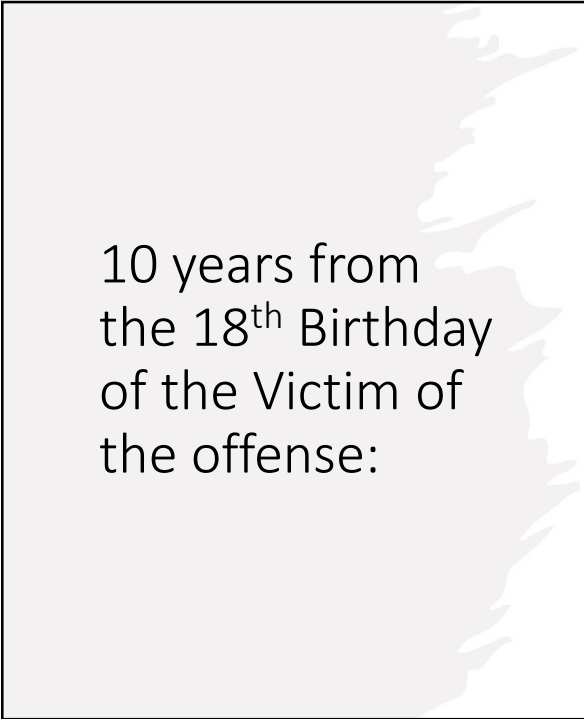
- Theft or robbery
- Kidnapping or burglary (except under subsection 5)
- Injury to elderly or disabled PC 22.04
 - **NOT** Felony 1
- Abandoned/jeopardizing a child
- Insurance fraud

101

20 years from
the 18th Birthday

- (5) If the investigation of the offense shows that the victim is younger than 17 years of age at the time the offense is committed, 20 years from the 18th birthday of the victim of one of the following offenses:sexual performance by a child
- under Section [43.25](#), PC
- (B) aggravated kidnapping under Section [20.04](#)(a)(4), PC, if the defendant committed the offense with the intent to violate or abuse the victim sexually; or
- (C) burglary under Section [30.02](#), PC, if the offense is punishable under Subsection (d) of that section and the defendant committed the offense with the intent to commit an offense described by Subdivision (1)(B) or (D) of this article or Paragraph (B) of this subdivision;

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10 years from
the 18th Birthday
of the Victim of
the offense:

- Trafficking of persons under PC 20A.02 (a)(5,6)
- Injury to child PC 22.04
- Bigamy PC 25.01

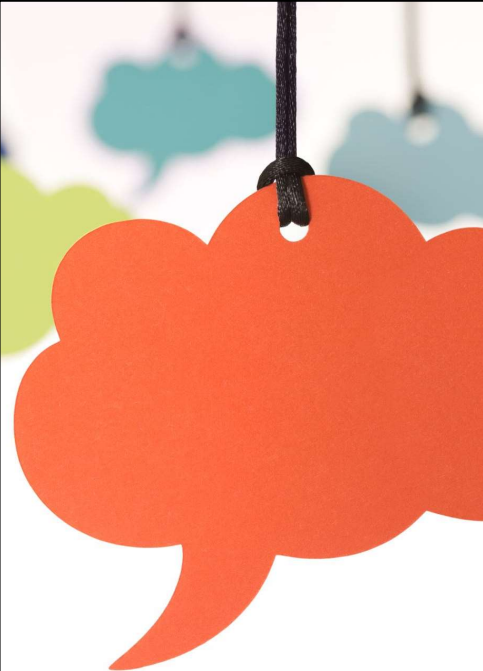
103



104



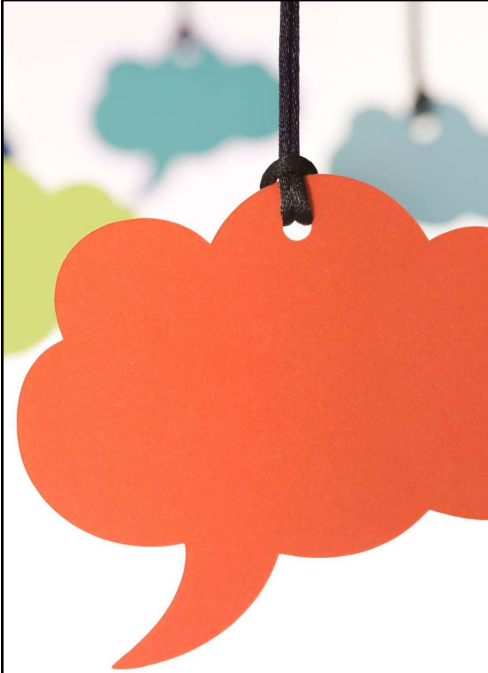
105



Ethics

Doing the _____ thing
when _____ is _____.

106



Ethics

Doing the right thing
when no one is looking.

107

Ethics

- MYTHS
 - We're so ethical we don't need attention to ethics
 - Business ethics is a matter of the good guys preaching to the bad guys
 - Ethics can't be managed
 - Our organization is not in trouble with the law, so we're ethical

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Ethics



- Character Traits
 - Integrity – firm adherence to a code of especially moral or artistic values
 - Conscience -moral goodness or blameworthiness of one's own conduct, intentions, or character together with a feeling of obligation to do right or be good
 - Morals - of or relating to principles of right and wrong in behavior

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TAPEIT'S Code of Ethics

"We, the members of TAPEIT, in carrying out our role of providing complete accountability of all evidence and property that comes into our possession, recognize the need to perform those functions in a professional, unbiased manner, and with the highest degree of integrity. The manner in which we perform those functions extends beyond the bounds of our own agency to other law enforcement agencies, the legal system and our respective publics."



110

As Members, We Shall...

- adhere to the professional standards as set forth by the Association;
- work towards advancing the Association's goals and objectives;
- conduct all assigned duties with the highest degree of integrity and morally sound actions in an open and direct manner;
- act with integrity in all dealings with the public, law enforcements agencies and all others with whom we may interact;



111

As Members, We Shall...

- conduct our duties in a safe manner in protecting ourselves, our colleagues and all others with whom we are engaged;
- work to cultivate confidence in our profession among our supervisors, chiefs, directors, attorneys and judges throughout the State of Texas; and,
- avoid any action which will bring discredit, disfavor or otherwise negative reflection upon ourselves, our agency and our Association.



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Questions



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