



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF
STAFF G-1
300 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0300

2 APR 2014

DAPE-ARR-SA

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS OF THE ACTIVE ARMY, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ON TITLE 10 STATUS AND ARMY RESERVE

SUJBECT: Commander Guidance for Probable Cause Testing for Steroids

1. Steroid testing is not a standard test on the Department of Defense Drug Demand Reduction Program (DDRP) testing panel. Army Forensic Toxicology Drug Testing Laboratories (FTDTL) test for seven categories of drugs (THC, synthetic cannabinoids, cocaine, amphetamines, designer amphetamines, opiates and benzodiazepines).
2. The Fort Meade FTDTL manages the Army's Steroid Testing Contract. Steroid testing is expensive, time consuming and limited in the number of tests allocated each year by DoD contract. Commanders will use test basis code Probable Cause (PO) during collection search or seizure when there is reasonable belief that the urine to be collected contains evidence of illegal drug use, pursuant to the Military Rules of Evidence (M.R.E.) 312 and 315. The commander should verify that they have sufficient probable cause by consulting with their supporting Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) IAW Army Regulation (AR) 600-85, The Army Substance Abuse Program, paragraph 10-2b. The commander must submit a memorandum requesting a PO test (Enclosure 1) with concurrence from SJA. This memorandum will be forwarded with the DD Form 2624.
3. Based on the concurrence from SJA, Commanders must coordinate with the Installation Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP), National Guard Drug Testing Coordinator (OTC), Reserve Alcohol and Drug Control Officer (ADCO), or Base Area Code (SAC) Manager for deployed area for processing and shipping the PO specimen(s) to their supporting FTDTL.
4. Random testing and unit sweeps will not be accepted. Prior coordination must be made through the Drug Testing Branch, Army Center for Substance Abuse Programs (ACSA). The laboratory will also contact the commander to verify the request.
5. Specimens collected for steroids must meet the following requirements:
 - a) The specimen collection is outlined in AR 600-85, Appendix E. The test basis code (PO) must be annotated on the DD Form 2624 Specimen Custody Document.
 - b) A separate DD Form 2624 is required for each steroid request.
 - c) The specimen bottle must have a minimum quantity of 60 ml for testing.

DAPE-AR-SA

SUBJECT: Commander Guidance for Probable Cause Testing for Steroids

d) The DD Form 2624 and specimen MUST be accompanied by a memorandum, signed by the commander, requesting that the specimen be tested for steroids. The memo must identify the specimen by Base Area Code, UIC, Batch Number, date collected, specimen number and SSN. DO NOT PLACE THE SOLDIER'S NAME ON THE MEMORANDUM. The memo must also contain the commander's phone number and e-mail address as the laboratory will contact the commander.

e) Leave Block A of the DD Form 2624, "Laboratory Conducting Drug Testing" blank.

f) Specimens collected for steroids will NOT be tested for any other drugs. A second sample must be collected if the commander wants a Soldier tested for steroids and other drugs on the testing panel.

g) All specimens will be mailed IAW AR 600-85 to Fort Meade:

COMMANDER
ATTN: PROCESSING SECTION
FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY DRUG TESTING
LABORATORY 2490 WILSON STREET
FORT MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5235

6. Results Reporting: There is a 6-8 week turnaround time for steroid testing. The DTC/BAC Manager/Alcohol and Drug Control Officer will receive the results via the iFTDTL portal and hardcopy. Steroid positive results must be processed by a Medical Review Officer (MRO) per MEDCOM Reg. 40-51 and AR 600-85 before any action is taken.

7. Additional questions regarding specimen submission should be directed to the supporting ASAP, National Guard OTC, Reserve ADCO, deployed BAC Manager Mr. Dang Tran, HQDA G-1, 703-571-7307 (DSN 671), dang.p.tran.ctr@mail.mil.

LES MCFARLING
Director, Army Center for Substance
Abuse Programs