



GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Director

GBI CRIME LAB OPERATIONS BULLETIN 2010-003 Recent Changes in Drug Legislation October 19, 2010

A recent trend in the illicit drug marketplace has been the increase in smokable incense and so-called “legal highs.” The chemicals associated with this trend have been addressed through legislation and the GBI Crime Laboratory is prepared to analyze evidence samples containing these chemicals.

HB1309 (effective date 05/24/10) controls many of the products commonly known as synthetic cannabinoids as Schedule I compounds. These chemicals have been marketed as herbal incense preparations in many smoke shops and convenience stores under a variety of trade names. These trade names can include, but are not limited to: Spice, Spike, Serenity, and K2 (see pictures below). The chemicals are often sold as a powder or deposited onto an inactive leafy material, typically by spraying a solution containing the chemical onto the leafy material and allowing it to dry. **At this time, there is no viable preliminary color test for these chemicals.** The packages do not list any chemicals on the labels and are usually labeled as “not for human consumption.” A consistent relationship has not been identified between the brand names and the chemicals used.



HB1021 (effective date 07/01/10) amended the Georgia Dangerous Drug Act to control Salvinorin A, the most abundant active ingredient in the plant *Salvia divinorum*.

Salvia divinorum is typically packaged in containers which accurately reflect the contents. There are also products available claiming to be concentrated preparations of Salvinorin A. Current data has not confirmed that these extracts are in fact more concentrated.

If you have any questions regarding submission of these materials, you may contact the GBI Chemistry Section Manager Nelly Miles at 404-270-8107 (office) or via email at nelly.miles@gbi.ga.gov.



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