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## OPERATIONS BULLETIN 2017-06 November 6, 2017 Drug Evidence Submission Requirements for Liquids and Large Cases

In order to ensure the safety of law enforcement and laboratory personnel, the GBI Crime Laboratory has evaluated the packaging of suspected drug evidence. This evaluation has identified the need for more robust packaging, to include the use of specific types of containers, in order to minimize the risk of exposure to the materials contained within them.

Effective February 1, 2018 <u>all</u> liquids and all solid material over two (2) pounds (or one kilogram) must be submitted in accordance with new packaging requirements. These packaging requirements are being mandated due to safety concerns with drugs that pose significant health risks on exposure, such as potent synthetic opioids. All other suspected drug evidence may continue to be submitted following established packaging requirements.

The submission requirements can be found in the Evidence Submission Information on the <u>GBI website</u> (Chemistry Submission considerations begin on page 4) or by pasting <a href="https://dofs-gbi.georgia.gov/sites/dofs-gbi.georgia.gov/files/WebsiteEvidenceSubmision102017.pdf">https://dofs-gbi.georgia.gov/files/WebsiteEvidenceSubmision102017.pdf</a> into the web browser.

Examples of proper packaging are on display at each GBI Crime Laboratory facility along with ordering information for acceptable submission containers.

Please forward this bulletin to all individuals within your organization who submit evidence to the GBI Crime Laboratory.

If you have any questions or concerns about this bulletin, please contact me at <u>Kathy.Lee@gbi.ga.gov</u> or 404-270-8082.

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