



GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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The Division of Forensic Sciences Crime Laboratory has recently experienced three separate incidents where improperly labeled and loaded firearms were submitted to the Lab. This practice is a safety hazard to both the transporter and the Crime Lab staff receiving and handling the loaded firearm. Each law enforcement agency was provided copies of the GBI Crime Lab booklet, *Laboratory Service and Requirements for Submitting Evidence*, outlining the proper requirements for evidence submission.

The following rules will be strictly enforced:

- If transporting via common carrier, regulations require **all** firearms to be unloaded prior to shipping to the laboratory.
- If circumstances warrant leaving cartridge(s) in the weapon, then the weapon must be hand-delivered directly to a firearms technician in the laboratory with a note labeled "LOADED WEAPON" attached to the weapon.

Following these safety guidelines is mandatory to ensure the maintenance of a safe working environment.

Terry Mills III
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