



Update from the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

TO: Wisconsin Law Enforcement Officers

FROM: Amy Miles, Director of Forensic Toxicology, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

DATE: December 7, 2016

SUBJECT: Update from the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, Forensic Toxicology Section

With the upcoming change in legislation in January making all 4th OWI offenses a felony, the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH) wanted to remind you all of our role in OWI investigations.

The WSLH provides blood collection kits for Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) offenses. On occasion, the WSLH receives inquiries as to the type of OWI blood samples and their offenses the Forensic Toxicology Section will accept. **Any OWI offense or crash, felony or otherwise, may be sent to the WSLH.** The Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory will only accept felony OWI cases. (NOTE: All non-OWI felony offenses must be sent to the respective Wisconsin State Crime Laboratories.)

Over the last few years the WSLH Forensic Toxicology Section has worked to improve the turnaround time for drug testing in OWI cases. Currently, the average turnaround time is 50 days for comprehensive drug testing and 6 days for blood alcohol testing.

As always, please feel free to contact the laboratory with any questions or comments by calling 608-224-6241 or by email at amy.miles@slh.wisc.edu.

Thank you.

