Instructions for Collecting Gunshot Residue (GSR) Kit

Read entire instruction sheet before using kit.

A. When the cap is removed from the clear plastic vials containing the SEM stubs, the adhesive collecting surface is exposed and care must be taken to not drop the stub or contaminate the collection surface by allowing the surface to come in contact with an object other than the area that is to be sampled. (See Figure 1.)

B. Heavily soiled or bloody areas should be avoided if possible.

C. When pressing the stubs on the questioned areas, use enough pressure to cause a mild indentation on the surface of the subject's hand.

STEP 1  Fill out all information requested on the enclosed Gunshot Residue Kit Information Form and information requested on the front of the kit.

STEP 2  Put on the barrier gloves provided in this kit. Do not substitute with other gloves!

NOTE: If there is blood on the subject’s hands or clothing, the barrier gloves provided in this kit will protect the investigating officer from blood borne pathogens.

STEP 3  RIGHT HAND:

A. Carefully remove the cap from the vial labeled RIGHT HAND.

B. While holding the vial cap, press the collecting surface of the stub on to the subject’s right hand until the area shown below in Figure 2 has been covered.

C. After sampling the subject’s right hand, return the cap, with metal stub, to the RIGHT HAND vial.

STEP 4  LEFT HAND:

For collection from the left hand, repeat Step 3 using the vials labeled LEFT HAND until the area shown below in Figure 3 has been covered.

STEP 5  After sampling both hands, return capped vials to kit.

Final Instructions

A. Place yellow copy of the Gunshot Residue Kit Information Form in the kit (the white copy is submitted with the Laboratory Submission Form and the pink copy is retained by the collecting officer).

B. Close kit. Affix Police Evidence Seal where indicated, then initial seal.

C. Mail or hand deliver sealed kit to the crime laboratory for analysis. (If mailed, package kit in a cardboard box to prevent damage in transit.)