

# **Topics**

- OVERVIEW:
  - Regulations
  - Employer's Role
  - Key Terms
- KEY CONCEPTS:
  - Why We Test
  - Three Kinds of Tests
  - Legal Background
- PART 655:
  - Program Requirements
  - Prohibitions
  - Test Types
  - Records Retention & Release, D&A Management Information System (MIS)

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#### **Topics (cont.)**

- PART 40:
  - Purpose
  - Subparts & Key Employer Subparts
  - Alcohol Testing
  - Drug Testing
  - Processing of Results
  - Testing Problems & Refusals
  - Section 40.25 (Previous-Employer Checks)
  - Public Interest Exclusions (PIEs)
- VENDORS:
  - "Service Agents,"
  - Employer's Responsibility & Role
  - Common Oversight Methods
- Next Steps

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# Housekeeping

- Two fifteen-minute breaks
- Lunch: Noon to 1:30
- Questions at the end of each section, and at the end of the day



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# **OVERVIEW**

Regulations, Role of the Employer, Key Terms



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# **The Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act**

- Passed by Congress in 1991
- Directed DOT to:
  - Implement testing
  - Include strong safeguards
  - Require HHS-approved labs
  - ...and split-specimen testing
  - Test in five *specific* circumstances



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#### **49 CFR PART 655**

- Published by the Federal Transit Administration
- LIBRET BULLDETTLY WEIREGRAFER IN TO U.F.A.

  1.51.

  PART 655—PREVENTION OF ALCO-HOL MISUSE AND PROHIBITED DRUG USE IN TRANSIT OPER-ATIONS

  Subport A—General

  Subport A—General

  65.54—65.56

  65.65.
  66.1 Purpose,
  66.3 Applicability.
  66.3 Applicability.
  66.3 Applicability.
  66.3 Stand-down waivers for drug testing.
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- Full Title: <u>Prevention of Alcohol Misuse and Prohibited Drug Use in Transit Operations</u>
- Who is subject to testing (e.g., operators)
- When testing must take place (e.g., after an accident)



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#### FMCSA, FRA, and USCG REGULATIONS

- Each DOT mode regulates who must be tested, and *under what circumstances* (just like Part 655)
  - FMCSA → Part 382 (Controlled Substances and Alcohol Use and Testing)
  - FRA → Part 219 (Control of Alcohol and Drug Use)
  - USCG → 46 CFR Parts 16 (<u>Chemical Testing</u>) and 4 (<u>Mandatory Chemical Testing</u> Following Serious Marine Incidents Involving Vessels in Commercial Service)
  - ❖ USCG is not within USDOT, but follows Part 40 for drug testing



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#### **49 CFR PART 40**



- Published by USDOT's Secretary's Office (ODAPC)
- Full Title: <u>Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing Programs</u>
- How to conduct drug and alcohol testing
- How to return an employee to duty after a violation



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#### The Role of the Regulated Employer

- Implement a policy prohibiting drug use and alcohol misuse
- Perform previous-employer checks for new hires/transferees
- Conduct all required testing
- Take action as necessary
- Oversee contractors and vendors
- Report testing summaries to DOT



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#### The Role of the Regulated Employer: Covered Employers

- Recipients of FTA Transit Funds (i.e., Grantees)
  - 5307: Urbanized Area Formula (Operating & Capital)
  - 5309: Transit Capital Investment (Capital)
  - 5311: Formula Grants for Rural Areas (Operating and Capital)
    - Serving population less than 50,000
- Subrecipients and Contractors of FTA Grantee, when:
  - Recipient (grantee) uses the subrecipient/contractor to provide some or all of its safety-sensitive activities
  - Subrecipient/contractor uses vehicles purchased with FTA capital funding



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# The Role of the Regulated Employer: Which functions are covered?

- 1. Operating a revenue service vehicle, including when not in revenue service
- 2. Operating a non-revenue service vehicle, when required to be operated by a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) holder
- 3. Controlling dispatch or movement of a revenue service vehicle
- 4. Maintaining (including repairs, overhaul and rebuilding) a revenue service vehicle or equipment used in revenue service
- 5. Carrying a firearm for security purposes



#### The Role of the Regulated Employer: Others who are covered?

- Volunteers who perform a safety-sensitive function if:
  - Required to have a CDL to operate the vehicle; or
  - Receive payment in excess of actual expenses
- Taxi cab operators/Transportation Networking Companies (e.g., Uber, Lyft) who contract with FTA recipients
  - Unless patrons (using publicly subsidized vouchers) or other transportation providers can choose from a variety of taxi cab operators/TNCs



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# The Role of the Regulated Employer: Who is exempt?

- Maintenance contractors performing services:
  - for 5311 grantees
  - for 5307 or 5309 grantees serving areas with a population less than 200,000
  - on a one-time or limited, ad-hoc basis
  - Sub-contractors of maintenance contractors are also exempt
- Commuter rail operators
  - Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
- Ferryboat Operators
  - Covered mostly by Unites States Coast Guard
    - Need FTA Random Alcohol Testing

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#### **Common Acronyms**

**DER** = Designated Employer Representative

**DAPM** = Drug and Alcohol Program Manager

**BAT** = Breath Alcohol Technician

ATF = Alcohol Testing Form

**EBT** = Evidential Breath Testing

CCF = Custody and Control Form

MRO = Medical Review Officer

**SAP** = Substance Abuse Professional

**CFR** = Code of Federal Regulations

**ODAPC** = Office of Drug and Alcohol Policy and Compliance (OST)



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#### **Key Definitions**

**DER**: an employee authorized to take immediate action to remove employees from safety-sensitive duties. The DER also receives test results

**DAPM**: an individual responsible for the implementation of the drug and alcohol testing program

**CCF**: the Federal Drug Testing Form, used to document every DOT urine collection

ATF: the DOT form, used to document every DOT alcohol test

**EBT**: a device approved by NHTSA for the evidential testing of breath

**BAT**: a person who instructs and assists employees in the alcohol testing process and operates an EBT



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# **KEY CONCEPTS**

Why We Test, 3 Kinds of Tests, Legal Background



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#### Why We Test

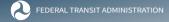
FTA's rule sets forth various prohibitions, then uses testing to determine whether an employee has violated those prohibitions

#### Prohibitions

- Drug use at all times
- Alcohol use...
  - > Prior to s.s. function
  - > During performance of s.s. function
  - > After an accident

#### Testing

- Before covered employment
- Randomly
- Responsively



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#### **Three Kinds of Tests**

- "Gatekeeper" Tests Pre-safety-sensitive function tests
  - Pre-employment
  - Return-to-duty
- "Preventative" Tests Deter prohibited behaviors
  - Random
  - Follow-up
- "Responsive" Tests Detect employee violations
  - Post-accident
  - Reasonable-suspicion
  - Follow-up



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#### **Legal Background**

• Public Safety vs. Employee Privacy



- Courts have consistently upheld DOT's requirements and procedures
  - Skinner v. Railway Executive's Assoc. (1989)
  - E.g., 2009 Court of Appeals' unanimous upholding of direct observation for returnto-duty and follow-up tests

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# **PART 655**

Program Requirements, Prohibitions, Test Types, Records Retention & Release, Management Information System



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# Program Requirements: FTA D&A Policy – What is it?

- Statement describing policy on prohibited drug use and alcohol misuse in the workplace
  - Provides clear, concise guidelines to employees regarding the DOT/FTA substance abuse prevention program
    - Informs employees of prohibited conduct/behavior
    - Defines consequences for rule violations
    - Describes circumstances for testing
  - Provides a program implementation guide for the DAPM



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#### FTA D&A Policy: Required Info

- § 655.15 Policy Statement Contents
- Checklist available: <a href="https://transit-safety.fta.dot.gov/DrugAndAlcohol/Tools/Checklist/PolicyReqsChecklist.doc">https://transit-safety.fta.dot.gov/DrugAndAlcohol/Tools/Checklist/PolicyReqsChecklist.doc</a>
- Important 2018, 2019 updates:
  - 1/1/2018 "Opiates" → "Opioids"
  - 1/1/2019 If your policy states FTA random rate as "25%," must update to "50%" or just "minimum rate"



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#### FTA D&A Policy: Required Info

- You Decide:
  - Negative-dilute → accept result or retest?
  - Pre-employment Alcohol Testing?
  - Zero tolerance or second chance?
  - Company consequences beyond FTA regulatory requirements?



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#### **FTA D&A Policy: Allowed Provisions**

- May include Drug Free Workplace Act
- May include Prescription/Over-the-Counter drug policy (encouraged)
- FTA-Required Provisions vs. Employer Provisions
  - Must not conflict
  - Must clearly differentiate (e.g., bold or italics... plain language even better!)



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# FTA D&A Policy: Distribution

- § 655.16: requirement to disseminate policy
  - Must provide written notice to all covered employees of the policy
  - Can be physical, email, intranet, etc.

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#### **Program Requirements: Education & Training**

- Display and Distribution of Materials § 655.14(a)
  - Informational materials about the effects of drugs & alcohol
  - Community service hotline for employee assistance

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# **Training: All Covered Employees**

- Minimum of 60 minutes on drugs § 655.14(b)
  - Effects and consequences of prohibited <u>drug</u> use on personal health, safety, and the work environment
  - Signs and symptoms that may indicate prohibited drug use
  - Additional training (policy, <u>alcohol</u>, etc.) does not count towards 60 minutes
  - FTA video available: <a href="https://transit-safety.fta.dot.gov/DrugAndAlcohol/Tools/DrugAwarenessVideo/Default.aspx">https://transit-safety.fta.dot.gov/DrugAndAlcohol/Tools/DrugAwarenessVideo/Default.aspx</a>

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#### **Training: Supervisors**

- § 655.14(c): Supervisors and/or other company officials authorized to make reasonable suspicion determinations must receive:
  - Minimum of 60 minutes on physical, behavioral, and performance indicators of probable drug use
  - Minimum of 60 minutes on physical, behavioral, and performance indicators of probable alcohol use
- ❖ Training must occur <u>prior</u> to making any reasonable suspicion referrals
  - FAQ: "How often do we need to do this training?"
     A: "One time."



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# **Training: Record Keeping**

- Maintain documentation of training 2 years minimum
  - Date and time it took place
  - Who attended
  - What topics were covered
  - Copy of certificate (if given)



#### **Prohibited Substances: Drugs**

- Use of these drugs is prohibited at all times\*\*
  - Marijuana
  - Cocaine
  - Phencyclidine (PCP)
  - \*Opioids
  - Amphetamines
- Covered employees may be tested for drugs anytime they are on duty

\*Policies listing "opiates" as a prohibited/tested substance must be updated to list "opioids" instead

<sup>\*\*</sup>If your policy does not prohibit drug use at all times, but instead prohibits something like "performing functions while having a drug metabolite level higher than the minimum thresholds established in Part 40," your policy is not compliant.



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# **Prohibited Substances - January 2018 Changes**

- Added 4 semi-synthetic opioids to testing panel:
  - hydrocodone, oxycodone, hydromorphone, oxymorphone
  - Common brand names: Percodan®, OxyContin®, Percocet®, and Vicodin®
- Removed MDEA from Amphetamine panel
  - Remove this from your policy if it's currently listed



#### **Prohibited Substances - January 2018 Changes**

 $\S$  40.87 What are the cutoff concentrations for drug tests? (a) As a laboratory, you must use the cutoff concentations displayed in the following table for initial and confirmatory drug tests. All cutoff concentrations are expressed in nanograms per milliliter (ng/mL). The table follows what are the cumon concentrations for ming tests.

(a) As a laboratory, you must use the cutoff concentrations displayed in the following table for initial and tory drug tests. All cutoff concentrations are expressed in namograms per milliliter (ng/mL). The table follow Initial test analyte Initial test cutoff concentration | Confirmatory test analyte | Confirmatory test cutoff concentration Initial test cutoff 1 Confirmatory test analyte Marijuana metabolites 50 ng/mL THCA1 15 ng/mL THCA Cocaine metabolites 150 ng/mLBenzoylecgonine 100 ng/mL Marijuana metabolites (THCA)<sup>2</sup>  $50 \text{ ng/mL}^3$ 15 ng/mL Opiate metabolites Cocaine metabolite: (Benzoylecgonine) Codeine odeine/Morphine 2000 ng/mL 2000 ng/mL2000 ng/mL 2000 ng/mL ne/Morphine Morphine 2000 ng/mL Morphine 2000 ng/mL -Acetylmorphine 10 ng/mL 6-Acetylmorphine 10 ng/mL. Hydrocodone 100 ng/mL Phencyclidine hencyclidine 25 ng/mL 25 ng/mL Iydrocodone/Hydromorphone 300 ng/mL Oxycodone 100ng/mL AMP/MAMP<sup>4</sup> 500 ng/mL Amphetamine 250 ng/mL Oxymorphone 100 ng/mL Methamphetamine 250 ng/mL 6–Acetylmorphin 10 ng/mL 6-Acetylmorphine 10 ng/mL MDMA<sup>6</sup> 500 ng/mL MDMA 250 ng/mL25 ng/mL 25 ng/mI  $MDA^7$ 250 ng/mL Amphetamine 500 ng/mL 250 ng/mI MDMA 250 ng/mL IDMA4/MDA 500 ng/mL 250 ng/mI

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#### **Prohibited Alcohol Use**

- Alcohol use is prohibited:
  - While performing a safety-sensitive function
  - Within 4 hours prior to performing a safety-sensitive function
  - While on-call to perform a safety-sensitive function
    - Allow employee the opportunity to acknowledge alcohol use
  - Within 8 hours following an accident requiring an FTA post-accident test, or until the test has been conducted
- Covered employees may be tested for alcohol just before, during, or just after the performance of safety-sensitive functions
- Covered employees are also prohibited from performing a safetysensitive function when their alcohol concentration is 0.04 or higher (not 0.02!!)

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#### **Prohibited Behaviors: Refusals**

- As a covered employee, you have refused to test if you:
  - Fail to appear for a test within a reasonable time
  - Fail to remain at the testing site until the testing process is complete
  - Fail to provide a breath or urine specimen
  - Fail to permit monitoring or direct observation, as required
  - Fail to provide a sufficient quantity of breath or urine without a valid medical explanation
  - Fail or decline to take a second test as directed by the collector or employer

Consequences for refusing to test are the same as for a positive test (i.e., removal from duty and SAP referral)



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#### **Refusals continued**

- Fail to cooperate with the testing process (e.g., fail to wash hands)
- Admit adulteration or substitution of specimen to the collector/MRO
- Provide an adulterated or substituted specimen, as verified by the MRO
- Refuse to sign the certification at Step 2 of the ATF
  - Not a refusal to decline to sign Step 5 of the urine collection CCF
- Fail to remain readily available following an accident

Consequences for refusing to test are the same as for a positive test (i.e., removal from duty and SAP referral)



#### **PRE-EMPLOYMENT TESTING**

- ✓ Three Situations
- ✓ Drug test required, alcohol test optional
- ✓ Unique test refusals
- ✓ Previous employer record checks



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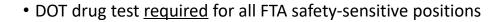
#### **Pre-employment Testing: Three Situations**

- Applicant
- Current employee transfers to safety-sensitive position
- Current employee returning from extended leave
  - No SS duties for 90+ consecutive days, AND removed from random testing pool
    - So really... the critical factor is 90 days of pool absence
  - Do not confuse return-to-duty tests with pre-employment tests
    - Return-to-duty tests are preceded by a positive/refusal, and are directly observed
    - Mix-up = 4th-amendment violation!



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#### **Pre-employment Testing: Drugs**



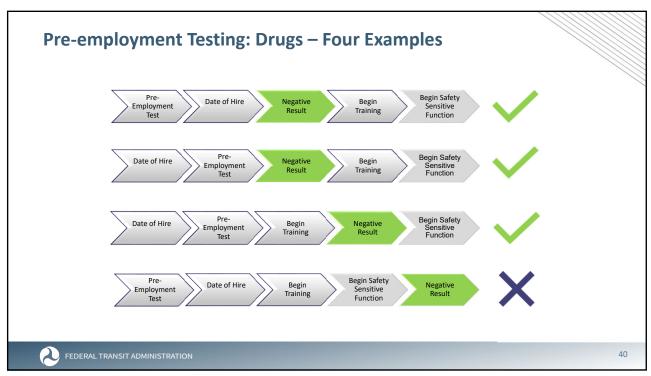


- Verified negative result required prior to first SS duty
  - Includes training, in the yard, or any other movement or control of the vehicle
- Not more than 90 days between PE test and first SS duty (and inclusion in random pool)



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#### **Pre-employment Testing: Drugs**

What happens if...

- A PE test is cancelled?
  - A second test must be conducted
- A PE test is negative dilute?
  - May conduct a second test (refer to your policy)
  - Employee may begin s.s. functions
    - \*Must follow policy either way



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# **Pre-Employment Testing – Alcohol**

- DOT alcohol tests are optional
  - Must follow Part 40 procedures
  - Only after contingent offer of employment
  - Must be applied to all equally\*
- BAC < 0.02 result required prior to first SS duty

\*but only to DOT-covered SSEs!



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#### **Pre-Employment Testing - Refusals**

- <u>Different</u> than other test types (random, post-accident, etc.)
- Not a refusal if applicant:
  - Fails to appear for testing
  - Leaves the collection site prior to commencement of test:
    - A drug test commences when donor accepts or selects the specimen cup
    - An alcohol test commences when donor accepts or selects the mouthpiece



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# **Pre-Employment Testing: Key Points**

- ✓ Pre-employment drug test required
- ✓ Must receive negative result before first SS duty

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#### **REASONABLE SUSPICION TESTING**

- ✓ Goals
- ✓ Authorization to Refer
- ✓ Testing Why?
- ✓ Testing When?



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# **Reasonable Suspicion Testing - Goals**

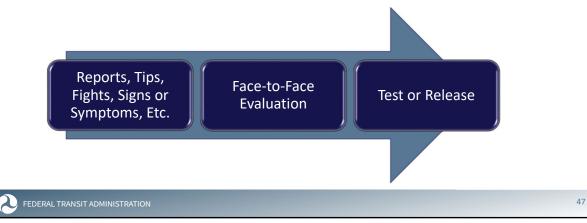
- The Goal: Detection of any sign/symptom of drug use and/or alcohol misuse
- Accurately diagnosing specific substance use is not important
  - Are there signs and symptoms of drug use or alcohol abuse?
- May authorize a drug test, alcohol test, or both



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 A safety-sensitive employee must submit to a drug and/or alcohol test when the employer has a reasonable suspicion that the employee has used a prohibited drug or misused alcohol



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#### **Authorized to Make a Referral**

- Who should be authorized to make a referral?
  - Company officials who will be in contact with safety-sensitive employees
    - Dispatchers
    - Street supervisors
    - Maintenance supervisors
- Employees (not authorized) should know who to contact if suspicious

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#### **Authorized to Make a Referral**

- Training required:
  - 60 minutes physical, behavioral, and performance indicators of probable drug use
  - 60 minutes physical, behavioral, and performance indicators of probable alcohol misuse
  - ❖ Maintain documentation of training for at least 2 years



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#### Reasonable Suspicion Testing – Why?

- Determination to test
  - Based on specific, contemporaneous, articulable <u>observations</u>
    - Appearance, behavior, speech, or body odor of employee
  - Decision to administer test must be documented
    - Including any signs or symptoms observed
    - Sample Reasonable Suspicion Determination Form: https://transit-safety.fta.dot.gov/drugandalcohol/tools
- Observation by a trained company official or supervisor
  - Only one trained company official/supervisor is required



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#### Reasonable Suspicion Testing – Why?

- You detect odor of alcohol?
- Receive anonymous phone tip?
- Employees in verbal or physical fight?
- A notable conduct or safety violation?
- Documentable change in job performance?
- Workplace accident?
- Covering yourself or the company?

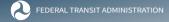


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# **Reasonable Suspicion Testing – When?**

- **Drugs** anytime on duty
- Alcohol only if observations are made just before, during, or just after the performance of safety sensitive functions
- Employees must proceed immediately to collection site for testing (should be transported)
- Same time limits as Post-Accident alcohol tests
  - 2 hours document reason for delay
  - 8 hours cease if no test



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# **Reasonable Suspicion Testing – Key Points**

- √ Physical signs and symptoms observed
- ✓Ordered by trained company official/supervisor
- ✓ Drugs (anytime on duty), alcohol (just before, during, just after ss function)
- ✓ Document, document

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#### **POST-ACCIDENT TESTING**

- ✓ What is an accident?
- ✓ Testing decision
- ✓ Who to test?
- ✓ When to test?
- ✓ Acceptance of other test results



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#### **Post-Accident Testing Criteria**

FTA defines an accident as...

- an occurrence associated with the operation of a vehicle in which one or more of the following occur:
  - An individual dies
  - An individual suffers a bodily injury and immediately receives medical treatment away from the scene
  - One or more vehicles (including third-party vehicles) incurs disabling damage and must be towed away from the scene
  - A rail car, trolley car or trolley bus, or vessel, is removed from operation



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#### **Post-Accident Testing Criteria**

- What is a fatality?
  - Any individual dies at the scene
  - The death was associated with the occurrence



#### **Post-Accident Testing Criteria**

- What is medical treatment away from the scene?
  - Any individual goes directly from the scene to receive medical treatment
  - Transported by any means
  - Does not require verification by the employer



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#### **Post-Accident Testing Criteria**

- What is disabling damage?
  - Vehicle cannot proceed under its own power without further damage
  - Vehicle cannot be easily repaired at the scene (headlights/taillights, turn signals, horn, tires, mirrors, etc.)
  - Usually requires towing or transport away from the scene by another vehicle
  - Determined by responding company official... *not* police or insurance agent



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#### **Post-Accident Testing Criteria**

- Factors that do not trigger FTA Post-Accident testing:
  - Dollar amount of damage
  - Driver citation (that's FMCSA/Part 382)
  - Insurance or company requirement
  - "Just to be safe"
  - At fault vs. preventable



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# Post-Accident Testing – Who to Test

#### Fatality:

- Each surviving covered employee operating the public transit vehicle at the time of the accident
- Any other covered employee whose performance could have contributed to the accident

#### • No fatality:

- Each covered employee operating the vehicle at the time of the accident unless the employee's performance can be completely discounted as a contributing factor
- Any other covered employee whose performance could have contributed to the accident



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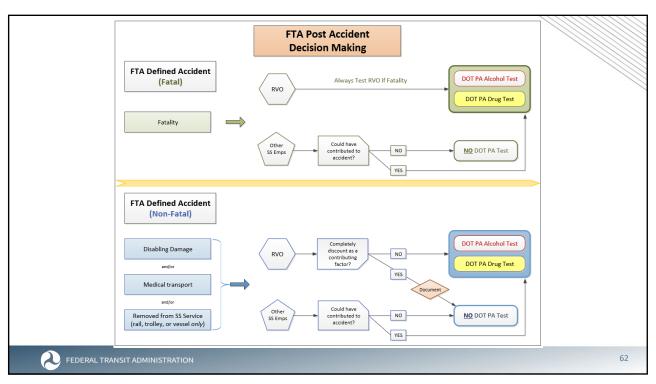
#### **Post-Accident Testing Decision**

- Decision to test/not to test
  - Made by employer (company official, supervisor) at the scene
    - do not return to the garage/office to review video first
  - Use best information available at the time
    - any and all information on-site
    - do not 'reverse' decision based on facts that may emerge later
      - » E.g., after reviewing video the next day
  - Document decision-making process

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#### Post-Accident Testing – When to Test

- Alcohol and drug tests must be performed as soon as possible
  - Always treat injuries and cooperate with law enforcement first
- Clock starts at the time of the accident
  - Alcohol test (conducted first)
    - If no test within 2 hours document why
    - Cannot test after 8 hours
  - Drug test
    - Cannot test after 32 hours
- Employee must give consent (cannot test if deceased/unconscious)



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# **Acceptance of Other Test Results**

- Can use results from Federal, State, or Local officials in limited cases (if results are released)
  - Urine, blood, breath
- Must document why FTA test could not be performed within required time period



#### **Post-Accident Testing – Key Points**

- ✓ Establish that at least 1 of the 3 criteria is met
- √ FTA testing is either REQUIRED or PROHIBITED
- √ Test any covered employee who could have contributed ALWAYS alcohol and drug
- ✓ Document, document



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#### **RANDOM TESTING**

- ✓ Minimum testing rates
- ✓ Random selection
- ✓ Consortiums
- ✓ Random testing
- ✓ Records Review



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#### **Minimum Random Testing Rates**

- Alcohol: 10% of total average covered employees\*
- Drugs: 50% of total average covered employees\*
- Testing rates describe the required <u>number of tests</u> each year, *not* the number of individuals tested
- Testing above minimum rates is allowed
  - Does **not** need to be stated in the D&A policy

\*Rates subject to change (published in Federal Register each year)



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# Random Selection: Who gets selected?

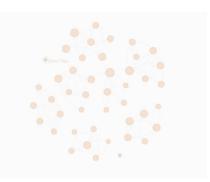
- Random pool must be kept up-to-date
  - New hires
  - Terminations
  - Transfers to safety-sensitive positions
  - Long term leave (FMLA, Workers' Comp, etc.)
    - Optional to remove; allowable to leave in pool
- Only DOT safety-sensitive employees
  - May include other modes (FMSCA, FAA, FRA, PHMSA, USCG)



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#### **Random Selection Method**

- Each employee must have equal chance of being selected
- Scientifically valid selection method
  - Random num. generator (e.g., Microsoft Excel)
  - Random selection applications (commercial)
- Human hand may not be involved
  - Cannot pull name out of hat
  - Cannot determine type of test after selection





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# **Random Selection – Using Alternates**

- Alternates may only be used if the originally selected employee cannot be tested during **entire** selection period
  - Must have a legitimate reason for excusing the original employee (document excusal)
    - E.g., FMLA, LoA
- Alternates...
  - Must be identified as an alternate
  - If multiple alternates generated, use in order listed
  - Test type (Drug/Alcohol/Both) must be decided via random (♠) process; if not, you must use the same test type(s) as assigned to the excused employee.



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#### **Making Random Selections: Myths & Confusions**

- Random testing does not test everyone
  - Randomization is NOT systematic testing
- There is no MAXIMUM level of testing
  - There are only minimums
- You can alter the frequency of random draws

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#### **Random Selection Lists**

- Restrict access to selection list (only you or your designee)
- Keep list secure (locked cabinet, password-protected, etc.)
- If random selection by TPA or other service provider:
  - Selection must occur just prior to new testing period
  - DER should dictate date and transmission method
  - List transmitted to DER in a secure, confidential manner

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### Life of the Selection List

- When new selection list is received, previous list becomes invalid
  - Do not attempt to test individuals from previous lists
- After testing, keep selection list (along with master roster used to generate list) for at least 2 years



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### Consortium

- A pool of safety-sensitive employees from several smaller distinct groups
  - Multiple employers
  - FTA grantee with contractors and/or subrecipients
  - State DOT with subrecipients
  - National contractor with multiple locations



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### Consortium

- Consortiums must be compliant with testing minimums
  - Individual employers might end up with testing rates above or below minimums at year-end
  - May include employees covered by multiple DOT agencies
    - Test at highest applicable rate



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### **Random Testing**

- Testing must be unannounced and unpredictable
- Spread testing reasonably throughout
  - All times of the day that SS functions are performed
    - Not only during DER's workday
  - All days of the week that SS functions are performed
  - All weeks of the month, and months of the year
- An employee notified must proceed immediately for testing
  - Track when they arrive



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### **Random Testing**

- What happens if the collection site closes early?
  - Back-up collection site
  - After-hours agreement
    - May pay a premium
  - Hospital
    - Ensure DOT qualified collectors
  - Agreement with individual collector



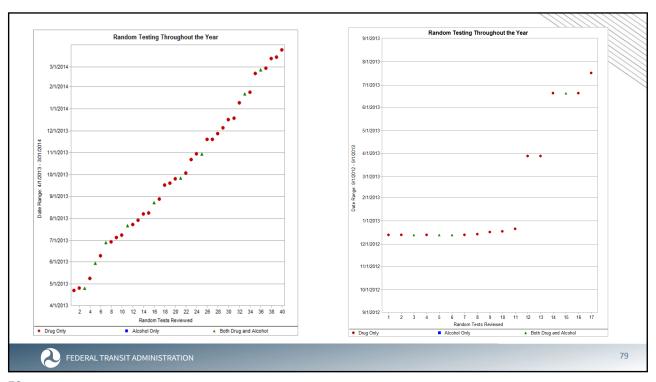
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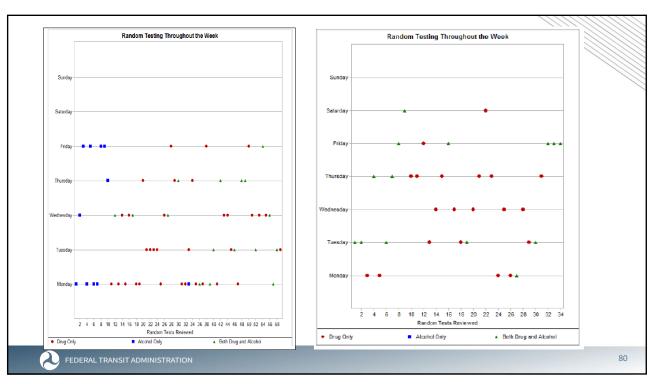
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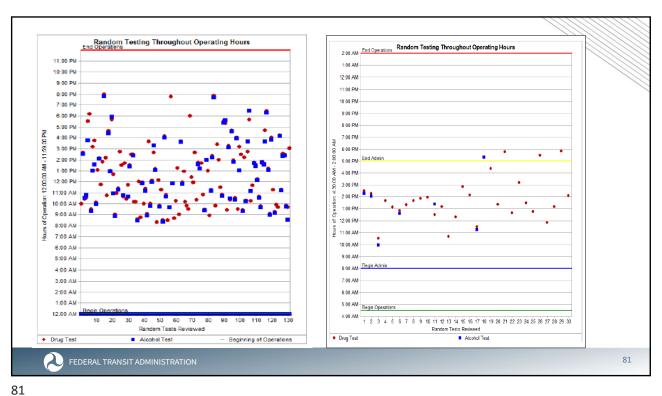
# **Records Review: Graphic Analysis**

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# **Records Review – Graphic Analysis**

- Create your own random testing charts using Microsoft Excel
  - http://transit-safety.fta.dot.gov/drugandalcohol/tools/



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## **Random Testing – Key Points**

- ✓ At least 50% for drugs, 10% for alcohol
- ✓ Update random pool before selection; keep list secure
- ✓ Spread testing reasonably and unpredictably
- √ Employees must proceed immediately

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### **RETURN-TO-DUTY AND FOLLOW-UP TESTING**

- ✓ Zero tolerance vs. second chance policy
- ✓ Return-to-duty testing
- √ Follow-up testing

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### **Zero Tolerance vs. Second Chance**

- For both "Zero Tolerance" & "Second Chance":
- If a covered employee does any of the following...
  - refuses a test
  - has a verified positive drug test result
  - has a confirmed alcohol test result of 0.04 or greater

...the employee must be <u>removed from safety-sensitive duty immediately</u>, <u>and referred to a qualified substance abuse professional</u>



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### **Zero Tolerance vs. Second Chance**

- Zero tolerance: employee is terminated
  - Contact information for at least two DOT-qualified SAPs (or a SAP network) must still be provided
- Second chance: employee may be allowed to return to safety sensitive duty after completion of the return-to-duty process



### **Return-to-Duty Testing**

- Return-to-duty means second chance
  - Not conducted if an employee is returning from long-term leave (FMLA, Workers' Comp, etc. → <u>pre-employment</u>)
- Conducted after employee successfully completes SAP's treatment and/or education requirements
- Test is employer's responsibility
  - Employer decides **if** and **when** test will take place



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### **Return-to-Duty Testing**

- Required in order to return an employee to DOT safety-sensitive duty
- Test can be for drugs, alcohol, or both
  - SAP's decision
- Drug test must be directly observed
  - If not, must send employee back for a second test
- Must receive verified negative result to return



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### **Follow-Up Testing**

- Conducted once employee returns to safety sensitive functions
- According to SAP's written follow-up testing plan
  - Minimum 6 tests in first 12 months
  - Maximum: 60 months (5 years) of testing
  - Duration extended for breaks in service
  - Can be for drugs, alcohol, or both
  - Only SAP can revise plan





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### **Follow-Up Testing**

- Testing schedule
  - Must be unannounced and unpredictable
  - Drugs any time employee is on duty
  - Alcohol just before, during, or just after safety-sensitive duty (Just as for random and reasonable-suspicion tests!)
- All drug tests must be directly observed
- Employee remains in random testing pool
  - A random test is not a substitute for a follow-up test



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# **Return-to-Duty and Follow-Up Testing – Key Points**

- √ Return-to-duty test after completion of SAP's treatment plan
- √ Follow-up schedule according to SAP's plan
- √ Follow-up tests unannounced and unpredictable
- √ All tests directly observed

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### **RECORDS RETENTION AND RELEASE**

- ✓ Storage
- ✓ Retention Period
- ✓ Confidentiality

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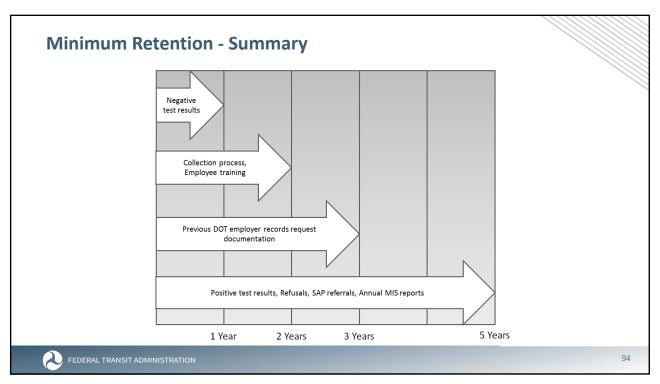
### **Records Storage**

- Secure location with controlled access
  - Locked cabinets
  - Electronic password protected
  - Keep DOT records separate from non-DOT testing records, personnel records, etc.



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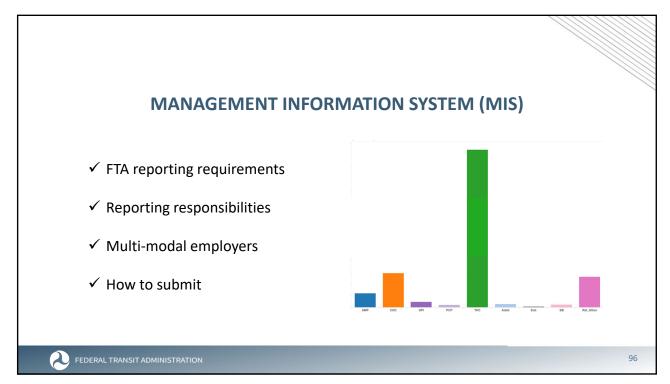
### **Confidentiality**

- Employer may release drug and alcohol information to:
  - Employee/Third Party (specific written consent)
  - State oversight agency (SSO)
  - Grantee required to certify compliance
  - DOT Agency and Office of the Secretary (OST)
  - Lawsuit or grievance or other proceeding undertaken <u>by the employee or on their</u> behalf
    - e.g., worker's compensation, unemployment compensation
  - National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) as part of an accident investigation



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### MIS – FTA Reporting Requirements

- Prepare and maintain annual summary of testing results
- MIS report is "employer based"
  - Each employer submits a separate MIS with FTA results
    - No consortium reports
    - No combined reports
- Submit results to FTA
  - When requested (e.g., annual reporting, audit, triennial, etc.)
  - March 15 for annual MIS
- Ensure accuracy and timeliness
  - Grantees → contractors, subrecipients, TPAs, etc.



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## **Reporting Responsibilities**

- Grantees Direct Recipients, State DOTs, etc.
  - Ensure FTA has record of all subreceipients, covered contractors
    - FTA requests this information December
  - Pass-through agencies MPOs, county or city governments must still submit annual MIS
    - Likely "zeroed out" (no safety-sensitive employees or tests)
    - May NOT include contractor/subrecipient results



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### MIS – Multi-Modal Employers

- When an employer is regulated by multiple DOT agencies, but: individual employees perform duties regulated by a single DOT agency
  - Ex: Employer operates transit buses (FTA) and school buses (FMCSA), but each employee operates only one type of bus
  - ➤ Submit separate agency-specific MIS forms
  - > Do not double report



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### MIS – Multi-Modal Employers

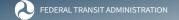
- If regulated by multiple DOT agencies, and: individual employees perform duties regulated by **multiple** DOT agencies
  - Ex: Employer operates transit buses (FTA) and school buses (FMCSA), and an employee could operate either vehicle
  - ➤ Report employees under DOT agency for which majority of safety sensitive duties are conducted;
  - ➤ If 50/50, choose one
  - Note: FTA-covered ferry operators should report full number of covered employees to both FTA and USCG



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## **MIS Annual Report: How to Submit**

- Internet-based online reporting
  - <u>https://damis.dot.gov</u>
- Username and Password
  - Grantees look for reporting letter in late December
  - Subrecipients/Contractors receive log in information from grantee
- Due March 15th each year



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# **MIS Reporting Questions?**

- FTA Drug and Alcohol Hotline (Volpe Center)
  - Call (617) 494-6336
  - Email fta.damis@dot.gov
- Online guidance
  - http://transit-safety.fta.dot.gov/DrugAndAlcohol/DAMIS



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# **PART 40**

Purpose, Subparts, Key *Employer* Subparts, Tests and Results Processing, Testing Problems & Refusals, Section 40.25 (Previous-Employer Checks), Public Interest Exclusions (PIEs)



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### Part 40's Purpose

- Title: "Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing Programs"
- Section 40.1(a) states: "This part tells all parties who conduct drug and alcohol tests required by Department of Transportation (DOT) agency regulations how to conduct these tests and what procedures to use."
- An umbrella regulation that tells employers and their vendors across all regulated modes – how to conduct drug and alcohol testing



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### **Eighteen Subparts**

- Subpart A—Administrative Provisions
- · Subpart B—Employer Responsibilities
- Subpart C—Urine Collection Personnel
- Subpart D—Collection Sites, Forms, Equipment and Supplies Used in DOT Urine Collections
- Subpart E—Urine Specimen Collections
- Subpart F—Drug Testing Laboratories
- Subpart G—Medical Review Officers and the Verification Process
- Subpart H—Split Specimen Tests
- · Subpart I—Problems in Drug Tests

- · Subpart J—Alcohol Testing Personnel
- Subpart K—Testing Sites, Forms, Equipment and Supplies Used in Alcohol Testing
- · Subpart L—Alcohol Screening Tests
- · Subpart M—Alcohol Confirmation Tests
- · Subpart N—Problems in Alcohol Testing
- Subpart O—Substance Abuse Professionals and the Return-to-Duty Process
- Subpart P—Confidentiality and Release of Information
- Subpart Q—Roles and Responsibilities of Service Agents
- · Subpart R—Public Interest Exclusions

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## **Key Subparts for the Transportation Employer**

- Subpart B—Employer Responsibilities
- Subpart E—Urine Specimen Collections
- Subpart I—Problems in Drug Tests
- Subpart L—Alcohol Screening Tests
- Subpart M—Alcohol Confirmation Tests
- Subpart N—Problems in Alcohol Testing
- Subpart O—Substance Abuse Professionals and the Return-to-Duty Process



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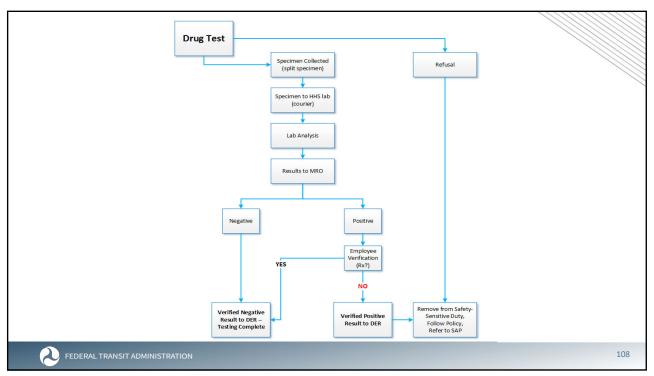
## **Drug Test Results: Employer Action**

- Notification of a verified positive drug test result or refusal to test:
  - Immediately remove the employee from safety-sensitive duties
    - By DER (Designated Employer Representative)
  - Refer employee (or applicant) to qualified SAP

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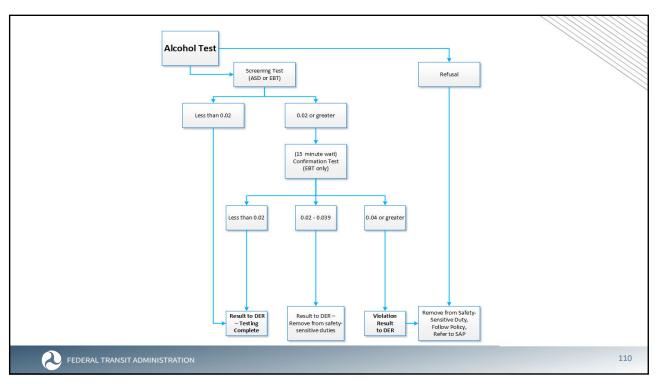
### **Alcohol Test Results: Employer Action**

- Confirmation result of **0.04 or greater** or refusal to test:
  - Immediately remove the employee from safety-sensitive duties
    - By DER
  - Refer employee to qualified SAP
- Confirmation result of 0.02-0.039:
  - Immediately remove the employee from safety sensitive duties for at least 8 hours or until next scheduled shift
  - NO SAP referral
  - May apply disciplinary policy under own authority



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## **Problems in Testing & Testing Refusals**

- Refusal to test (see slides 35-36)
  - Make determination
  - Take action (same DOT consequences as positive)
- "Shy Bladder" ( § 40.193) and "Shy Lung" ( § 40.265)
  - Five days for medical evaluation (employee keeps working)
  - For drug test, physician must be acceptable to MRO
- Dilute-negative drug test
  - You must have a policy in place
- Canceled test
  - Neither positive nor negative; can't count toward MIS total



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## **Previous Employer Records Check**

- As a potential employer, you must:
  - Obtain written consent from applicants to obtain drug and alcohol testing information from DOT employers during previous two years
  - Contact previous employers written consent must accompany the request
  - Separately, ask applicant/transferee whether he or she has tested positive or refused a DOT pre-employment test in the previous two years - § 40.25(j)

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### **Previous Employer Records Check**

- Request this information from any previous DOT employers:
  - Alcohol test results higher than 0.04
  - Verified positive drug tests
  - Test refusals
  - Other violations of the DOT drug and alcohol regulation
  - If applicable, documentation of successful completion of return-to-duty process



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#### A Note on Consent

- Can't do it! (see § 40.27)
- There's always consent, but it's between DOT and Donor

#### Central Area Transit

#### **CONSENT** TO CONDUCT DRUG & ALCOHOL TESTING

I hereby give my permission for Central Area Transit (CAT) to conduct a drug and/or alcohol test(s) as outlined in the Employer's Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy. I am aware that this testing will be done by means of urine and breath sampling, unless otherwise stated...

I <u>agree to hold harmless</u> the following companies, contractors an individuals and their respective employees, vendor, and contractors: CAT; its Drug and Alcohol Program Manager; and any and all other company personnel; CAT's Third Party Administrator; the Medical Review Officer; the collection site; and the clinical laboratory; from any and all claims or liabilities...

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### **Public Interest Exclusions (PIEs)**

- Used by DOT to protect public interest
- Used to remedy serious (generally ongoing) noncompliance
- Bars service agent from participating in DOT testing
  - Can apply to all divisions/affiliates/departments
- Can last up to five (5) years

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# **VENDORS**

"Service Agents," Employer's Responsibility & Role, Common Oversight Methods

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### **Service Agents**

- Includes (but not limited to):
  - TPA
  - MRO
  - SAP
  - Collectors
  - BATs/STTs
  - Consultants
- All must follow Part 40 guidance
- May not act as employer/DER
- Must (individually) subscribe to ODAPC's email list serve





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### **Employer's Responsibility & Role**

• § 40.15(c) states:

"You remain responsible for compliance with all applicable requirements of this part and other DOT drug and alcohol testing regulations, even when you use a service agent."

- You are responsible for obtaining information (§ 40.17)
- You are responsible for ensuring your vendors are qualified (§ 40.15(b))
  - You may <u>require</u> they show you documentation to this effect



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### **Common Oversight Methods**

- If your vendors are not compliant, you are not compliant
- Specifics not prescribed by DOT
  - DOT allows you to request qualifications, exam certifications, etc.
- Best Practices (for Collection Site oversight)
  - Perform periodic on-site reviews
  - Review testing records CCFs and ATFs
  - Require correction/cancellation when appropriate



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### Collection Sites - On-Site Review

- Mock collection
  - Instructional video available at ODAPC website
  - Review urine collection steps in § 40.61 § 40.73
  - Review steps on the back of CCF (Copy 5)
  - Review alcohol testing process in § 40.241 § 40.255
  - Review steps on the back of ATF (Copy 3)

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### Collection Sites - On-Site Review

- Review:
  - Collector Qualifications § 40.33
  - BAT / STT Qualifications § 40.213
  - EBT on NHTSA Conforming Products List?
    - Ensure EBT prints
  - Calibration Logbook Follows Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) for the device (§ 40.233)
  - Clock on EBT is correct Daylight Savings



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## **Collection Site Integrity – The Risks**

- Substitution of specimen
  - Donor's ability to dispose of or conceal paraphernalia brought into the enclosure
  - Donor's ability to access paraphernalia already in the enclosure
  - Hiding places even for small objects
- Dilution of specimen
- Adulteration of specimen



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## **Collection Site Integrity – The Solutions**

- Secure all water sources
- Remove sources of adulterants
- Eliminate undetected access
- Secure/eliminate areas for hiding/concealing
  - Ledges, cabinets, trash receptacles, under sink areas, drop-ceiling tiles



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### **Collection Site - CCF Review**

- Step 1
  - A: Employer name, address, phone # required information
    - TPA information allowed must transmit to employer
  - B: MRO current contact information
  - D: DOT Agency FTA, not FMCSA (most common error)
  - E: Reason for test

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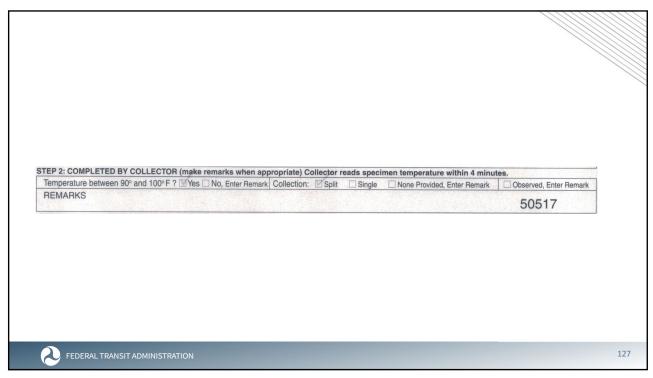
ASSESS OF CHARLES	800 www.questdiagnostics.com/m
SPECIMEN ID STEP 1: COMPLETED BY COLLECTOR OR EMPL	act and faul it and habitate
A. Employer Name, Address, I.D. No.  MetroTran  2 Park Plaza #305  Boston, MA 02116  Ph: 617-314-9208 Fx: 617-314-9216  C. Donor SSN, Employee I.D., or CDL State and No.  D. Specify Testing Authority:  HHS NRC Specify  E. Reason for Test:  Pre-employment Random Reaso  F. Drug Tests to be Performed: THC, COC, PCP, OP	nable Suspicion/Cause Post Accident Return to Duty Follow-up Other (specify)

### **Collection Site - CCF Review**

- Step 2
  - Indicate Urine or Oral Fluid\*
  - Directly observed
    - Always for return-to-duty and follow up tests
    - Other reasons per § 40.67
    - Observed not checked when required?
      - » Call collection site... if not observed, send donor back immediately
  - Remarks required if:
    - Shy bladder
    - Directly observed by a same gender observer (if different than collector)
    - Temperature out of range
    - Employee not cooperating (won't sign CCF, print name, etc.)



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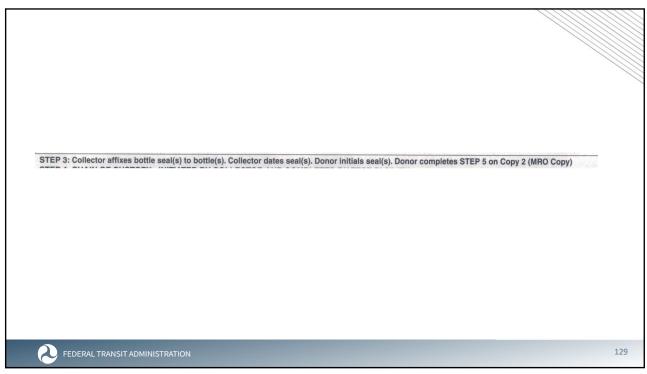


# **Collection Site – CCF Review**

- Step 3
  - Specimen is split into two bottles
  - Collector affixes seals to bottles
  - Collector writes date on seals
  - Collector instructs donor to initial each seal
  - Fold back page 1 and donor completes Step 5



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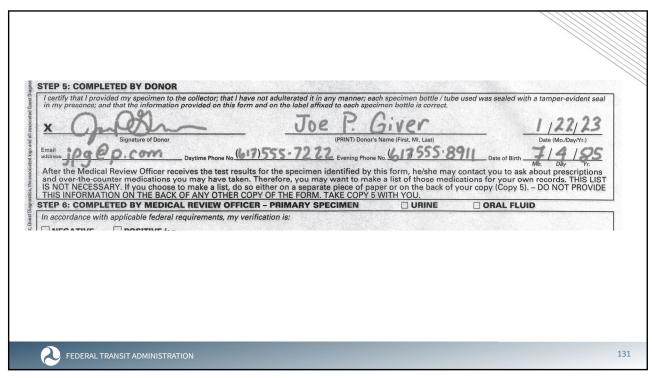


# **Collection Site – CCF Review**

- Step 5
  - Employee's name, telephone number, and date of birth
  - Date of test
  - Employee signature
    - If no signature, this must be documented in the Remarks Section



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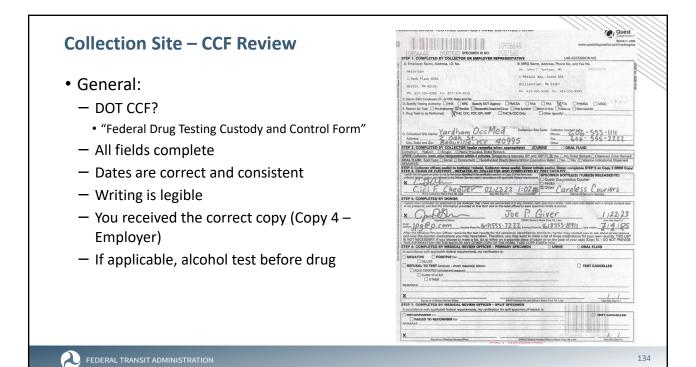
### **Collection Site - CCF Review**

- Step 4
  - § 40.209(b)(9) Must include specific courier name
    - "Courier" not allowed must be specific (e.g. FedEx, DHL, etc.)

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I certic collect		gnostics Courier  Courier  Name of Delivery Service
0	FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION	133



### Collection Site – CCF Review

- What if errors are found?
- Employer must correct error contact collection site
  - Missing information (collector)
    - Supply missing information in writing
    - Supply statement that information is correct and accurate
    - Same business day
  - Non-DOT form for a DOT test (collector)
    - Supply affidavit (memorandum)
      - » Non-DOT form contains all required info
      - » Form used inadvertently or as a method to complete test
      - » Steps to prevent further use of non-DOT form
      - » Split specimen, sent to a HHS lab



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### **Collection Site - CCF Review**

- What if errors are found?
- Employer may correct some errors mark correction on CCF
  - Incorrect/Missing DOT Agency (most common error)
  - Incorrect/Missing Test Type
  - DOB and Current Date reversed
  - ❖ Circle/cross out, initial, date



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### **Collection Site - ATF Review**

• Step 1



- A: Correct employee's name
- C: Correct employer name and address, accurate DER information
- D: Reason for test



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### **Collection Site – ATF Review**

• Step 2



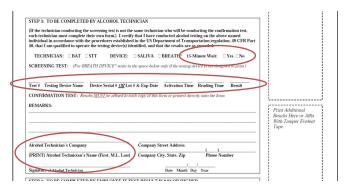
- Employee signs and dates the form
  - No signature = refusal to test
    - » Your BATs must know this!

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### **Collection Site - ATF Review**

• Step 3



- BAT signs and dates ATF
- 15-minute wait checked only if a confirmation test conducted
- Test result may be hand-written if < 0.02 and device not designed to print



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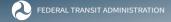
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### **Collection Site - ATF Review**

• Step 4



- Employee signs and dates if confirmation result 0.02 or higher
  - If no signature BAT remarks



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# **Collection Site – ATF Review**

- General:
  - DOT ATF?
    - "U.S. Department of Transportation Alcohol Testing Form"
  - All fields complete
  - Writing is legible
  - Result affixed to form with tamper evident tape
  - You received the correct copy (Copy 1 Employer)
  - If applicable, alcohol test before drug



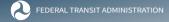


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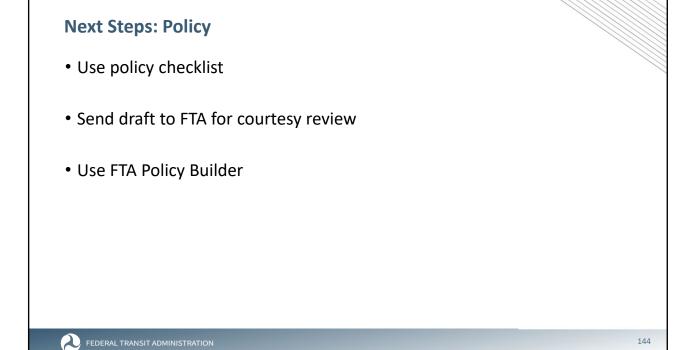
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    - Supply missing information in writing
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  - Non-DOT form for a DOT test (collector)
    - Supply affidavit (memorandum)
      - » Non-DOT form contains all required info
      - » Form used inadvertently or as a method to complete test
      - » Steps to prevent further use of non-DOT form



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### **Next Steps: Self-audit**

- What times are your earliest and latest random tests in the last 2 years?
- What day/time has no safety-sensitive employee ever been tested?
- Are your employees proceeding immediately to random tests?
- Are your post-accident tests conducted in a timely fashion?



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## **Next Steps: Vendor Relations**

- Visit your collection site
- Examine your random selection program and request changes

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## **Next Steps: Plan & Create Systems**

- Get in the loop on vendor billing
- Require a signature confirming a negative drug test before an employee may begin safety-sensitive duties

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# **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

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### Help, please!

- Iyon Rosario FTA Drug & Alcohol Program Manager
  - (202) 366-2010, <u>iyon.rosario@dot.gov</u>
- FTA D&A Project Office (USDOT/Volpe Center)
  - Hotline: (617) 494-6336, <a href="mailto:fta.damis@dot.gov">fta.damis@dot.gov</a>
  - Mike Redington: (617) 494-2197, michael.redington@dot.gov
  - Lori DeCoste: (617) 494-2379, lori.decoste@dot.gov
  - Felicity Shanahan: (617) 494-3915, felicity.shanahan@dot.gov



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## transit-safety.fta.dot.gov

- Forms
  - Post-Accident, Reasonable Suspicion, Notification, Previous Employer
- Policy Help
  - Checklist, Sample Policies, Policy Tool
- Video
  - 1-hr Employee Training
  - Reasonable Suspicion
- Conference & Training Schedules
- Register for Newsletter



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