

SEMOPTICS Gun Shot Residue Kit

Information Sheet

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this procedure is to obtain gunshot residue samples from the persons suspected of recently discharging a firearm. The residue consists of sub-microscopic particles and can be deposited on the shooter's hand, face, or clothing, in varying amounts depending on the type, calibre, and condition of the weapon or ammunition used, as well as the environmental conditions at the time of the shooting. Washing of the hands or various other activities on the part of the shooter can remove substantial amounts of the residue. It is imperative to obtain samples as soon after the shooting as possible.

THE GUN SHOT RESIDUE KIT

Each G.S.R. Kit contains instructions, a pair of large powder free latex gloves, labels and two (2) sample vials. Each vial contains an adhesive coated stub mounted on a moulded rubber plug.

DO NOT OPEN THE PLASTIC BAG CONTAINING THE KIT UNTIL JUST PRIOR TO USE.

DO NOT CONTAMINATE THE SAMPLE!

Wear the rubber gloves supplied and avoid touching the aluminium stub, the exposed adhesive and the vial mouth. If contamination is suspected, DISCARD THE STUB.

SAMPLING PROCEDURE

1. If practical, wash your hands before starting the procedure. Open the bubble pack envelope by removing the staple, and open the kit. Put on the disposable rubber gloves before handling the vials. Use a new pair of gloves for each kit.
2. Remove the white rubber plug from one of the vials. Repeatedly press and lift the adhesive stub on the surface being sampled until the stickiness of the stub is no longer felt. When sampling, do not twist or slide the stub on the sampled surface.
3. Use a separate stub for each side of the face, and for each hand.
4. After sampling, insert the moulded rubber plug with its adhesive coated stub back into its original vial. Indicate on one of the numbered labels (a) or (b) from where the sample was taken and use this label to seal the sample vial.
5. Repeat for the second sampler.
6. Replace the vials in the plastic box and with the label "Use this label to reseal blister box etc.. " seal the plastic box. The plastic box may now be put in the "Bubble Pack" envelope, which may then be sealed by removing the white tape on the bag opening. Mark for identification and forward for analysis.