



San Diego County Sheriff

Training Bulletin

William D. Gore, Sheriff

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TruNarc Report Writing Narrative

Documenting TruNarc Use in Reports:

With the recent deployment of the TruNarc devices and ductless hoods at various patrol and detention facilities around the county it is important to properly document the use and results in your crime and arrest reports.

The below example contains verbiage that has been approved by the San Diego County District Attorney's Major Narcotics Division that can be utilized in your reports when your investigation leads to the use of the TruNarc device and/or hood.

Example:

... In Jon Doe's right front coin pocket of his jeans I located a small plastic Ziploc style baggie which contained a white crystalline substance. Based on my training and experience, I believed the substance to be methamphetamine. Doe was arrested for Possession of a Controlled Substance and placed in the rear seat of my patrol vehicle. I placed the plastic baggie containing the suspected methamphetamine into a clear plastic bag and secured the narcotics in the rear cargo area of the patrol vehicle. I transported Doe to the Vista Patrol Station and secured him in a holding cell.

At the station, I took photographs of the suspected narcotics with my department issued iPhone which were later transferred onto CD and entered into evidence at the Vista Patrol Station. I weighed the plastic baggie using an uncalibrated digital scale. The substance had a gross weight of XX grams. I used a Thermo Fisher TruNarc device to test the contents of the package. The TruNarc device uses Raman laser technology to analyze substances through the packaging. This device allows for the safer and less intrusive testing of suspected controlled substances for law enforcement.

I pointed the laser into the portion of the plastic bag where the majority of the white crystalized substances was located. The TruNarc device indicated the substance tested positive for methamphetamine. I took a photograph of the TruNarc results using my department issued iPhone and later attached the photo to the case file for reference.

If you download a copy of the TruNarc device results please put a copy into evidence and attach to the case file. According to the District Attorney's Office the download is not currently required at this time and documentation of the use of the device and the results in your report are sufficient.

For Inconclusive Results:

I placed the Raman laser onto the plastic bag where the majority of the white crystalline substance was located. The TruNarc device responded with an inconclusive finding. I conducted two additional tests on the substance in different areas. The additional tests also returned an inconclusive result. I sealed the baggie into a flexible heat-seal bag and submitted the substance to the San Diego

Crime Lab for additional testing. **Do not use the TruNarc more than three times if it shows inconclusive all three times. Use a Nik style test kit under the hood or send to the lab for testing.*

Or:

Under the safety of a filtration hood, I opened the baggie and removed a very minute sample of the substance with a paper spoon. I used a Nik field presumptive kit to test the substance. The Nik kit turned blue which indicates a presumptive positive for methamphetamine.....

For Net Weights:

Under the hood I transferred the methamphetamine to an aluminum weigh dish where I weighed the substance using an uncalibrated digital scale. The substance had a net weight of XX grams. I repackaged the methamphetamine into a Ziploc style bag and heat sealed it into a flexible heat-seal bag. I placed my initials, ID #, and date on the bag and entered the substance into evidence at the Vista Patrol Station.

The information in this Training Bulletin was provided by HIDTA Det. Douglas Morse. If you have expertise in a particular subject and would like to write a training bulletin, please contact Corporal Michael Cruz at In-Service Training, [REDACTED]