

## Special Notice

### Primer Gunshot Residue Testing Services at Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory

**To: All Agencies Served by the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory**

**From: Pam Zilly, Crime Laboratory Director**

**Date: April 26, 2021**

Beginning May 1, 2021, the NSPCL will provide primer gunshot residue (pGSR) testing. This testing can be performed with pGSR kits on hands, as well as clothing items and objects such as vehicles. NSPCL has created an approved pGSR kit and the NSPCL approved kit will be the only pGSR kit the laboratory will accept and analyze.

Due to resource allocation, the following submission criteria must be met to submit items for pGSR testing (submission criteria apply to pGSR testing items only):

- pGSR kits and clothing from shooting victims will not be accepted
- pGSR kits collected more than 8 hours after the shooting will not be accepted
- The date and time for the shooting incident and kit collection must be recorded on the analysis information form and NSP 750 submittal form
- Only NSPCL approved kits will be accepted
- Testing of pGSR evidence will be limited to cases involving crimes against a person
  - e.g. homicide, attempted homicide, aggravated assault, aggravated robbery, death investigations (suspect and elimination kits only)
- pGSR kits collected from a subject found in possession of a firearm will not be analyzed
- Clothing may only be submitted if permission is granted by the Trace Supervisor
- If both a pGSR kit and clothing are collected from a subject, the kit must be submitted first. Clothing will only be accepted if the kit yields negative results.
- Clothing items will not be accepted for pGSR analysis unless they are associated with an individual
- The maximum number of stubs that may be submitted from a vehicle is four
- pGSR items must be individually packaged and submitted
- Provide a brief summary of the incident on the NSP750 submittal form

It is recommended that pGSR kits be collected as soon as possible and in the field, before handcuffing, transporting, or fingerprinting, whenever feasible.

Based on demand for this service and the resulting impact on caseload and turnaround times, the case submission criteria will be reevaluated periodically.

#### Training and NSPCL Approved pGSR Collection Kits

- Training on proper collection of kits will be provided by NSP Troop Area Investigative Services Divisions and the Crime Laboratory to those agencies that will be doing their own collection
- NSP will provide an initial allotment of pGSR kits free of charge to those agencies completing training
- Training is also available on the NSPCL website, as well as information on where to purchase NSPCL approved collection kits. <https://statepatrol.nebraska.gov/divisions/investigative-services/crime-laboratory>

Please see the NSPCL website for more information regarding pGSR testing.

Contact the NSPCL Trace Supervisor Amanda Neely with any further questions.

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