

TruNarc™ - Handheld Narcotics Identification System

351.1 POLICY

It is the policy of the Louisville Police Department to provide staff with a safe and effective means to quickly and safely test and identify known and unknown suspected narcotics.

351.2 DEFINITIONS

Reachback Support: Support available for scan results that are suspicious, such as inconclusive results. A reachback file can be sent to Thermo Fisher Scientific for customer support where a chemist will analyze the scan data within 24 hours and email a final written report.

TruNarc™ Analyzer: A 785-nm Raman spectrometer used for the rapid identification of suspected narcotics. Designed for law enforcement organizations, the handheld narcotics identification system analyzes most substances through sealed packaging and provides clear, definitive results. The TruNarc™ analyzer is property of the Louisville Police Department.

351.3 PROCEDURE

1. Training and Certification

- a. Prior to the use of the TruNarc™ analyzer, all personnel utilizing the analyzer must be trained on the proper use of the instrument regarding safety, scanning procedures, and proper documentation.
- b. Initial training will include one hour of instruction regarding operation of the analyzer.

2. Access and Use of the TruNarc™ Analyzer

- a. The TruNarc™ analyzer will be secured in the evidence processing lab at the Louisville Police Department.
- b. The TruNarc™ administrative software has been downloaded onto a designated computer in the patrol work area. This computer allows for reachback support, the ability to print test results, and the placement of documents in a drive folder to be designated.
- c. Only members who have completed the TruNarc™ training are authorized to access and use the TruNarc™ analyzer. The TruNarc™ analyzer shall be used within the confines of the Police Department Lab. The removal and use of the TruNarc™ analyzer outside of the lab requires approval from a Sergeant or Commander.
- d. The user shall be responsible for performing the analyzer self-check scan, scanning of known or unknown suspected narcotics, and providing records with a copy of the results for the case file. The scan number and results must be documented in their report. The TruNarc™ test is only a preliminary test and drugs must still be sent to CBI for confirmation analysis once a trial notice is received by the lead officer/investigator.
- e. Reachback support will be emailed to Police Supervisors. The on-duty sergeant(s) who receives a reachback report is responsible to forward the report to the user.

City of Louisville Police Department Policy Manual

Law Enforcement Policy

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- a. The user receiving a report is responsible to submit the report to Records for inclusion in the case file.
3. Safety Practices
 - a. When utilizing the TruNarc™ analyzer, users are always required to use proper personal protection equipment. Users must notify a supervisor and any employees present that they will be using the TruNarc™ analyzer, as suspected narcotics and unknown substance can be dangerous and even deadly.
 - b. The TruNarc™ work station will be supplied with Narcan® (naloxone) nasal spray kits. The Administrative Services Manager should be notified if Narcan® needs to be restocked or has expired.
 - c. The TruNarc™ work station will be supplied with a complete step-by-step instruction guide detailing the proper use of the TruNarc™ analyzer, as well as instructions on how to save the results and request reachback support from Thermo Fisher Scientific.
4. Maintenance
 - a. TruNarc™ supplies for scans, such as the TruNarc™ solution kit (Type H) for identification of heroin and other special narcotics (test sticks and solution vials) and maintenance of the analyzer will be completed by the Detective Sergeant or their designee..

