

CLANDESTINE DRUG LAB AWARENESS

Pulse Check Conference 2014



September 13, 2014



Presenter: Sgt. Doug Wildermuth



McCormick
Ground
Cinnamon

LOW CARB
2
FRUIT
FLAVORED
SWEETENER

Nutrition Facts
SUGAR FREE
NET WT 1.5 LBS (680g)

HOUSEHOLD
DRAIN
OPENER

SUDAFED
PAIN RELIEF
COLD PACK

EnerGel
Energizer

TUMS

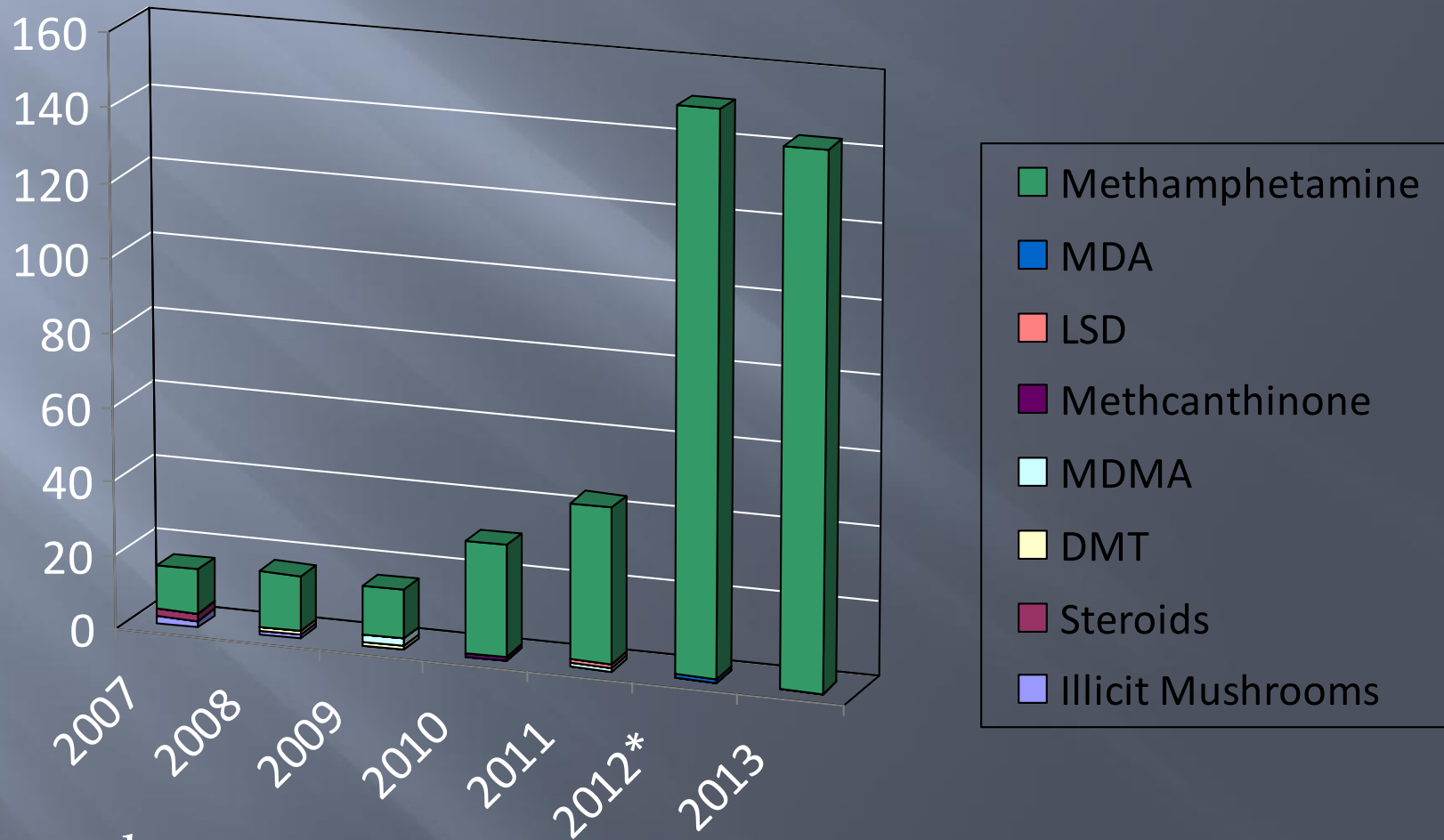
CVS Pharmacy
At 50 off any \$5 purchase



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Clandestine Laboratory Incidents 2007 - 2013



* State Record

What is a Clandestine Laboratory?

An illicit operation consisting of a sufficient combination of apparatus and chemicals that either has been or could be used in the manufacture or synthesis of controlled substances.



Labs can Manufacture:



- ❑ MDMA (Ecstasy)
- ❑ DMT
- ❑ Methamphetamine
- ❑ Mushrooms
- ❑ P2P Amphetamine

*To date, over **98%** of all clandestine drug labs found in New York State were producing methamphetamine.*

What is methamphetamine?

- ❑ “Meth” is a very potent, long-lasting and addictive synthetic central nervous system (CNS) *stimulant*.
- ❑ Meth can be smoked, inhaled (snorted), injected or taken orally.
- ❑ Highly addictive. 93% Relapse!



Methamphetamine crystals
Photo by Payin2Much, © 2002 Erowid.org



How addictive?



Meth Production Types

- ▣ **HI Red P or Red P Method** — The red phosphorus method of meth production, using red phosphorus as a key ingredient.
- ▣ **Nazi or Birch Method** — A production method that uses lithium and anhydrous ammonia as key ingredients. Some public officials prefer to call it the anhydrous ammonia method.
- ▣ **The “One Pot” or “Shake & Bake” Method** – One vessel (i.e. two liter bottle) that cooks a “mixed stew” combining multiple stages in one container.

HI Red P or Red P Method

▣ Chemicals needed:

Ephedrine or pseudo, red phosphorus, hydriodic acid (iodine crystals), sodium hydroxide, organic solvents (ether or acetone), and hydrogen chloride gas (sulfuric acid and salt)



Nazi or Birch Method

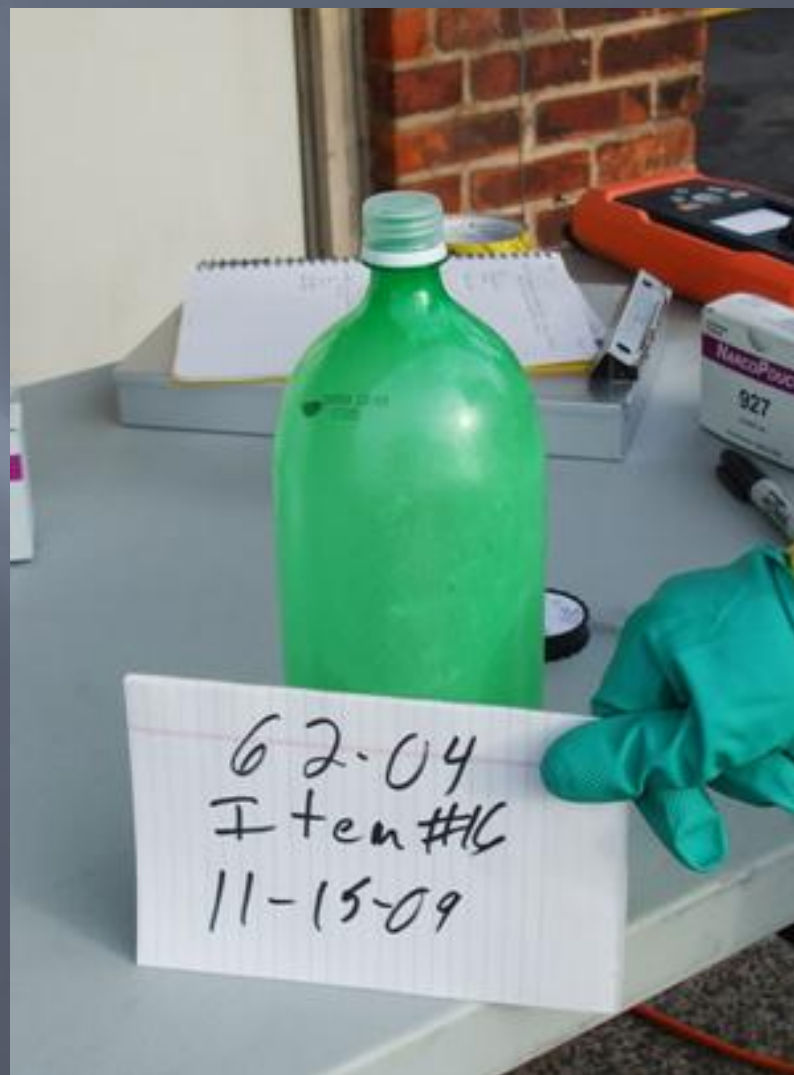
- ❑ Ephedrine or pseudo, anhydrous ammonia, sodium or lithium metal, sodium hydroxide, organic solvents (ether, camping fuel, acetone), and hydrogen chloride gas (sulfuric acid and salt)



One Pot Method

Advantages:

- ▣ One vessel
- ▣ No tablet extraction
- ▣ Less ammonia
- ▣ Cook is quick
- ▣ All ingredients are easily available



The “One Pot” or “Shake & Bake” Method

▣ Chemicals Needed:

Pseudoephedrine tablets,
ammonium nitrate, starting
fluid, lithium strips, caustic
soda (sodium hydroxide)



“One Pot” Method

▣ Hazards

- Ammonia Gas - Corrosive and toxic gas, irritant to eyes, nose, and throat. May be fatal if inhaled.
- Sodium and Lithium Metal - water and air reactive. Corrosive, flammable solid.
- Sodium Hydroxide - Causes severe eye and skin burns. Respiratory tract irritant, corrosive.



Ammonia Gas

- ▣ Ammonium Nitrate + Caustic soda + water = Ammonia Gas



+



+



=



- ▣ Ammonia gas is generated at the bottom of the vessel.

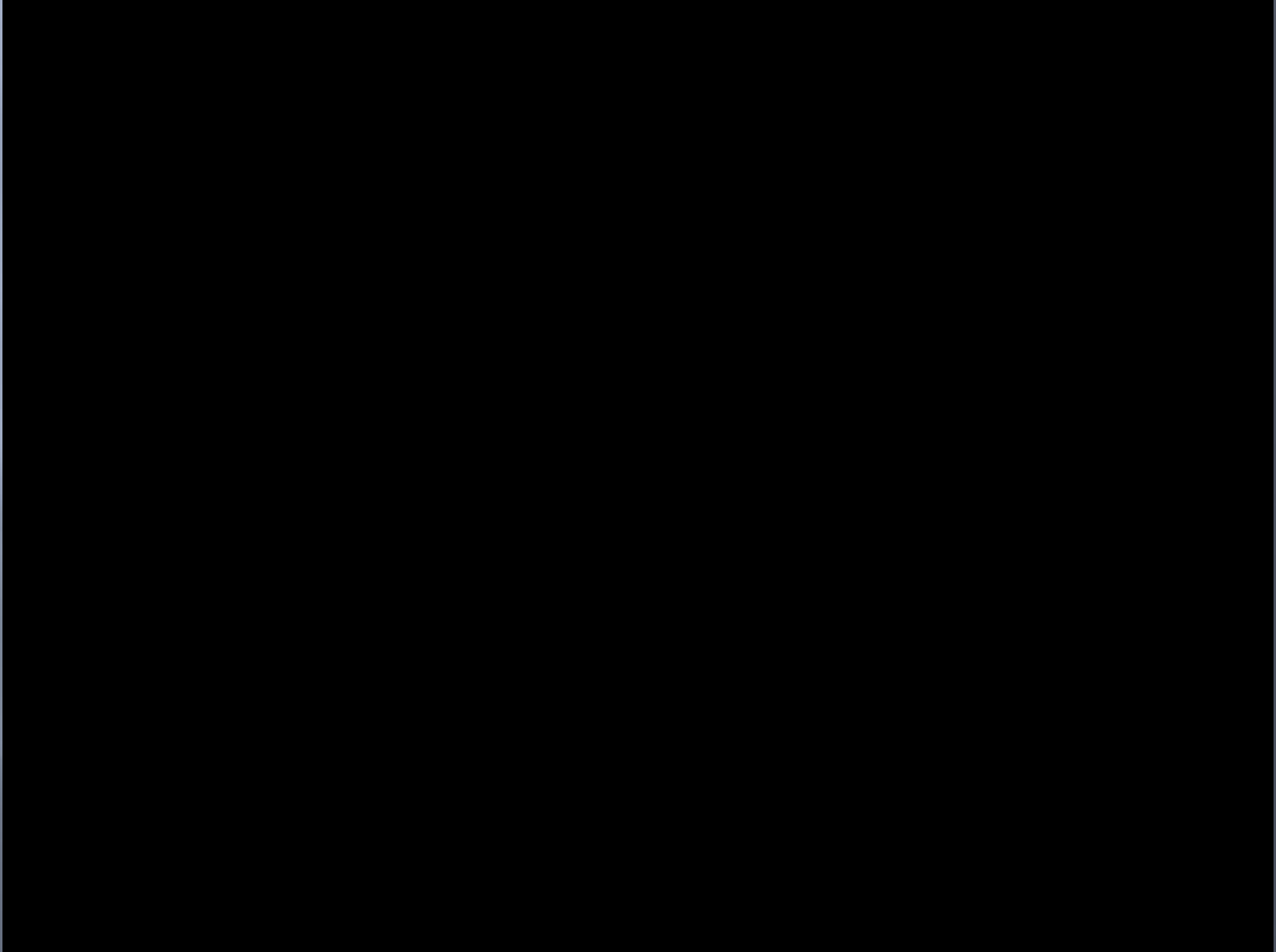
Lithium Metal

Li

- ❑ Air & Water reactive
- ❑ Flammable
 - ❑ DANGEROUS WHEN WET
 - ❑ UNUSUALLY reactive with water
 - ❑ Referred as “White Fire”



Lithium Igniting



Sodium Hydroxide

NaOH

- ▣ Highly water soluble
- ▣ Strong base
 - ▣ Highly Corrosive
- ▣ Liquefactive necrosis
- ▣ IDLH 10ppm



Chemical Hazards - Bases

- ❑ Tissue destruction, severe chemical burns.
- ❑ Reaction with water will generate extreme heat.
- ❑ Reacts violently with acids.
- ❑ Destruction of incompatible materials.

EXAMPLES

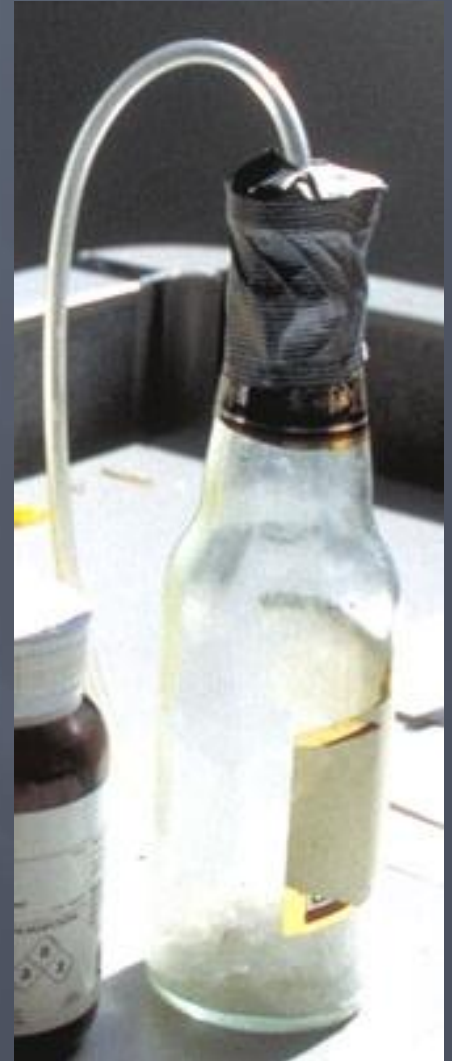
- Sodium Hydroxide (Drano Crystals)
- Anhydrous Ammonia



Hydrogen Chloride

HCl

- ❑ Corrosive/Poisonous Gas
 - ❑ Highly water soluble
- ❑ Hydrochloric Acid
(i.e. Muriatic Acid)
- ❑ Colorless, slightly yellow
- ❑ Pungent, irritant
- ❑ IDLH 50 ppm
- ❑ Vapor Density 1.27 (NIOSH)



Chemical Hazards - Acids

- ❑ Tissue destruction, severe chemical burns.
- ❑ Reacts
- ❑ Reacts violently with bases
- ❑ Destruction of tissues and metals



EXAMPLES

- Hydriodic Acid
- Sulfuric Acid (Liquid Fire)
- Hydrochloric Acid (Muriatic Acid)



“Shake & Bake”



Organic Solvents

- ❑ Camping Fuel
- ❑ Acetone
- ❑ Ether
- ❑ Xylene

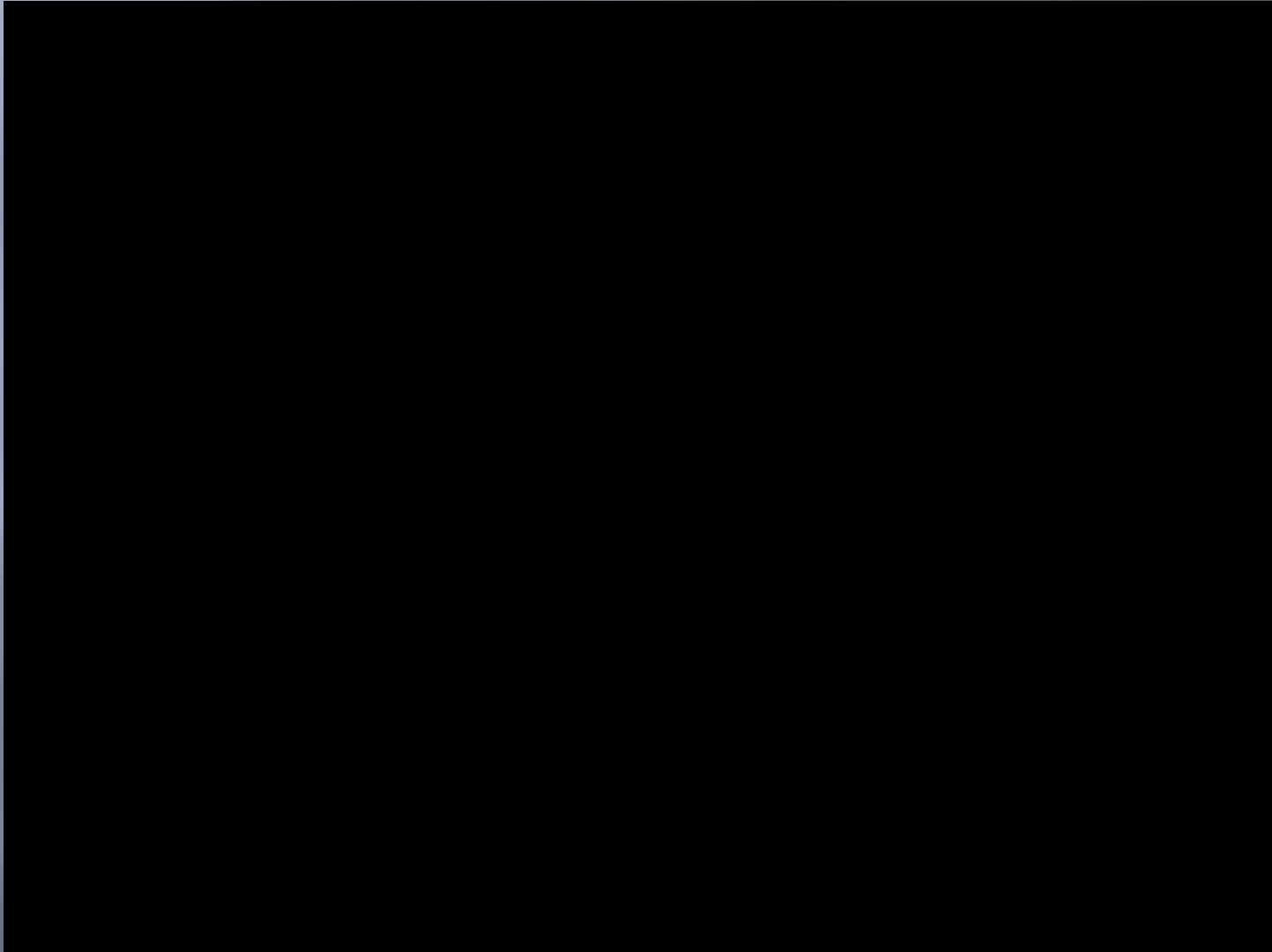


CAUTIONS:

- ❑ Volatile
- ❑ Flammable



Cook Failure



Additional Apparatus & Chemicals



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TRIPLE BEAM BALANCE
2610g 5 lb 2 oz
OHAUS

Revive

WAN
Epsom salt
MAGNESIUM SULFATE
SOAKING A
OR SPRAINS AN
LINE LAXA
THE SHORT-TERM
OF CONSTIPATI
ral Minera

stone
WD-40
GAS & W
UNUSABLE, IMPROPER TOXIC,
DANGEROUS IF SWALLOWED,
Irritant. Avoid contact with other
materials and avoid breathing fumes.

Mason





Fastrac

BYRNE DAIRY
VITAMIN D MILK

24 Hour Protection



***How would
you handle
this
contaminated
crime scene?***



Protective Actions

- ❑ Do NOT touch or move anything that is most likely associated with a clan lab.
- ❑ If the clan lab materials are in a vehicle, do not move the vehicle.
- ❑ Do NOT turn lights or appliances on or off.
- ❑ Consider all containers potential hazards.

Protective Actions

- ❑ Remove occupants as quickly as possible.
- ❑ In most cases, leave doors and windows open if practical (to ventilate the clan lab site).
- ❑ Secure the site and do not allow re-entry.



Discovery of a Clandestine Lab

Assure that policies and procedures are in place to notify:



- *Local Law Enforcement*



- *State Police - CCSERT*
Contaminated Crime Scene



Emergency Response Team



- *DEA Clan Laboratory Enforcement Team*

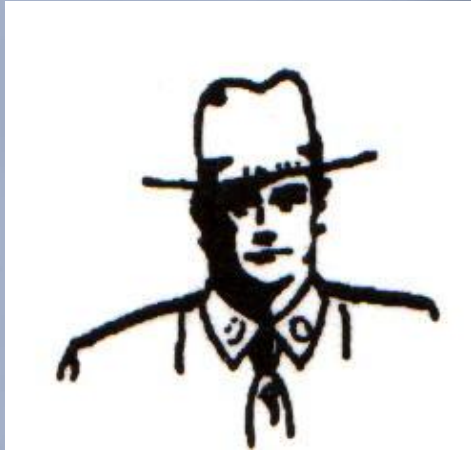
Integration of Resources



- ▣ The use of the Incident Command Structure
- ▣ Unified Command
 - ▣ Potential Victims – EMS
 - ▣ Coordination of Haz Mat/Decon Resources – Fire Dept
 - ▣ Crime Scene & Suspect concerns – Law Enforcement

Assure properly trained personnel are enroute!

Questions, Comments or Concerns?



Sergeant Doug Wildermuth

New York State Police

NREMT Paramedic/NYSDOH-CIC

HazMat/Clan Lab Technician

Volunteer Firefighter

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(CCSERT) Coordinator***

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Thank You!

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