

Webinar Series  
Funded by the U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Capital Litigation Initiative:  
Crime Scene to Courtroom Forensics Training

**Webinar #10: “Importance of Standardized Forensic Methods for  
the Analysis of Seized Drugs”**

- I. Introduction
  - A. Welcome – Professor Jose Almirall
  - B. Speaker introductions
  - C. How to participate in the Chat Feature
  
- II. Seized Drug Analysis
  - A. Overview
    - Definition
    - Goals
    - Methods
  - B. Quality Assurance and Accreditation
    - Importance
    - Requirements
    - Accrediting Bodies
  - C. Terminology
  - D. Jurisdictional Differences
    - Impact
    - Examples
  - E. Laboratory Submission Processes
  - F. Types of Samples
  - G. Analysis Steps
    - Weighing
      - 1. Net weight determination
      - 2. Net weight uncertainty
    - Sampling
      - 1. Statistical vs. non-statistical
      - 2. Extrapolation
    - Analysis
      - 1. Instrumental tests
      - 2. Non-instrumental tests
      - 3. Qualitative
      - 4. Quantitative
      - 5. Analytical Schemes

- 6. Minimum standards for identification
    - Reporting
      - 1. Laboratory report components
      - 2. Example report
    - Post-analysis considerations
  - H. Seized Drug Standards
    - Scientific Working Group for the Analysis of Seized Drugs (SWGDRUG)
    - American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)
    - Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC)
    - Resources
- III. Seized Drugs: A Legal Perspective
- A. Advocacy
  - B. Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure
    - Initial Appearance/Arrest
    - Discovery
    - Discovery Considerations
    - Pre-trial Motions
    - Laboratory Discovery Requests
  - C. Case Law
    - Chain of Custody
    - Expert Testimony
    - Motions in Limine

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