



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS BUREAU

DRUG TOXICOLOGY GUIDELINES FOR REPORTS

This guideline explains the types of Drug Toxicology Scientific Examination Reports that are issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) Crime Laboratory Toxicology Unit. Please see the **Drug Toxicology Confirmation Test** documents for additional information on the drugs that are specifically targeted in our confirmation testing for both blood and urine.

Note: All samples that arrive at DPS for the first time, will receive a preliminary screen. For information regarding the preliminary screen, please refer to the **Drug Toxicology Screening Tests** document.

Positive Results:

- A report with the positive presence of a drug or drug metabolite means that there must have been a minimum of an indication of the drug, drug metabolite, or drug category by Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA), GC/MS, LC/MS/MS, GC/MS/MS, or LC/QTOF along with a positive confirmation of the drug or drug metabolite by GC/MS, LC/MS/MS, GC/MS/MS, or LC/TOF.
- Positive results will have met reporting guidelines per the Drug Toxicology Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) Protocol.

“Not Detected” Results:

- A report with a “Not Detected” result means that there must have been a minimum of two analyses, either by preliminary or confirmatory analyses, which did not lead to a positive, reportable result.
- Two types of “Not Detected” results may exist:
 - “Not Detected” Preliminary Results: The sample received two preliminary screens with no indication of a drug or drug category detected. The report will have the following statement: “No drugs were detected in the preliminary ELISA screen”.
 - “Not Detected” Confirmatory Results. The sample continued on for confirmation analysis due to preliminary screen indication or due to specific drug or drug category request. However, the results from the confirmation analysis were not reportable based on confirmation guidelines. This could mean no drug or drug metabolite was detected, or the drug or drug metabolite did not meet reportable criteria. The report will show the drug or drug category analyzed as “Not Detected”.

Combined Positive and Not Detected Results:

- A report may include both positive results and “Not Detected” results if the above criteria are met.