



Customer Bulletin – January 29, 2025

The Michigan State Police (MSP) Forensic Science Division (FSD) purchases and distributes Biological Specimen Kits to law enforcement agencies throughout Michigan. The Kits are used for the collection of biological specimens and the eventual submission and analysis for alcohol and drugs. The kits maintain an expiration date primarily based upon the expiration date of the tubes contained within. The expiration date of the tubes is driven by the expiration of the vacuum required to draw blood into the tube.

The MSP FSD Toxicology discipline has previously advised that the tubes used for blood draws in Biological Specimen Kits may be used beyond expiration. This advice was provided in accordance with guidance from the manufacturer of the tubes at the time, Tyco Kendall Healthcare.

The current manufacturer of tubes used in MSP FSD Toxicology Biological Specimen Kits, Beckton Dickinson, does not support using the tubes post-expiration. Thus, MSP FSD Toxicology no longer advises use of the tubes past the established expiration date.

The following recommendations are offered if expired blood tubes are encountered at the time of use:

- The health care professional should discard the expired tubes and use grey top tubes which are not expired; or
- Open a new Biological Specimen Kit; or
- If the previous two options are not possible, use the expired tubes rather than failing to collect an evidentiary sample.

For additional information regarding MSP FSD Toxicology Biological Specimen Kits, please contact:

Mr. Nicholas Fillingner
Toxicology Technical Leader
Michigan State Police
Forensic Science Division
fillingern@michigan.gov