



OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE COORDINATOR  
FOR DRUG ENFORCEMENT POLICY AND SUPPORT

1510 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON DC 20301-1510

13 MAY 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, MILITARY ENTRANCE PROCESSING  
COMMAND (MEPCOM), GREAT LAKES, ILLINOIS

THROUGH: DIRECTOR, ACCESSION POLICY, ODASD(MPP), OASD(FMP)

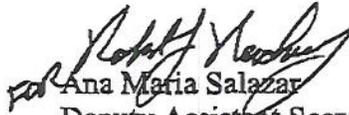
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SUBJECT: Transfer of MEPS Positive Drug Specimens from NWT Inc., to Navy Drug  
Screening Laboratory Great Lakes, Illinois

Following the Federal District Court Decision permitting the testing of Military Entrance Processing Stations (MEPS) applicant samples at the Navy Drug Screening Laboratory, Lieutenant Colonel Jacobs is initiating the transfer of records and specimens from NWT Laboratory Inc., Salt Lake City, Utah. Currently, over 14,000 positive MEPS specimens, representing the accumulated positive samples encountered over the past year, are held in frozen storage at NWT Laboratory, Inc.

Department of Defense Instruction 1010.16, "Technical Procedures for the Military Personnel Drug Abuse Testing Program," requires positive specimens be held in frozen storage for a period of one year. This is to permit retesting of the specimen by the accused military member or the member's Command and/or presentation of the specimen as evidence in military Court-Martial proceedings. Since MEPS applicant drug testing is a pre-conditional requirement for military entry, positive test results are rarely challenged or require specimen retesting. If so challenged, the inquiry is received within three months. Therefore, MEPS positive specimens currently held in frozen storage at NWT Laboratory Inc., older than December 1, 1998, may be properly disposed. MEPS positive specimens received on or after December 1, 1998, must be transferred to the Navy Drug Screening Laboratory, Great Lakes, Illinois for frozen storage for the 1-year duration. This rule applies only to MEPS samples in the closeout of testing at NWT Laboratory, Inc. All other specimens subject to transfer will abide by the 1-year requirement

Questions regarding this issue may be referred to Captain John Jemionek, MSC, USN, who may be contacted at (703) 693-1917. Your continued support of the DoD Demand Reduction Program is appreciated.

  
for Ana Maria Salazar

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for  
Drug Enforcement Policy and Support

CC:  
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CO, NEHC  
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