



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

1510 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20301-1510



97 NOV 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
(ATTN: CAPT M. WEISBERG)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (M&RA)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
(RA&CDP)

SUBJECT: Drug Screening Equipment and Reagents for The Military
Drug Screening Laboratories

Until recently, the military drug testing laboratories relied on a single supplier for reagents for the initial (screening) test, resulting in exorbitant prices for the reagents. In 1991, the prices for reagents were reduced markedly through competition, yielding a total savings to the Department of between \$8 and \$10 million per year for the last three years. This competition also has required the laboratories both to adapt to different reagents and to support the competition by performing testing and other administrative functions. The transition to a completely new technology is underway.

To maintain consistency in the military drug testing program during this time of transition, the procedures outlined below will be followed for the procurement of reagents and initial test procedures.

a. The Naval Medical Logistics Command, Fort Detrick, MD, will continue with the central procurement of reagents and automated analyzers for the use of all Service laboratories.

b. The reagent contracts will be "requirements" contracts and all military drug testing laboratories will use those reagents.

c. Any problems encountered with the reagents will be documented on the discrepancy form attached to the contract and the form and data forwarded to the contracting officer.

d. Radioimmunoassay will be continued until contracts are in place to provide the same reagents for a given drug test to all Services and will be continued indefinitely for drugs for which no alternative enzyme immunoassay is available.

e. The transition to the new screening technology will be accomplished for each class of drug on a uniform basis across the laboratories. Radioimmunoassay equipment will be maintained to allow backup to the new screening technology until experience has shown that test is effective and provides reproducible results.



The announcement of the reagent requirements will be made in the Commerce Business Daily in the next two weeks. The contracting process is expected to go quickly and several items of information are needed from each Service to allow the contract process to proceed. Please provide the following information by telephone or facsimile:

a. For FY-93, the number of initial tests completed for each class of drugs. This number must include quality controls and repeated tests.

b. For FY-94, the number of initial tests completed for each class of drugs. This number must include quality controls and repeated tests.

c. An estimate of number of tests projected for each class of drug for FY-96 and FY-97. This number must include quality control and repeated tests.

d. The name, address, telephone number, and facsimile number of the contracting officer's representative (COR) that will actually be placing the order for each requiring activity.

e. The title, name, address, telephone number, and facsimile number of the point of contact for problem, operational or performance questions for each requiring activity.

Please provide the information requested above by November 22, 1994. My staff point of contact for this issue is CAPT Richard L. Hilderbrand, MSC, USN, who can be reached at (703) 693-1917 or facsimile (703) 693-7588. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.



Brian E. Sheridan
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Drug Enforcement Policy and Support

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