



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Prisons

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MEMORANDUM FOR REGIONAL DIRECTORS  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

FROM:

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SUBJECT: Ion Spectrometry Drug Detection Program

This memorandum updates you on the use of Ion Spectrometry (IMS) equipment within the BOP.

IMS equipment use was suspended on April 10, 2008. Since that time, the Office of Security Technology (OST) has conducted testing on both the GE Security Itemiser3 and Smiths Detection IonScan 400B equipment using pharmaceuticals, hand sanitizers/lotions and illicit drugs.

As a result of this testing, the IMS program will be re-instated immediately under the following conditions:

IMS equipment is authorized for use on inmates ONLY, in accordance with Program Statement No. 5522.01, Ion Spectrometry Device Program (02/24/05), and this memorandum.

Either Smith's or GE Security IMS machines may be used to test inmate mail, inmate personal belongings, lockers, work areas, and the visiting room. IMS equipment is NOT authorized for testing inmates themselves (i.e., clothing, hands, shoes, etc.).

Both the Smiths Detection and GE Security equipment are to be used in the Narcotics mode to test for the main six drugs: Heroin, Cocaine, Methamphetamine, Amphetamine, THC, and MDMA. Other substances can be added/removed based on

regional and/or institution drug trends, but only with the approval of the Central Office Ionscan Program Manager, and after analyzing positive hit information cross-referenced with inmate urinalysis data.

IMS equipment is NOT authorized for use on any visitors.

Institution supplements related to or referencing PS 5522.01 shall be updated to comply with this memorandum.

Please direct further questions and requests for assistance to the Office of Security Technology at 202-307-3191.