Name of Procedure:

Polarized Light Microscopy
Microscopic Examination of Hashish Using Chloroform

Suggested Uses:

Identification of plant particles from marijuana.

Apparatus Needed To Perform Procedure Including Preparation of Reagent:

Polarizing microscope
Fume hood
Gloves
Eye protection
Laboratory coat
Spatula
Microscope slides
Weighing paper
Graduated cylinder
Glass stirring rod
Glass beaker
Reagent bottle
Chloroform

Formula for Preparing Reagent:

Reagent grade chloroform is used.

Expiration Date of Chemical Reagent:

The reagent can be used until depletion provided it is stored in an airtight reagent bottle.

Application of Procedure on Evidence:

1. Place small sample of suspected material on a microscope slide.

2. Place a drop of the chloroform reagent on the suspected material.

Application of Procedure on Evidence (continued):

3. Observe the mixture under a relatively low magnification (approximately 10X).

4. Record results.

Safety Concerns:

Always wear eye protection, gloves, and a laboratory coat when preparing this reagent.

Eye protection and a laboratory coat should be worn when using this reagent for the microcrystalline test.

Always dispose of used microscope slides in a broken glass container.

Literature References:

Tested and confirmed through use in the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation Drug Chemistry Laboratory, since 1973.