

FTDTL PHILOSOPHY

It is imperative that all work conducted by the FTDTL be of the highest quality possible while congruent with the needs of the PSA/ CSOSA. This applies to the actual technical laboratory work performed, reports, and courtroom testimony provided by the toxicologist/ chemist.

Technical competency can be achieved only by the combination of initial training, experience, continuing education through professional development, proficiency testing, and an appreciation of the scientific protocol/ methodology, all of which must be projected against a background of a proper professional ethic.

SPECIMEN PROCESSING

Ensuring specimen integrity throughout the analysis process is of the utmost importance. To ensure this, it is necessary to establish and maintain a structural stepwise analytical approach that must be followed by the laboratory personnel.

After the specimen has been turned in to the laboratory and the integrity of the chain of custody has been established, the specimen can be analyzed.