

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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TRAINING BULLETIN

DATE: June 27, 2025

Drug Paraphernalia for Destruction Process

Purpose

Provide information on new procedures for booking all drug paraphernalia for destruction.

Information

Due to the hazardous nature of handling drug paraphernalia including the risk of exposure to the synthetic opioid Fentanyl or suspected Fentanyl-related substances and the risk of being poked or cut, the following are the new KCSO booking procedures in accordance with the Kern County Sheriff's Office Property Room Packaging Guidelines for all drug paraphernalia will change as follows, effective immediately.

All drug paraphernalia seized shall be booked for "Destruction" **NOT** as "Evidence." Drug paraphernalia is considered to be, but not limited to:

- Any glass smoking pipe
- Tooters (straw, hollowed pen, etc.)
- Any small pieces of tin foil
- Burnt spoons
- Hypodermic syringes
- Any device, contrivance, instrument, or paraphernalia used for unlawfully ingesting a controlled substance

The drug paraphernalia shall be photographed, and the photograph will become the item of evidence for prosecution. The paraphernalia shall be secured in a double heat-sealed package (K-Pak). Ensure the K-Pak is completely sealed, and the label is placed in the upper left-hand corner before being discarded into the drop box. The drop box for drug paraphernalia is in the Property Room lobby next to the refrigerator. Drug paraphernalia shall be discarded into the rectangular slot (see attached picture).

The photograph shall then be uploaded to Evidence.com.

- **Note:** BWC footage will not suffice as photographic documentation to replace the physical items.)

A detailed description of the drug paraphernalia seized will be included in the corresponding report. The chain of custody will then document the photographing of the

paraphernalia, uploading the photograph into Evidence.com, and the booking of the physical items for **DESTRUCTION**.



All sworn personnel in the Deputy Sheriff, Detentions Deputy, Park Ranger, and CST ranks are required to review and acknowledge this training bulletin no later than **August 1, 2025.**