

Explosives Chemistry Report Writing Guidelines

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Explosives Chemistry Report Writing Guidelines

1 INTRODUCTION

Laboratory Reports issued by examiners conducting work in explosives chemistry analysis are designed to summarize analytical findings from the examination of evidence. Due to the wide variety of requests and evidence received, this document only provides general guidelines for report writing. Example wording for explosives chemistry results can be found within the [Report Wording Examples for Explosives Chemistry Analysis](#) document (level 4). Report wording is acceptable as long as the results of the examinations are accurately communicated, a list of the techniques used to reach the results is included, limitations are addressed, and the wording is approved by a second examiner who is qualified and authorized in the subdiscipline during the technical review process.

2 SCOPE

This procedure applies to examiners who issue *Laboratory Reports* (7-1, 7-1 LIMS) in explosives chemistry analysis.

3 PROCEDURE

All *Laboratory Reports* generated by explosives chemistry examiners will follow the requirements set forth in the [FBI Laboratory Operations Manual \(LOM\)](#).

3.1 Results of Examinations

The Results of Examinations section contains methods, results, opinions, limitations, interpretations, and/or conclusions of examinations conducted by the examiner. For results involving explosives and ignitable liquids, refer to the [Fire Debris Report Writing Guidelines](#) for reporting of ignitable liquids.

In addition to analysis of substances submitted as physical evidence, information provided in other formats (e.g., written, video, electronic) can also be assessed to provide opinions and interpretations such as potential use in explosives, opinion of viability, and theoretical calculations. References, if used, will be recorded in the examination records.

Limitations of the results, or limitations of the examinations based on the evidence received, will be conveyed. This may include interpretative wording to aid the reader in understanding any significance of the results. Example wording for such limitations can be found within the [Report Wording Examples for Explosives Chemistry Analysis](#) document (level 4).

Limitations may include the following:

- If examinations were limited due to small sample size, this will be stated.
- If examinations were limited due to the nature of the packaging used, this will be stated. This may result in no examinations being performed.
- If examinations were limited by the method used to collect the samples, this will be stated.

4 REVISION HISTORY

Revision	Issued	Changes
04	08/15/2022	Updated to new document template. Removed appendices.