



**DAVE YOST**  
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



## Drug Evidence in the Courtroom

**\*\*HANDLE WITH CARE\*\***

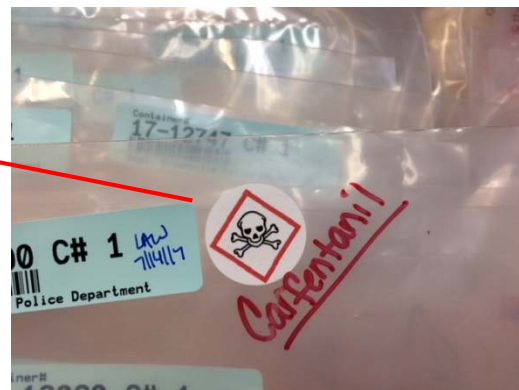
In the last few years, fentanyl and other synthetic opioids have been introduced into illicit street drugs. These substances pose a significant health risk as they are highly potent in small quantities and easily absorb through the skin and mucous membranes (eyes, nose, mouth).

BCI has made efforts to protect our employees and law enforcement personnel from accidental exposure to these substances through the promotion of safe handling techniques and personal protective equipment. **We ask that in order to continue these efforts drug evidence items not be removed from their outer plastic packaging during court proceedings or by members of the jury. Items should remain in their outer plastic packaging (as seen below) through their destruction or disposal.**

Should a drug evidence item need to be removed from its packaging, persons handling the items or in the vicinity of the items should at minimum wear the following personal protective equipment: protective clothing, eye protection, nitrile gloves and a N-95/P-95 rated particulate mask.

**For questions or additional information, contact:**

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(740) 845-2616 or [jessica.toms@ohioattorneygeneral.gov](mailto:jessica.toms@ohioattorneygeneral.gov)



\*Example: Drug evidence in outer plastic packaging. \*\*Note: Evidence found to contain extremely potent substances, like carfentanyl, will also be labeled with a toxic sticker. Evidence without a toxic sticker can still be hazardous.