

Section 2 — Investigation: Evidence Packaging

Name _____ Date _____ Class _____

Objective:

To gain familiarization with evidence packaging techniques that prevent damage to evidence and ensure the safety of evidence handlers.



Background:



The Scenario

You are investigating a suspected arson and observe the following pieces of evidence at the crime scene: one book of matches, one piece of charred wood emitting a chemical odor, one plastic bag containing an off-white powder, (the bag has a ripped corner secured with cellophane tape) one 9mm cartridge shell, one piece of blood stained fabric, and a clump of fibers.

It is your duty, as the Investigator, to properly collect and package the items of evidence in order to ensure their safe delivery to the laboratory for analysis.

The packaging items consist of the following: one Mason jar, one small paper bag, one plastic bag, one small metal container, one paper envelope and one small cardboard box with cotton.

Materials:

One large plastic bag containing the following items:

Type of evidence

- book of matches
- piece of charred wood
- plastic bag containing off-white powder
(bag has a small hole that has been sealed with a piece of tape)
- 9 mm cartridge shell
- piece of "blood" stained fabric
- fibers

Type of container

- glass jar
- small paper bag
- plastic bag
- paper envelope
- small metal container
- small cardboard box with cotton