



**STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENT DEFENSE SERVICES**

896 West Nye Lane, Suite 202 | Carson City, NV 89703-1578
Phone: (775) 687-8490 | dids.nv.gov

Breath Alcohol Testing – A Webinar for Litigators

Date: September 4, 2020

Time: 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

How: Microsoft Teams Video Conferencing

Credit: 1.5 general credits. * No substance abuse or ethics credit. *

Materials: The meeting link and materials will be sent in advance of the program date.

Registration: To register, please email jarrod.hickman@dids.nv.gov by August 28, 2020.

NOTE: This presentation will be recorded.

Faculty: David Astles, Forensic Analyst of Alcohol, Washoe County Sheriff's Office, Forensic Science Division.

Presentation Outline:

1. Alcohol in the body
 - Absorption, distribution and elimination of alcohol in the body
 - How alcohol creates impairment
2. Why and how breath alcohol testing works
 - Respiratory elimination of alcohol from inside the body
 - Detection technologies for measuring alcohol in the breath
3. Statutory & regulatory framework for evidentiary breath testing in Nevada
 - Review of NRS 484C and NAC 484C with respect to breath alcohol testing
 - Discussion of the role of Forensic Analysts of Alcohol
 - Calibration and related requirements
 - Operator certification
4. The Nevada breath alcohol testing protocol
 - The Nevada Intoxilyzer 8000 Checklist
5. Accuracy and reliability of breath alcohol tests
 - Reported Measurement Uncertainty versus "margin of error"
 - The difference between instrumental variability and breath-to-breath variation (i.e. subject variability)
6. Potential confounding factors
 - Mouth alcohol issues and safeguards
 - Interferent issues and safeguards
 - Medical Conditions (GERD, diabetes, auto-brewery syndrome)
 - Other potential confounding factors (real and imagined)