

# ***NIBRS Coding Scenarios***

## **Coding Drug/Narcotic Offenses**

***Issue:*** Too many agencies are reporting the Type Drug Measurement of "XX" (Not Reported) without updating the incident after lab results are received.

In order to obtain a more accurate measure of the existing drug problem, the NIBRS program allows agencies to report the "Estimated Drug Quantity" of the drugs or narcotics seized for the Drug/Narcotic Violations (35A). Frequently, the suspected drugs/narcotics are sent to a forensic laboratory for assessment as to type, measurement, etc. In such instances, "Not Reported" can be used in the interim while the seized drugs/narcotics are assessed. However, upon receipt of the laboratory results, the "XX" (Not Reported) must be adjusted to reflect these results.

***Issue:*** Agencies are often incorrectly reporting "Drug Dosage Units" (DU) for the "Type Drug Measurement" for crack, cocaine, and marijuana.

Below are some of the more common drugs and the common "Type Drug Measurement" for each drug:

- Cocaine – Gram (GM), Kilogram (KG), Ounce (OZ), or Pound (LB)
- Crack - Gram (GM), Kilogram (KG), Ounce (OZ), or Pound (LB)
- Ecstasy – Dosage Units (DU) or Pound (LB)
- GHB and Liquid Ecstasy – Milliliter (ML)
- Hashish and Shrooms – Gram (GM)
- Heroin – Gram (GM)
- LSD – Dosage Units (DU)
- Marijuana – Gram (GM), Kilogram (KG), Ounce (OZ), Pound (LB), or Number of Plants (NP)
- Meth – Gram (GM) or Ounce (OZ)

***Issue:*** Agencies reported incidents containing seized drug equipment (Drug/Narcotic Equipment Violations – 35B) with a property value of one dollar.

Although a property value of one dollar is possible, with such a high number of incidents containing this value, there may be a reporting problem or some confusion. Some of the more common drug equipment items are priced as follows:

- Bongs - \$50 to \$100
- Pipes average \$20
- Chemicals (precursor for Meth) average \$300/batch
- Zig Zag papers average \$3

Other items used as drug/narcotic equipment such as tin foil, cigars, and light bulbs should be listed using the retail price at a store.

***Issue:*** Some agencies reported the type of drug activity as "Possessing", with a type of property loss "1" (None).

Typically, with this type of drug activity, we would see the type of property loss as "5" (Recovered) or "6" (Seized).

**NIBRS I, NIBRS II & NIBRS Coding Scenarios  
will be held September 1 - 2, 2010.**



Note that the preceding gives general examples. It is not meant to be all inclusive. Coding is based on individual case circumstances. Please direct NIBRS questions to:

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