

Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory  
Change in Instrument Status Form

Version: 6.0

Effective: 1/17/2024

Date: 2/25/2025

Instrument #: 100380

Instrument Location: Ketchikan Police Department, 361 Main Street, Ketchikan AK 99901

Supervisor Name and Agency: Derek McGarrigan

Describe the Status Change or Issue with the Instrument:

Breath hose end piece came off and numerous status messages

If instrument was placed in service or removed from service, fill out the appropriate sections below.

In Service Date/Time: Click or tap here to enter text.

Out of Service Date/Time: 2/25/25 at 2045 DJW 02/27/2025

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**For Use by SCDL**

**Additional Notes**

Click or tap here to enter text.

Gas flow, interference, and blank errors on subject tests. Blank error on VOC. DJW 02/27/2025

**Email completed form to [dps.scdl.toxicology@alaska.gov](mailto:dps.scdl.toxicology@alaska.gov).**

Page 1 of 1

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Approved by: Chemistry Supervisor

Email sent to the lab 2/19/25

pg 1 of 2

Good morning,

I'm working through possibly two issues with our DM, but they could both stem from the same thing. I was just notified several interference detected, gas flow errors, and blank status messages occurred during the two most recent subject sample tests. I've forwarded an email I received from one of my guys for their explanation of what happened.

The external tank was down in the 400 psi range and it's nearing expiration. The last time our tank was in this status, we had issues with status messages but not the interference detected. We had an extra full tank that is nearing expiration. That was placed in the DM two days ago. The white connection piece at the end of the breath test hose was accidentally removed during one of the previous tests. It was found and reattached. It passed a VOC.

Last night, our guys arrested a DUI and during they received a blank error status messages. They restarted another test and the DM accepted the subject sample without issue.

Please let me know what you need from me with troubleshooting.

Thanks,  
Derek McGarrigan  
Deputy Chief  
Ketchikan Police Department

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Email from Sgt. Walker to DC McGarrigan on 2/18/25

**Subject:** DataMaster

D.C. – This evening Vince arrested a guy for DUI. He advised he attempted to “scan” the guy’s Tennessee license which caused the DataMaster to “Lock-up”.

He did a hard restart and initiated a test. While performing the self-test, the instrument stopped; advising, “Interference detected”. A second test was initiated with the same result, and I was contacted. (photos attached)

I responded, opened the door to the garage and exterior garage door and moved the subject near the open door and a third test was initiated. Again, the test shut down; providing a “Interference detected” status message.

I sent him to AST to use their DataMaster.

Pg 2 of 2

I decided to run a test on myself and set up the instrument. When advised to "blow", I discovered the fitting to insert the mouthpiece into the breath tube is missing. (photo attached)

I went ahead and provided a sample of breath, using my hands to make a seal on the breath tube and gave a proper sample of breath.

While analyzing my breath sample I received a status message of, "Gas Flow Error" and the test shut down. (photo attached)

I then reviewed the DataMaster log, and see on 9/15/24 there were several "Interference detected" during a test subject (photo attached)

It may be time to send in our DataMaster for refurbishment.