

# CT Statewide Drug and Alcohol Testing Consortium Newsletter

## September 2023

### Oral Fluid Update

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) approved the use of oral fluids effective June 1<sup>st</sup>. However; before an employer can start to utilize oral fluid for testing, the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)/DOT must certify at least two laboratories for oral fluid testing. As of today, the DOT has still not approved the use of any laboratory for Oral fluid testing. The means testing for oral fluids; although DOT-approved, is still unable to be completed.

DISA is closely monitoring all updates coming from the Office of Drug & Alcohol Policy & Compliance (ODAPC) and will keep the consortium updated on all news concerning the approval of the laboratories.

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## DISA360 Premier Service Team

Dear Valued DISA Client,

DISA continually strives to optimize and enhance your customer service experience. We are excited to announce our expanded DISA360 Premier Service Team. We have added three additional trained representatives to join the team and; therefore, can provide extended availability.

Candice Rouisse will remain your Client Account Representative. The only change is instead of utilizing **DTCCAR@disa.com**, she as well as the team is available at **D360Premier@disa.com**.

### Key Points

- ✓ **Single point of contact**
  - **Email: D360Premier@disa.com** (*This is replacing DTCCAR@disa.com*)
  - **Phone: 833-DISA-014**
- ✓ **Extended hours of operation: 8AM – 8PM ET**
- ✓ **Premier and Priority Customer Service**

We truly appreciate your loyalty & business, and look forward to assisting you. Thank you for choosing DISA.

David Alexander  
Director, Client Services  
DISA Global Solutions, Inc.

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# Consortium Training

**Presented by: DISA's partner, Current Consulting Group**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2023**

**Location: Connecticut DOT Bureau of Public Transportation**

**2800 Berlin Turnpike**

**Conference Room A & B**

**Newington, CT 06131-7546**

## DER Training

**8:30AM – 11:00AM**

### Who Should Attend?

Designated Employer Representatives (DERs)/ Drug and Alcohol Program Managers (DAPMs).

The DOT Designated Employer Representative (DER) Drug and Alcohol Awareness Training will:

- Cover the basics of a DOT-mandated substance abuse program.
- Provide an in-depth review of all components of a testing program.
- Review all reasons for testing.
- Explain the laboratory drug testing process and the responsibilities of the Medical Review Officer (MRO).
- Provide DERs with helpful suggestions for organizing and storing documents in preparation for a federal or state audit.
- Answer some of the most frequently asked questions.

## Post-Accident Training

**11:15AM – 12:30PM**

### Who Should Attend?

DERs, Transit Supervisor, and Transit Officials.

The DOT FTA Post Accident Training will:

- Cover DOT Post-Accident Regulation Review.
- Post-Accident Testing Thresholds.
- Documentation of the Decision to Test/Not to Test.
- Review of Best Practices when it comes to Post-Accident Testing.
- Documentation of Testing Delays and Third-Party Contacts & Resources.

## Reasonable Suspicion Training

**1:30PM – 4:00PM**

### Who Should Attend?

DERs, DAPMs, Transit Supervisors and Transit Officials who are authorized to determine when it is appropriate to administer Reasonable Suspicion testing.

*The DOT Reasonable Suspicion Training will:*

- Cover Drug Abuse and Alcohol Misuse Impact on Society and Industry.
- Drugs of Abuse and Alcohol Misuse and the effects.
- Policy and Procedural Review.
- Profile of the At-Risk Employee Confronting and Referring an Employee.
- Review of Drug and Alcohol Testing Procedures and Referral to EAP and the Rehabilitation Process.

**RSVP to Nhan Vo-Le, Drug and Alcohol Program Coordinator, at [nhvole@ghtd.org](mailto:nhvole@ghtd.org). Registration will open until 10/18/23**

# FTA Drug and Alcohol Regulation Updates – Issue 78

# Consortium Random Selections

<https://transit-safety.fta.dot.gov/DrugAndAlcohol/Newsletters/issue78/pdf/issue78.pdf>

Check the above link for this FTA Issue 78 that includes the following updates:

- DOT Publishes Final Rule
- Conference Success in San Diego!
- Contractor and Subrecipient Compliance
- FTA Post-Accident Tests When a Medical Emergency or Slip and Fall Occurs
- An Employee Who States They Cannot Provide a Sufficient Specimen Must Still Follow Shy Bladder Process
- Service Agents Must Not Act as Intermediaries in the Transmission of Alcohol Test Results of 0.02 or Higher
- Contractors File Their Own MIS Reports

- No Direct Observation, but Initial Test is Positive
- What Do I Do if My Covered Employee has a DUI on Private Time?
- Records Maintained by a TPA Must be Accessible for Minimum Retention Periods
- Preparing Records for an Upcoming Audit
- MIS CDL/Non-Revenue Vehicle Category is Not for Supervisors with CDLs
- Random Selections Must be Provided Timely to Ensure Testing at the Beginning of the Testing Period
- Collection Services Must Be Available During All Hours When Safety-Sensitive Functions Are Performed
- Understanding "Shy Lung" Cases
- SAPs Not Allowed for Non-DOT Violations.

The 4th quarter random selections were generated and sent out on September 25th, 2023 in preparation for the October 1st begin date. You cannot begin testing on these selections until October 1st, 2023 or after. The last day to complete the selections is December 31st, 2023. Please reach out to the scheduling team to schedule your onsite testing events at [scheduling@disa.com](mailto:scheduling@disa.com). It is important to note that testing is required to spread out throughout the quarter as well as around holidays that you are in service for. If you have any questions about your random selections or your testing schedule, please contact, Candice Rouisse at [D360Premier@disa.com](mailto:D360Premier@disa.com) or 800-211-4469 Extension 6021.

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# Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Third

## DISA Global Solutions, Inc.

### COMPANY CONTACTS

#### **Mobile Operations**

##### **Scheduling Department**

Jason Allen – Main Telephone #800-211-4469 Extension 6051. Email: [Jason.Allen@disa.com](mailto:Jason.Allen@disa.com)

Taylor Leblanc - Main Telephone #800-211-4469 Extension 6041. Email: [Scheduling@disa.com](mailto:Scheduling@disa.com)

##### **Collectors**

Nathan Rice

William Mauhs

Noelle Iglesias

Christopher Fitzpatrick

##### **Senior Client Account Representative/Program Administrator**

Candice Rouisse - Telephone #800-211-4469 Extension 6021

**DISA360 Premier Service Team - Telephone #833-DISA-014**

**Email: [D360Premier@disa.com](mailto:D360Premier@disa.com)**

Fax: 413-283-6945 or 413-284-0022

##### **Accounting**

Auberey Ramon - Main Telephone #800-211-4469. Email: [Auberey.Ramon@disa.com](mailto:Auberey.Ramon@disa.com)

##### **Area Leader**

Candice Sanchez - Main Telephone #817-332-0044 Extension 3582. Email: [Candice.sanchez@disa.com](mailto:Candice.sanchez@disa.com)

##### **24-Hour Drug & Alcohol Testing On-Site**

Post-Accident

Reasonable Suspicion

1-800-967-3135 Toll-Free Emergency Line

Be prepared to provide the following information:

Your Name & Agency Name

Phone Number

Location of Incident

Reason for Call (Post-Accident or Reasonable Suspicion)

##### **Medical Review Officer (MRO) Department**

University Services

Richard Weinstein, MD

2800 Black Lake Place,

Suite A

Philadelphia, PA 19154

Phone: 800-624-3784

Fax: 215-637-6998

# Enhance Awareness of the Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

**Note: This letter from The Lexington Group should be made available to safety-sensitive employees and posted in the break room**



## The Lexington Group

Your Employee Assistance Program

A Woman Owned Enterprise Since 2000

Dear CT Drug Consortium Employees and Family Members:

The Lexington Group Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides CONFIDENTIAL face-to-face and virtual counseling services to assist employees in identifying and resolving personal problems. Examples include marriage and family issues, job stress, alcohol and drug abuse, depression and other emotional concerns. The Lexington Group services also include referral resources for legal, financial, eldercare, and childcare through the Life Care program.

Because employee lives may be affected by problems with a spouse or other family members, this program is extended to household family members as well. You or your household family members may contact your EAP directly at any time. No matter what your situation, any assistance you seek through the EAP is held in the strictest confidence. Involvement will not jeopardize your job security, future promotional opportunities or reputation.

For confidential and immediate access, you may call The Lexington Group 24/7 at:

**1-800-676-HELP (4357)**

You may also request services or read more about the program online at:

**[www.The-Lexington-Group.com](http://www.The-Lexington-Group.com)**

Your unique employee password is "CTDrugConsort"

We hope you will share our enthusiasm for The Lexington Group, Employee Assistance Program, and the opportunity it presents to help you and your family.

Sincerely,  
The Lexington Group



# Contact & Resource Information

## DISA Global Solutions, Inc.

Formerly Occupational Drug Testing (ODT)

[www.Disa.com](http://www.Disa.com)

Toll Free # 800-211-4469

## The Lexington Group

[www.The-Lexington-Group.com](http://www.The-Lexington-Group.com)

Toll Free # 800-571-0197

## Employee Assistance Program

1-800-676-HELP (4357)

Request clinical services online directly from the web site at:

[www.The-Lexington-Group.com](http://www.The-Lexington-Group.com)

To log on, your customer name is "CT Drug Consortium"

And your unique employee password is "CTDrugConsort"

Are you aware of the availability of program forms and resource documents on

GHTD's website? Go to:

<https://www.hartfordtransit.org/about/drug-alcohol-testing-consortium/>

Also, checkout the following materials:

What Employers Need to Know About DOT Drug and Alcohol Testing

What Employees Need to Know About DOT Drug and Alcohol Testing

Resources for The Designated Employer Representative (DER)

Lexington Newsletters

FTA Regulation Update Issues

The following FTA website provides a wealth of information such as trainings, newsletters, etc. on the Drug and Alcohol Testing Program that you might find very helpful:

[www.fta.dot.gov/12533.html](http://www.fta.dot.gov/12533.html)

You may also find Title 49 Parts 40 and 655 (FTA regulations on the drug and alcohol testing program) by using the Search engine.