

**STATE OF MAINE
SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER JB-05-10

HANDLING OF CONTAMINATED OR DANGEROUS MATERIALS

Effective: August 1, 2005

The following procedures shall govern the submission and handling of contaminated or other dangerous materials in all courts of the state:

1. Unprotected materials which contain or are contaminated by biohazardous materials, including, but not limited to, body tissue, blood and other bodily fluids, or bodily waste, may not be presented to a Judicial Branch employee, or introduced into evidence. If it is necessary to submit any such materials to a Judicial Branch employee, or to introduce them into evidence, the materials must be protected in puncture proof or nonpermeable containers or coverings, as appropriate and labeled with biohazard markings.
2. Any other item which has dangerous properties (toxic chemicals, explosives, live ammunition, etc.) and which must be submitted to or handled by a Judicial Branch employee must be rendered inert to the extent practicable, or if it cannot be rendered inert, must be packaged in a manner so as to prevent harm to those persons who must handle it, and must be accompanied by written instructions as to its safe handling.
3. All Judicial Branch employees have the discretion to refuse to accept or handle any items which appear to be contaminated with unprotected biohazardous materials, or which appear to have other dangerous qualities which are not adequately safeguarded under the provisions of paragraph 2. In the event of such a refusal, the offeror may request a written statement

showing that the item was tendered but refused, in order to show the offeror's compliance with applicable deadlines, including deadlines for the submission of evidence.

For the Court,

/s/

Leigh I. Saufley
Chief Justice

Promulgation Date: June 29, 2005

Historical Derivation of JB-05-10:

Handling Of Contaminated Or Dangerous Materials

AO Dated: May 15, 1996

Signed by: Daniel E. Wathen, Chief Justice, Maine Supreme Judicial Court