

# Evaluating Trans-Dermal Alcohol Scanning Device Data In Court Cases

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- Reprint Permission granted by Donald Ramsell & Gil Sapir, for citation: Gil Sapir and Donald J. Ramsell, Due Process: Unscrambling SCRAM, Proceedings, American Academy of Forensic Sciences, vol.24, p.596, F22 (2018)

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# Disclaimer

- This presentation and material are for informational purposes. This information is not legal advice or a specific scientific opinion.

# Lecture Outline

- What is Trans-dermal Alcohol Monitoring / How Does it Work?
  - Equipment
  - Basic Science
  - Scope & Limitations
- Right of Confrontation
  - Why Do you need to know this?
    - Do not confuse Transdermal Alcohol (TAC) with Blood Alcohol
    - Science is critical evidence in these cases.
- What is Necessary to prepare for a Transdermal Alcohol Monitor case?
  - Scientific Validity and Relevance (Admissibility)
- References

# What is SCRAM® ?

- Secure continuous remote alcohol monitor SCRAM® is the registered trademark of Alcohol Monitoring Systems, Inc., Littleton, Colorado.

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## Main Points in this Presentation

- SCRAM® is primarily used as a court ordered compliance
- Its purpose involves monitoring ethanol consumption
- It is a questionable application due to its limitations
- The verification process is considered speculative by some
- Questionable science methodology equates to questionable results
  
- Conclusion: Transdermal Alcohol Monitoring is Presumptive at best, a Confirmatory Test is required.

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## Title search: Evaluating Toxicology Evidence in Transdermal Alcohol (SCRAM) Monitoring

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the 2021 Evaluating Toxicology Evidence in Transdermal Alcohol (SCRAM) Monitoring session "Evaluating Toxicology Evidence in Transdermal Alcohol (SCRAM) Monitoring"