**Letter to the Editor regarding:** Abbreviations for 5- and 6-(2-Aminopropyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran vs. 5- and 6-(2-Aminopropyl)benzofuran: A Clarification of "APB" and "APDB"

When we first published the characterization of 5- and 6-(2-aminopropyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran [1] (Figure 1, upper two structures), the common Internet abbreviated slang for those compounds (and how they were sold) was "5-APB" and "6-APB". Shortly after that publication, 5- and 6-(2-aminopropyl)benzofuran (Figure 1, lower two structures) were offered by Internet companies; those new compounds were then referred to as "5-APB" and "6-APB", and 5- and 6-(2-Aminopropyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran were subsequently referred to as "5-APDB" and "6-APDB". This has caused confusion both in the forensic community as well as within Internet drug chat rooms. Further complicating matters, what is sometimes sold/represented over the internet as 6-APB, is in fact another active substance [2]. In order to eliminate confusion on the slang abbreviations of these four compounds, 5- and 6-(2-aminopropyl)benzofuran should be referred to as "5-APDB" and "6-APB" and 6-(2-Aminopropyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran should be referred to as "5-APDB" and "6-APDB." We hope to publish the characterization of 5- and 6-(2-aminopropyl)benzofuran in the near future.

## **References:**

- [1] Casale JF, Hays PA. The characterization of 5- and 6-(2-aminopropyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran. Microgram Journal. 2011;8(2):62-74.
- [2] Elie L, Baron M, Croxton R, Elie M. Microcrystalline identification of selected designer drugs. Forensic Sci. Int. 2012;214:182-8.

John Casale Senior Research Chemist DEA Special Testing and Research Laboratory

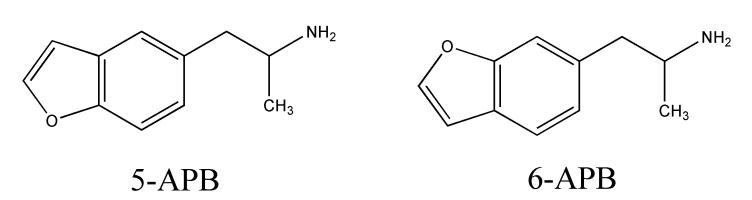


Figure 1 - Structures of 5-(2-aminopropyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran (5-APDB), 6-(2-aminopropyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran (6-APDB), 5-(2-aminopropyl)benzofuran (5-APB), and 6-(2-aminopropyl)benzofuran (6-APB).