

= Drug Testing (The Office) =

" Drug Testing " is the twentieth episode of the second season of the American comedy television series The Office , and the twenty @-@ sixth episode overall . It was written by Jennifer Celotta and directed by Greg Daniels , who is also an executive producer , and the series ' show runner . It first aired in the United States on April 27 , 2006 on NBC . The episode guest stars Marilyn Brett as the urine tester and Hugh Dane as Hank the security guard .

The series depicts the everyday lives of office employees in the Scranton , Pennsylvania branch of the fictional Dunder Mifflin Paper Company . In the episode , Dwight Schrute (Rainn Wilson) finds pieces of a joint in the parking lot , and begins an investigation to find the owner . Michael Scott (Steve Carell) , worrying that he may not pass a drug test , pressures Dwight for a cup of clean urine to pass the drug test . Failing to find the culprit and guilty over providing the urine to Michael , Dwight resigns as a volunteer sheriff . Later , Michael assigns Dwight the title of " Honorary Security Adviser " .

Several of the scenes were based on the actors ' real @-@ life talents , such as Krasinski 's ability to impersonate people . The episode was also the final episode of the season to be filmed , though not the last to air . " Drug Testing " was watched by 7 @.@ 8 million viewers and received mostly positive reviews from critics , although one review did criticize the plot for not quite coming together .

= = Plot = =

Dwight Schrute (Rainn Wilson) finds half of a joint in the parking lot of the Scranton , Pennsylvania branch of the Dunder Mifflin Paper Company , and takes advantage of his volunteer sheriff deputy status to investigate its source with Jim saying " Dwight finding drugs is more dangerous than people using drugs . " Meanwhile , when Jim Halpert (John Krasinski) and Pam Beesly (Jenna Fischer) say the same thing simultaneously , Pam calls " jinx " , meaning that Jim cannot talk until he buys her a Coke . Unfortunately , the vending machine is sold out . When Dwight sets up urine testing , Michael Scott (Steve Carell) worries that a " clove cigarette " he smoked at a concert will show up .

Michael conducts an anti @-@ drug meeting for the entire office in an unsuccessful attempt to avoid the drug test . Jim continues to hold up his end of the jinx , even as Pam teases him . When she says " you can tell me anything " , an awkward silence follows . Michael pressures Dwight for a cup of his " clean " urine , which he uses to pass the drug test . Dwight turns in his volunteer sheriff badge , feeling guilty for helping Michael . Pam buys Jim his Coke , which he buys off of her so she can find out what 's been happening with Dwight the whole day . Michael feels guilty , so he makes Dwight an " Honorary Security Advisor " for Dunder Mifflin Scranton .

The episode ends with talking head interview with Jim , discussing Dwight 's actions for Michael . There is a quick cut @-@ away to a visual of Jim talking to Pam in the breakroom . He states , " I just don 't get it . What does he get out of that relationship ? " The camera emphasizes his own relationship with Pam , and why he went through with the jinx all day .

= = Production = =

" Drug Testing " was written by Jennifer Celotta and directed by show runner and executive producer Greg Daniels . Fischer noted that the subplot featuring Jim unable to talk was important because " Pam and Jim can say a lot to one another without any words at all " , a reference to the " 27 seconds of silence " the two shared in the earlier episode " Booze Cruise " . Michael has a bandage around his finger in this episode because Steve Carell hurt his finger during the week and was unable to remove his wedding ring due to the swelling . Instead of cutting off his ring , the crew simply wrapped a bandage around it .

Several of the scenes were based on the actor 's real @-@ life talents as well as improvised . When Michael tells Pam to " write this down " , Jenna Fischer 's response to the camera was

improvised . " I thought it was funny that I didn 't have a pad of paper but Michael was telling me to take notes , " she explained in her MySpace blog , " so I just looked to the camera and showed my lack of pen and paper . " Jim 's impression of Stanley in this episode was inspired by John Krasinski 's actual talent of doing impressions on the set .

This was the final episode of the season to be filmed , though not the last to air . According to Jenna Fischer , everybody on the set was excited in a manner that she likened to students on the last day of school . The giddiness particularly shows in Fischer 's performance : Pam skips after Jim into the break room , she bounces on her toes at the end of the " fake crying " talking head , and she taps the soda can three times to get Jim to release the jinx .

The Season Two DVD contains a number of deleted scenes from this episode . Notable cut scenes include Jim doing impressions of Kevin and Angela for Pam , Dwight noting that he is so determined to find the culprit that he is prepared to pray " to Thor himself " , Toby saying that he does not think Michael is taking drugs , Jim secretly doing an impression of Dwight right in front of him , Dwight talking about Jim and concluding that , " If that were my life , I 'd do drugs " , Pam toying with Dwight by admitting that she " was a teensy bit high ... in the parking lot at the Quick and Easy " , Meredith coming to Jim because Pam told her he had something to tell her . Jim is under the jinx and says nothing , Kelly putting a customer on hold when she is called by Dwight and forgetting to return , Dwight taking notes during the conference , Pam showing the camera the flyer that Michael made up for the conference , and Lee and Gino , the workers at Vance Refrigeration , discarding a joint in the parking lot .

= = Cultural references = =

Michael notes that he had gotten high at an Alicia Keys concert . During Michael 's anti @-@ drug meeting , he misidentifies hookah as an illegal drug ; Toby points out the fact that it is merely a pipe . Dwight notes that he 'll have to bring in his b? staff , a long staff weapon used in Okinawa and feudal Japan , to protect the office . Jim later notes that Dwight was dressed like a member of the disco group the Village People .

= = Reception = =

" Drug Testing " originally aired on NBC in the United States on April 26 , 2006 . " Drug Testing " received 3 @. @ 9 / 10 in the ages 18 ? 49 demographic in the Nielsen ratings . This means that 3 @. @ 9 percent of all households with an 18- to 49 @-@ year @-@ old living in it watched the episode , and ten percent had their television tuned to the channel at any point . " Drug Testing " was watched by 7 @. @ 8 million viewers .

" Drug Testing " was generally well received by critics . Lindsey Thomas of Rolling Stone named Dwight interrogating the workers in the Office after finding the joint in the parking lot one of the top twenty @-@ five scenes from the show , ranking it at number fifteen . Alan Sepinwall of The Seattle Times wrote that " ' Drug Testing ' (in which Rainn Wilson 's supercilious Dwight paraded around the office wearing a Smokey Bear hat and carrying a coffee cup filled with undrinkable liquid) " allowed the show to finally make " The Leap . " Brendan Babish of DVD Verdict was pleased with the entry and awarded it an " A ? " . He was pleased with the episode 's emphasis on Dwight and called it " a far better showcase for Dwight 's many charms than ' Dwight 's Speech ' . " M. Giant of Television Without Pity awarded the episode an " A " . Not all reviews were so glowing . Michael Sciannamea of AOL TV was more critical of the episode and wrote that he " didn 't think this episode was so hot " , calling the premise " a good idea that didn 't really take off " . He also disliked Jim and Pam 's subplot and called it " rather childish " and wrote that it " didn 't seem to go anywhere " .