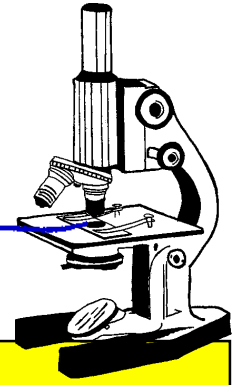


**A CURRENT  
EDUCATIONAL  
BULLETIN FOR  
SUBMITTING LAW  
ENFORCEMENT  
AGENCIES**

*A Closer Examination From The Benchtop...*

# UNDER the SCOPE



MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL • CRIME LABORATORY DIVISION

PHONE: 573-526-6134  
FAX: 573-751-9922



EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, THE MSHP CRIME LABORATORY DIVISION IS SUSPENDING QUESTIONED DOCUMENT EXAMINATION SERVICES. NAMES OF QUALIFIED PRIVATE EXAMINERS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE GENERAL HQ LABORATORY.

WHEN SUBMITTING BLOOD FOR DWI TOXICOLOGY ANALYSIS, PRESERVE ONLY THE PACKAGING FROM THE SWAB TO DEMONSTRATE THAT A NONALCOHOLIC SWAB WAS USED AND THE NEEDLE PACKAGE (OR CAP) TO DEMONSTRATE THE NEEDLE WAS STERILE. FOR SAFETY REASONS, DO NOT SUBMIT THE USED NEEDLE.

THE EXPIRATION DATE PRINTED ON THE SIDE OF MO STATE SEXUAL ASSAULT KITS APPLIES TO THE BLOOD COLLECTION TUBE ONLY. IF THE EXPIRATION DATE IS EXCEEDED AT THE TIME OF USE, CONTINUE USE OF THE KIT, BUT REPLACE THE BLOOD TUBE WITH THE SAME KIND FROM HOSPITAL OR CLINICAL STOCK.



JANUARY, 2003  
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## CODIS Makes Hit With The Lab

Law enforcement agencies have a powerful investigating tool working on their side to assist in solving crimes. The Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) blends forensic science and computer technology, granting laboratories an opportunity to exchange and compare DNA profiles electronically. Crimes that once may have gone unsolved can now possibly be linked to one another, to known offenders, or perhaps both.

CODIS is comprised of three distinct levels. Each lab participating in the CODIS program has the Local DNA Index System (LDIS), where profiles are entered and can be compared within the lab itself. Each state has one designated State DNA Index System (SDIS), where profiles from all the local labs in its jurisdiction as well as the Convicted Offender database may be compared. The FBI maintains the National DNA Index System (NDIS), where profiles from all of the individual state systems are compared.

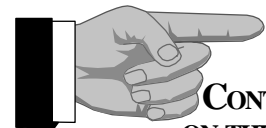
The CODIS database contains only the necessary information for performing DNA matches. Criminal history, case related history, or other information, such as social security numbers, are not entered into CODIS. When CODIS identifies a potential match, the laboratories responsible for the matching profiles contact each other to verify the match. If the match is confirmed by qualified analysts, the laboratories may exchange additional information, including the names and phone numbers of criminal investigators. In the event of a match with the Convicted Offender Index, the identity and location of the offender is released.

The MSHP uses two indices to generate investigative leads in crimes where biological evidence has been entered into CODIS. The DNA Casework Section uses the Forensic Index, which contains DNA profiles developed from crime scene evidence, such as unknown

semen or blood stains. Known forensic samples do not qualify for forensic casework entry. The DNA Profiling Section utilizes the Convicted Offender Index, which contains DNA profiles developed from individuals convicted of certain violent and/or sexual offenses, as currently defined in RSMo. 565 and 566. The CODIS software automatically searches these indices for matching DNA profiles. Matches made among profiles in the Forensic Index can link crime scenes together, possibly identifying serial offenders. Based on a match, police in multiple jurisdictions can coordinate investigations and share any independently developed information. Matches made between the Forensic and Convicted Offender Indices provide investigators with a name to aid in the investigation.

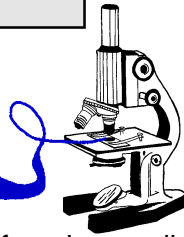
The MSHP is the central repository for Missouri Convicted Offender DNA and is responsible for Missouri state CODIS administration. Profiles for the state's database are currently accepted from the MSHP, St. Louis Metropolitan Crime Laboratory, St. Louis County Crime Laboratory, and the Kansas City Regional Crime Laboratory. Other criminal or private labs may submit profiles for search by fulfilling certain requirements set forth by the MSHP and the FBI.

The MSHP has been a participating lab in the FBI's National CODIS since August, 1994. Profiles from local labs and the state have been uploaded to NDIS since September, 1999.



**CONTINUED  
ON THE BACK...**

# CODIS Makes Hit With The Lab



Missouri law RSMo. 650.050 currently limits offender collection criteria only to violent and sexual felonies. As of 2002, 23 states have implemented laws to collect all felons, with a projection of 45 states collecting all felonies by 2007. Currently, the MSHP has over 22,300 convicted offenders in the database. If all felon legislation passes, that number is estimated to increase by 60,000 the first year.

As of November 31, 2002, Missouri has 164 investigations aided on the local, state, or national level. Moreover, the state has 60 offender to case hits on the state level, 5 offender to case hits on the national level, and 58 forensic case to case hits.

Information inquiries regarding the collection status of a particular individual may be solicited through the Missouri Department of Corrections and Probation and Parole officials without written request. Any law enforcement agency or out-of-state corrections agency may inquire about an individual's collection status through written request on official agency letterhead, stating the offenders's name, date of birth, race, state identification number, and/or other relevant information available. The request should be addressed to the Missouri CODIS Administrator,

and may be faxed or mailed to the lab.

In November, 2002, the FBI initiated two new indices for search at the national level. The Relatives of Missing Persons Index consists of DNA records from biological relatives of missing individuals. The Unidentified Human Remains Index consists of DNA records recovered from living individuals who cannot or refuse to identify themselves, as well as human remains.

When a hit is confirmed and the identity of the suspect becomes known, the submitting agency is usually requested to collect a reference standard from the individual for comparison. If the hit is case to case and the suspect is still unknown, the investigator of each case is contacted so each may combine investigative efforts. In the event of a national hit, CODIS labs or investigators from other states may contact agencies which have submitted evidence to the MSHP lab to discuss the investigation.

The Missouri State CODIS Administrator is Criminalist Susanne Brenneke, DNA Profiling Section. She is responsible for the database system administration and security. For any questions, contact her at 573-526-6134, ext. 292.

## JOHN DOE WARRANTS...

Even though CODIS is a powerful crime solving and prevention tool, many cases will remain unsolved, perhaps for years. Merely entering a DNA profile into the forensic index of the database does not guarantee a hit. This becomes important when statute of limitation issues apply to cases which are not able to be prosecuted in a timely fashion.

If no offender match or investigative lead is established in cases in which statutes of limitation apply, the prosecutor may be able to apply for a John Doe warrant. A John Doe warrant identifies the suspect according to his or her DNA profile by printing the actual DNA profile directly on the face of the warrant.

The first John Doe Warrant was issued in 1999 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The warrant was issued because a genetic profile of unknown origin was obtained from evidentiary material and the statute of limitations was about to expire. According to the law, if a warrant was issued, the statute of limitations did not

expire. A suspect was eventually located and successfully prosecuted. To date, approximately 13 warrants have been entered in Milwaukee, with a majority successfully prosecuted. The rest of the warrants remain outstanding until further information is received—a tactic being employed in a number of states.

Three John Doe warrants have been filed in Jackson County, Missouri. In November, 2000, an unknown DNA profile from a rape case involving a 78 year old female victim was obtained and entered into CODIS. A warrant was later issued on the profile. In August, 2002, the unknown profile hit with a convicted offender profile, and a suspect name was placed on the warrant. Currently, a trial is pending for the suspect while the other two warrants remain outstanding.

Describing a suspect by his or her DNA profile may allow for prosecution of a case if a DNA match is achieved at a later date, either by future investigations or as a result of the database being populated with unknown forensic or convicted offender DNA profiles.

Missouri State Highway Patrol  
Crime Laboratory Division  
1510 E. Elm  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

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