



**Missouri Attorney General
Eric Schmitt**

Fiscal Year 2022 Sexual Assault Kit Testing Project

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

The Missouri Attorney General's Office (AGO) has been appropriated state funding for the State of Missouri's 2022 fiscal year aimed at eliminating the state's backlog of sexual assault kits (SAKs) identified in a 2019 inventory funded by a federal Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) grant. This funding must be used within the fiscal year, meaning **expenses must be paid by June 30, 2022**.

The AGO estimates approximately **1,900 – 2,200 kits** remain to be tested in the statewide backlog. While this sum is too large for any single lab to test within a year, the AGO is seeking to establish multiple parallel testing efforts with forensic laboratories capable of uploading DNA profiles into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) as appropriate, regardless of their state of operation.

Please contact the AGO if you are interested in contributing to this testing effort

Scope of Work

DNA Analysis of SAKs: The AGO will coordinate shipping batches of SAKs to partner laboratories for testing as soon as contracts or testing agreements are signed.

- Y Screening Followed by Short Tandem Repeat (STR) Analysis: Current AGO testing efforts entail Y screening *up to* 10 samples and STR testing *up to* 3 samples in addition to a reference standard. However, qualified CODIS labs will be able to implement their own protocol for testing, developed by their technical leader, in accordance with the lab accreditation.
- Direct to DNA: Laboratories may use a direct to DNA procedure rather than first Y screening samples. Qualified CODIS labs will be able to implement their own protocol for testing, developed by their technical leader, in accordance with the lab accreditation.

Technical Review as Necessary for CODIS Upload: Test results must undergo technical review as appropriate to prepare any discovered DNA profiles for upload to CODIS.

CODIS Upload of Eligible DNA Profiles: Partner labs would upload any eligible DNA profiles they discover to CODIS, regardless of whether or not they use Missouri's CODIS system. The AGO would be notified once profiles from each kit have been uploaded to CODIS.

Ongoing CODIS Hit Reporting to the AGO: Partner labs would send any CODIS hit reports received on profiles arising from kits tested in this effort to the AGO for distribution to jurisdictional law enforcement agencies for investigation.

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