

#### [New forensic science lab opens in Duquesne's Fisher Hall](#)

"During the past decade, rapid advancements in forensic science have substantially enhanced the system of justice in our country," Gormley said. "This new state-of-the-art lab will provide Duquesne students with hands-on experience in scientific principles and techniques to analyze evidence, in a centrally-located space."

#### [NIST details plans for reviewing the scientific foundations of forensic methods](#)

NIST foundation reviews will evaluate the current state of a discipline's scientific foundations, which the report defines as, "the trusted and established knowledge that supports and underpins," its methods. These reviews will increase trust in forensic methods that have a strong scientific foundation. In cases where the foundation would benefit from further strengthening, the reviews might provide strategic direction for future research.

#### [Wrongful Conviction, Forensic Science and DNA Evidence](#)

Tuesday, 2 October 2018, marks the fifth year that Wrongful Conviction Day will be officially acknowledged internationally. It is a day to draw attention and awareness to the problem of the wrongful conviction – a problem that impacts well beyond the individual serving time for a crime he or she did not do, to family, friends and society more broadly.

#### [Remains of 64 South Korean soldiers returned from Hickam](#)

Two months ago, 55 sets of presumed American remains turned over by North Korea were received at the same hangar at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for the start of identification.

#### [New Medical Examiner Partnership and Residency Program Underway in Bergen County](#)

Today, Bergen County Executive Jim Tedesco and leaders from the Rutgers New Jersey Medical School announced that the medical school has assumed operation of the Bergen County Medical Examiner's Office, commencing an innovative new partnership announced earlier this year. The first of its kind in New Jersey, this relationship allows the Medical Examiner's Office to continue providing top-notch forensic science, while giving students on-site instruction through Rutgers' pathology residency program. The first resident will begin rotation at the Bergen County Medical Examiner's Office on October 1, 2018.

#### [On Your Side Investigates: What's behind the Osceola Shooting Range closing?](#)

FWC officials said the range is being evaluated for improvements and repairs to safety barriers on the property. A former contracted employee of the Osceola Range, Bobby Pafford, believes the repairs should have happened much sooner.

#### [Study Buried For Four Years Shows Crime Lab DNA Testing Is Severely Flawed](#)

The study confirms much of what has been exposed earlier: DNA evidence may be based on hard science, but any small variable -- including the inevitable tainting of DNA samples -- has the ability to throw things off. And when it's used as evidence in criminal trials, it has the potential to destroy lives. This study shows -- at least indirectly -- the labs handling DNA evidence aren't taking it nearly as seriously as they should.

#### [Murder case deploying cutting edge DNA analysis moves to appeals court](#)

Sperdelozzi has said that he needs an expert to examine the software and determine not only if it is accurate, but also how it works. He has argued his client has the right to question the veracity of the evidence being used to convict him.

#### [Sacramento authorities arrest UC Berkeley employee as NorCal Rapist suspect](#)

Schubert says her office used DNA and genealogy websites to zero in on Waller. His arrest comes five months after similar strategies were used to identify and arrest Joseph James DeAngelo, who is suspected of being the Golden State Killer, the East Area Rapist and Visalia Ransacker.

#### [New \\$13.5 million regional crime lab opens for Douglas and Arapahoe counties, city of Aurora](#)

Wednesday afternoon, on a large patch of dirt tucked behind Centennial Airport, that conversation over coffee came to fruition. Officials from Arapahoe and Douglas counties, plus the city of Aurora and the District Attorney, unveiled a brand new, state-of-the-art regional crime lab.

#### [New protocol for measuring background levels of drugs in crime labs](#)

When crime lab chemists handle evidence that contains illegal drugs, trace amounts of those drugs are inevitably released into the laboratory environment. When chemists scoop a bit of powder to test it, for instance, microscopic particles can become airborne and later settle on nearby surfaces. Particles can also be spread by touch. To some degree, this is an unavoidable byproduct of the testing process, and it can result in detectable background levels of drugs in the lab.

#### [MOBILE CRIME LAB HELPS WITH TOUGHEST CASES](#)

"It's not unusual for the team to be at a crime scene for 12 to 14 hours, so it gives us a place where we can get out of the weather, have a place to eat and be able to do the work we need to do," Massie said. "Having a location where multiple people can share a meal out of the weather may seem simple, but is important in these long, stressful situations."

#### [FBI: Drop in murders in Chicago accounts for more than half of national decline](#)

The FBI reported a total of 17,284 murders across the U.S. in 2017, down from 17,413 total murders reported in 2016. That's a net decrease of 199 murders across the country from 2016 to 2017. Fifty-six percent of that decrease can be attributed to Chicago specifically, which saw 112 fewer murders in 2017 compared to 2016.

#### [Crime lab handles thousands of cases in Golden Triangle](#)

While the lab doesn't work on major cases like homicide or sexual assault, Shepherd said his staff can spend more time on individual crime scenes and take some of the weight off the state forensics lab in Pearl (where it can take months, even years to get results back) by handling the analyses on more common crimes.

#### [Work Under Way on New Crime Lab in Pendleton, Oregon](#)

The Observer reports Fortis Construction Inc. has started work on the foundation of the nearly \$1.25 million project.

#### [Murder case remains in holding pattern](#)

Davenport was arrested March 7 and charged with murder after his wife, Stephanie Steenbergen Davenport, 31, was found with multiple gunshot wounds behind the couple's North Florence Street home in Corbin. Laurel County Coroner Doug Bowling pronounced her dead at the scene.

#### [A Promising Technology that Helps Solve Gun Crimes Meets Resistance in California](#)

A bill authored by California Assemblyman Evan Low would have closed those gaps by mandating all guns and shell casings recovered at California crime scenes to be entered into NIBIN. But the bill never made it out of the Appropriations Committee. Multiple law enforcement sources in both local and state law enforcement agencies told NBC Bay Area the bill faced stiff resistance from California's Attorney General's Office and some local law enforcement agencies. Among the reasons cited for opposition: cost, competing technology already on the market, and a resistance to any mandates on how local and state agencies run their crime labs.

#### [Court makes cold case murder investigation records public](#)

The report details how police interviewed three women in August who stated they had been in relationships Papol in the past. According to the women's interviews, all three said Papol was violent and aggressive toward them. Two of the women said Papol had "hinted" that he had killed someone.

#### [California man arrested in 17-year-old homicide in Arizona](#)

Latent fingerprints from the scene of Lucero's killing were entered into an FBI database.

#### [New details in 15-year-old cold case arrest](#)

What makes the crime all the more sickening? 15 years later-after cold case detectives submitted evidence to the crime lab, they got a match to DNA found at the scene to 31-year old Carlos Ramirez Castro. He was a stranger to the victim, and just 16 years old when he allegedly unleashed such terror and violence inside that warehouse.

#### [Murder, porn cases stalled by pending DNA results](#)

Delays in DNA testing of evidence by the state crime lab are slowing progress in the murder and child pornography cases against a Bloomington man, a prosecutor said Monday.

#### [Rape kit testing a big focus of attorney general race](#)

"It's been three years since Brad Schimel's DOJ was awarded \$4 million in grant funding to eliminate Wisconsin's backlog of untested rape kits," Kaul said in a statement. "It's unacceptable that it's taken this long for testing to be completed on the kits in the backlog — and that there are still over 1,200 kits on which testing results have not been confirmed."

#### [A Powerful Database Helps Solve Gun Crimes. Only Two States Require Police to Use It.](#)

New Jersey and Delaware have laws mandating that investigators use an innovative ballistics system called NIBIN. The other 48 states don't — and their reticence makes it harder to ID shooters everywhere.

#### ['A sad day.' Veteran Beach crime scene tech charged with falsifying, misplacing evidence](#)

Police said that Jason Bruder, placed evidence from nine cases between December 2017 and July in a temporary locker at the police station that only he had access to. The evidence, police said, should have been held in the department's primary storage facility.

#### [No threat to public safety, but new clues emerge in case of mysterious 'burning hole'](#)

The Arkansas crime lab will be testing soil samples taken from the site of a bizarre hole that spewed flames from the ground near Midway, Arkansas on Monday.

#### [I-Team: Exploring how Metro's cold case team tracked suspect in 2005 Dorothy Sargent murder](#)

Police could not find a match for the DNA in online databases, but at the urging of crime lab technicians, Hefner and O'Kelley resubmitted the sample earlier this year using a more advanced test, and that's when they got a solid hit. However, the suspect was something of a mystery man.

#### [Powder Scare at Islamic Center Investigated as Hate Crime](#)

Police say they are investigating a white powder scare at the Islamic Center of New London as a hate crime.