

[Inside Tucson's Crime Lab: Arson](#)

When Tucson police arrive at an arson like the one involved in the Susan and Blane Barksdale murder case, crime scene investigators comb the scene for clues. They pick up the pieces and after checking it into evidence lockup it ends up at the TPD crime lab. Fire debris analyst Lisa Windsor will test the evidence to find out if someone used an accelerant to start a fire at a crime scene.

[State Crime Lab Trends Change With New Marijuana Laws](#)

Marijuana samples sent to the state crime lab have dropped by more half since 2015 but the more than 1,500 THC submissions surpassed all other drugs through October of this year, according to a report presented to the state Controlled Substances Board.

[Justice delayed? A look at the Vermont Forensic Lab's backlog](#)

We learned there are backlogs of evidence at the state crime lab but that has not necessarily impacted cases. And in one key area-- DNA testing-- the lab has trimmed its backlog from years to weeks.

[Columbus Crime Rate Declines In 2019 Compared To Previous Five Years](#)

"Just the fact that you're not waiting a year to get results back, your finger print identification back. You're waiting two or three weeks then you're getting that individual off the street, and hopefully preventing them from committing whatever crime they're inclined to commit," said Crime Lab Dir. Austin Shepherd.

[NOPD to up its investigative game](#)

Currently, DNA evidence that NOPD detectives gather must be sent to the Louisiana State Police crime lab for analysis -- meaning it waits in line with evidence coming from department all over Louisiana. Ferguson says the NOPD having its own lab will enable the department to speed up the processing of evidence and provide the District Attorney with more solid evidence.

[Judge overturns manslaughter conviction in Leah Freeman death because crime lab failed to reveal DNA evidence](#)

An Oregon judge overturned the manslaughter conviction against the boyfriend of a Coquille teen who disappeared in 2000 because the Oregon State Police crime lab failed to disclose that it had found another man's DNA on the girl's shoe.

[DNA, blood drops tie NJ serial killer suspect to victims, jury hears](#)

A forensic scientist from the state's crime lab testified in Newark that DNA matching Khalil Wheeler-Weaver's was swabbed from the fingernails of Sarah Butler, a Montclair college student found dead days after she and Wheeler-Weaver allegedly met for a late-night rendezvous in November 2016.

[DNA links man to slaying of two doctors in South Boston home, official testifies](#)

The leader of the Boston Police crime lab's DNA section told jurors Wednesday that genetic material found on Bampumim Teixeira's blood-stained work boots and shirt linked him to the slaying of two doctors in their South Boston condominium.

[Orange County Sheriff's Department Kept Evidence Scandal A Secret For Nearly 2 Years](#)

An internal investigation conducted two years ago by the Orange County Sheriff's Department, the findings of which were not made public at the time, uncovered systematic mishandling of evidence. Deputies are required to turn in evidence at the end of their shift, but the audit found that more than 70% of them failed to do so. Instead, officers frequently waited days, weeks or even months to submit key evidence, including seized drugs, cash, photos and videos pertaining to criminal cases.

[Man accused of raping woman in downtown Portland building in 2013 after sexual assault kit evidence tested](#)

The indictment marks the 11th in the county resulting from a grant-funded program to send the Portland Police Bureau's glut of unanalyzed sexual assault kit evidence to a private lab for testing. Five of the prosecutions have resulted in convictions; the others are pending trial.

[DNA Clears Woman Of Sister's Brutal 1984 Murder After Spending Years Living Under A Cloud Of Suspicion](#)

Authorities in North Carolina believe they have discovered the man who stabbed 15-year-old Reesa Trexler to death at her grandparents' home in 1984 and have officially cleared Trexler's sister—who had long lived under a cloud of suspicion in the small community—of any involvement in the crime.

[AG Calls For Legislation On Sexual Assault Kits](#)

Before 2012, there was no statewide protocol for collecting and processing rape kits, when the then attorney general J.B. Van Hollen established a coalition of policymakers, law enforcement, and health professionals. That coalition, the Sexual Assault Response Team, or SART, initiated a project to clear Wisconsin's backlog of rape kits.

['People Are Speaking Out Now': Lawmakers Push For More Funding To Battle Growing Rape Kit Backlog](#)

After Utah lawmakers approved a bill in 2017 that gave more money to the state's crime lab to process sexual assault kits, the head of that lab estimated it could clear the backlog of untested kits in 2018. Now, the Department of Public Safety said it will take until July 2020 to get caught up.

[Sins of Detroit podcast: Bad science convicts the wrongfully accused](#)

In 2008, the Detroit Police Crime Lab was shut down after a Michigan State Police audit found rampant problems with evidence. Auditors randomly selected 200 cases and found problems with 10 percent of them.

[Man accused of trafficking boys denies sexual activity despite DNA evidence](#)

An Army veteran charged with trafficking two teenage boys for sex denied any sexual contact with the boys Wednesday and told the jury they were only in his home for 15 minutes, but he could not explain how his DNA ended up in their underwear.

[Child rape, molestation charges filed against Black Diamond man accused of knocking out girl with chloroform](#)

State Patrol Crime Lab tests on the cloth and bottle found in the garbage can determined that chloroform and acetone were present in both samples, the charges say.

[Republican says rape kit testing bill will pass Legislature](#)

A bipartisan bill with broad support designed to prevent future backlogs in testing of evidence collected following a sexual assault will likely pass the Legislature sometime next year, a key Republican lawmaker said Tuesday after Democratic Attorney General Josh Kaul and advocates pressed for action.

[New state hemp laws change marijuana testing procedures for law enforcement](#)

Currently, a memorandum of understanding is in the process of finalization by the county, city and University of Nebraska Medical Center that will solidify a year-long deal stating that UNMC's testing lab will handle the city and county's cannabis testing. UNMC was the selected testing lab because its equipment has the capability of determining the specific quantity of THC within a given sample, as well as the fact that the lab is within driving distance and the testing is affordable.

[Utah rape kit backlog grows 2 years after bill to address it](#)

The state crime lab asked for \$2.4 million for 17 technicians but received \$1.2 million to hire nine technicians, said Amy Lightfoot, the deputy director of the crime lab, KUTV-TV in Salt Lake City reports.

[Forensics on call: A new Texas team is ready to respond to the state's mass fatalities](#)

The idea was first hatched by Jason Wiersema, Ph.D., the director of forensic anthropology and emergency management at HCIFS who had a storied career responding to mass fatality incidents including mass grave sites in Bosnia, New York City after 9/11 and the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans.

[Kennedy Assassination Bullets Preserved in Digital Form | NIST](#)

In the palm of his hand, Thomas Brian Renegar held two small metal objects that had changed the course of history. Twisted pieces of copper and lead, they were fragments of the bullet that ended the life of President John F. Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963.