

[Michigan State Police crime lab backlogs shrink](#)

In a House Appropriations Committee earlier this February, Rep. Ronnie Peterson, D-Ypsilanti, acknowledged the progress but said that backlogged forensic testing may leave an innocent person behind bars.

[Bad science sent innocent men to prison. N.C. DOJ wouldn't review other cases where it was used.](#)

Microscopic hair comparison without DNA confirmation is now known to be unreliable. The FBI and crime labs across the country have undertaken an effort to review old cases where the technology was used to win convictions in an effort to identify instances where the faulty forensic evidence sent innocent people to prison.

[New Mexico begins construction of new state crime lab](#)

New Mexico is getting a new state crime lab. The state Department of Public Safety announced Tuesday that construction of the new \$21.9 million forensic laboratory has begun in Santa Fe and is expected to be completed by the fall of 2022.

[Thousands of rape kits still untested by state crime lab despite law](#)

"It's very disheartening. Because it seems to me that the spirit of the law was very clear, said Ilse Knecht, director of policy and advocacy for the Joyful Heart Foundation. "It was meant to discover untested rape kits, and get them into the lab to get tested."

[Committee urged to advance bill creating DNA collection program for felony arrests](#)

The DNA collected from the cheek swab would be sent to the Nebraska Crime Lab, where it would be processed, given an anonymized but unique set of serial numbers, and entered in the Combined DNA Index System, where it could be cross-referenced with samples gathered from crime scenes.

[Suspicious device in Pittsburg dismantled](#)

A suspicious device located Wednesday afternoon near the Pittsburg State University campus was dismantled a few hours later and is being examined for trace evidence at a Kansas Bureau of Investigation crime lab.

[WSP's New Lab Assists in Eliminating State's Sexual Assault Kit Backlog](#)

In 2019, the Washington State Legislature enacted House Bill 1166 (HB 1166), with the goal of further supporting sexual assault survivors. HB 1166 instituted important time frames regarding DNA testing of sexual assault kits, forming two strategic testing initiatives for SAK testing in Washington State. The first initiative mandated that by December 1, 2021, all previously unsubmitted sexual assault kits in law enforcement storage be submitted to the crime laboratory and tested for DNA. The second initiative mandates that by May 2022, all sexual assault kits will be processed for DNA within 45 days of receipt into the crime laboratory.

[Crime lab delays cause safety concerns in Natchez](#)

He says that has allowed criminals to remain free and pose a threat to his community. Gibson is now calling on state lawmakers to fully fund and staff the crime lab to push the backlog of cases through.

[Foot found in rural Saginaw County to undergo DNA analysis](#)

Saginaw County Sheriff William L. Federspiel said on Thursday, March 4, that the foot found on Feb. 26 by two fishing teenagers has been sent to the Michigan State Police Crime Lab. DNA from the detached appendage is going to be compared to DNA on file of candidates

[Torrington man found guilty in shooting death of Scottsbluff woman](#)

The main piece of Schilke's testimony centered on the woman's cause of death. Schilke said the gunshot was a contact wound, meaning the barrel of the gun was against her skin when it fired. He said there was soot, gunshot residue and that the gasses released from the gun caused the tearing of the woman's skin. A non-contact wound, as Anderson described in his statements to authorities, would look quite different, he said.

[Seven years after crime, police say DNA test caught suspected Mississippi rapist](#)

On Oct. 20, 2013, the Oxford Police Department began investigating a sexual assault by an unknown perpetrator. Late last year, investigators learned of a possible DNA match linking a man to the sexual assault kit from 2013.

[Next year before fetal abduction case goes to trial](#)

"The ball rolls faster if we can get a trial date," Crisp said, noting that the crime lab prioritizes the processing of evidence based on "order of importance determined by the trial date."

[Campus lab: College students handle local forensics](#)

Now, as the lab celebrates its 10th anniversary, director Mark Spooner said the lab has become "a world class, small device forensic lab" in the years since it was first funded by the Utah State Legislature.

[Police continue to wait on toxicology report in mini-golf course accident](#)

Two young children lost their lives on a mini-golf course in Panama City Beach when a truck drove onto the property, hit, and killed them. Now, three months later, we still don't have answers.

[Man wanted for 2018 murder was arrested, released](#)

BCSO said they were not able to charge him with murder because they were waiting on evidence from the state crime lab. In 2019, a warrant was issued for Beltran's arrest, charging him with the murder.

[Law Enforcement receive ballistics equipment, aims to connect criminals to weapon](#)

A forensic ballistic bullet trap was obtained to allow a portable system that can be used to fire the weapons into and gather the fired cartridge case. The trap is engineered to absorb a bullet's energy while the bullet and fired casing integrity remain intact.

[Othello father facing charges after accidental shooting death of 4-year-old son](#)

The Washington State Crime Lab was requested to assist with the investigation. Police said the father cooperated with law enforcement and admitted to accidentally firing the gun.

[ShotSpotter Devices Will Get More Scrutiny Going Forward](#)

In November 2020, elected officials approved the first draft of a new law governing the city's acquisition of devices capable of watching and listening to the public, and laid the groundwork for a privacy advisory board to help oversee those practices. Both are expected to go back to the City Council within the coming months, after undergoing review by the mayor's office and labor groups.

[New Charleston Police forensic services facility expediting investigations](#)

The Charleston Police Department has a new \$12.4 million facility in West Ashley dedicated to forensic services.

[Forensic science rationing is putting justice at risk, says outgoing regulator](#)

Police forces are having to ration forensic toxicology work, especially samples from suspected drug drivers, because there is not enough capacity in the system to handle the volume of work, the outgoing forensic science regulator has said.

[The Tooth Fairy Science of Bite Mark Comparisons](#)

The identification of remains based on examining the teeth is one part of the discipline known as forensic odontology, which is the application of dentistry to the field of law. Forensic odontology also concerns itself with interpreting oral injuries, opining in cases of dental malpractice and, most controversial of all, comparing bite marks.

[A small sensor can be used for rapid detection of RNA and DNA](#)

The AU researchers believe a sensor is a useful tool for scientists engaged in clinical research to measure DNA metabolism, and that the sensor could be a quick way for lab clinicians to distinguish 'healthy' from 'sick' samples and determine if a pathogen is fungal, bacterial, or viral, before conducting further analysis.