How does the crime lab process sexual assault kits?

Robert W Taylor, assistant director of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department crime lab, and Mariann Shea, a senior criminal analyst with the sheriff's Scientific Service Bureau, explain how the crime lab processes sexual assault kits.

Legal Questions Mount Amid Rape Kit DNA Case Involving San Francisco Crime Lab

But this week's revelation that the San Francisco police crime lab used a sexual assault victim's DNA against her in an unrelated property crime case — and the allegation that it may be a common practice in California — has prompted a national outcry among law enforcement, legal experts, lawmakers and advocates.

San Francisco crime labs' use of rape-kit DNA to probe other crimes shocks prosecutors

District Attorney Chesa Boudin said he became aware of the "opaque practice" last week after prosecutors found a report among hundreds of pages of evidence in the case against a woman recently charged with a felony property crime. The papers referred to a DNA sample collected from the woman during a 2016 rape investigation.

The growing rise in the use of fentanyl is putting a strain on Idaho's crime lab

As the region's population grows, so does the amount of drugs coming through the gem state and that includes the dangerous drug fentanyl. Madelyn Beck has been reporting on this story and shares how this is straining crime labs in states like Idaho.

Local coroner, lawmaker want crime lab in North Mississippi

"In Monroe county, I'm 170 miles from the medical examiner's office. Right now there's about a two week wait on getting a person back, so just having the additional doctor would be a tremendous help," said Gurley.

<u>Jefferson County Sheriff Continues To Push For A Crime Lab</u>

Leadership within the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office continues to hold talks with Jefferson County officials concerning the creation of a crime lab. ARPA funds that were awarded to the county could be a way to pay for a lab and the equipment that would be needed. Sheriff Dave Marshak says the backlog of crimes waiting for lab results from the state are piling up.

As DC crime lab seeks path forward, council probes impact on current operations

More than nine months after the D.C. crime lab lost its accreditation to perform forensic casework, the amount of DNA evidence from D.C. crimes uploaded to a national database — which can be used to link crimes and identify unknown perpetrators — has dropped significantly, according to testimony before a D.C. Council committee.

Back to the Crime Lab: Marg Helgenberger Is Returning to CSI

On Friday, Feb. 11, CBS announced that Marg Helgenberger is joining Paula Newsome, Matt Lauria and Mandeep Dhillon in season two of CSI: Vegas. The network shared the news by posting a photo of Helgenberger in character to the show's Instagram, writing, "I have something to tell you. Catherine Willows will be joining us for Season Two of #CSIVegas."

Kyle Rittenhouse's rifle will be destroyed at Wisconsin crime lab

The AR-15-style rifle that Kyle Rittenhouse used to shoot three people during a 2020 street protest will be destroyed by the state of Wisconsin and not returned.

San Francisco DA drops charges against woman linked to crime through rape victim DNA

San Francisco District Attorney Chesa Boudin has dismissed charges against a woman whose DNA was collected years ago in a rape medical exam and recently used by police to link her to a property crime.

Texas Sen. Cornyn hosts roundtable to discuss 'Justice for All Act' to help improve backlogged crime labs

An informative roundtable discussion took place the University of North Texas Health Science Center, Tuesday, just moments before what could be the talk of the town for renewed DNA justice.

Behind the scenes look at equipment used to trace gun crime cases at Newport News forensics lab

News 3 Investigates' "Trigger Trace" series has been taking an in-depth look at tracing firearms in Hampton Roads, including a system highlighted before called the NIBIN (National Integrated Ballistic Information Network) system.

Philadelphia Police's DNA Lab Facing Backlog; Victims' Families Worry It's Delaying Justice, Safety

There are concerns about a critical crime-fighting tool in the City of Philadelphia. It's a lab that's overrun with evidence and some worry backlogs could adversely impact both safety and justice.

O.C. Crime Laboratory recognized for implementing national forensic standards

The Orange County Crime Laboratory, a division of the Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Department, was nationally recognized as a "Registry Implementer" for its high-quality standards and practices in forensic science by the National Institutes of Science and Technology-sponsored Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC).

DPS addressing toxicology backlog after Glendale PD failure reveals communication issues

Three Valley families waited months for an arrest after their teenagers were killed in a car crash that detectives say was caused by an impaired driver.

Cold cases no more: Denver police ID man they say killed four women more than 40 years ago

Denver police and other agencies said they used DNA evidence to link the four homicides. The four cold cases were investigated by the Denver Police Crime Laboratory and were linked together between 2013 and 2018.

Advanced Forensic Science helping to do away with 'The Perfect Murder'

Riverside County Regional Cold Case Homicide Team Supervisor Ryan Bodmer says in his nearly three decades as a homicide detective, the advancement in technology, specifically forensic science is dream come true.

DNA testing exposes scale of ivory trafficking networks

Illegal ivory trafficking is a big business. Conservationists estimate that poachers kill about 55 African elephants a day. But while experts believe that only a handful of organizations are running the enterprise, finding the evidence to help prosecute the ringleaders is difficult. DNA sequencing to map family relationships among elephants whose tusks are seized could help build cases against smugglers (Nat. Hum. Behav. 2022, DOI: 10.1038/s41562-021-01267-6).

<u>Dogs can be trained to sniff out COVID-19 – a team of forensic researchers explain the science</u>

With up to 300 million scent receptors, dogs are among the best smell detectors in the animal world. The human nose, by comparison, contains only around 6 million scent receptors. Dog brains also devote 40% more brain space than humans to analyzing odors.