

### [Larry Howard, forensic scientist “instrumental” in creation of Colorado Springs’ crime lab, dies at 91](#)

In one of Sierra Kenyon’s favorite memories of her grandfather, Larry Howard, his wife opened the refrigerator door and was stunned. Inside, wedged next to baby bottles, she saw a woman’s severed foot wearing a sandal.

### [Proposed Georgia Crime Lab cuts called 'devastating'](#)

The proposed \$1.6 million in cuts will mean losing positions for three scientists and two lab techs this budget year, along with nine more scientists and two lab technicians next year. In addition, the lab will be forced to freeze another two scientist positions.

### [GBI vows to address backlog](#)

While the governor’s proposed budget funnels dollars toward the Anti-Gang Task Force and reduces dollars for crime lab staff, Director Vic Reynolds told lawmakers during budget hearings that addressing the backlog is his top priority – above all else.

### [Gov. Hutchinson In Lowell For New State Crime Lab Dedication](#)

The Arkansas State Police and the State Crime Laboratory hosted local law enforcement and legislatures to see this new \$14 million building Friday (Jan. 24).

### [Broken Arrow Police Unveil New Forensic Crime Lab](#)

What used to be a small 600 square-foot room by the jail, is now a 1,400 square-foot lab connected to the department. Officer Chris Walker says the added space allows the department to process multiple scenes at one time.

### [Miami Valley Regional Crime Lab has new director](#)

Brooke Ehlers was named the director by Montgomery County Coroner Dr. Kent Harshbarger this month. Ehlers had been working in the capacity as the interim director since August.

### [Springfield police collect SAFE kits to deliver to private labs in Missouri for testing](#)

“When I was sworn in as Attorney General, tackling this backlog of untested sexual assault kits was one of my top priorities, and remains a key focus of this office heading into the new year,” said Attorney General Schmitt. “Thanks to Judge Williams and her team’s hard work, our exhaustive inventory identified the number of untested sexual assault kits in the state of Missouri, an important step in tackling this issue. Now, with the help of Chief Williams, the Springfield Police Department, and our incredible law enforcement partners across the state, we’re taking a crucial step forward in our fight to bring justice for victims.”

### [Texas crime labs to begin THC testing to identify hemp vs. marijuana](#)

Jason Wheeler and Jason Whitely spoke with Allen police Chief Brian Harvey on crime lab testing equipment that measures the level of THC in products.

### [DA still waiting for Crime Lab results for capital murder case](#)

Prosecutors in the capital murder case of a man accused of ambushing two Brookhaven police officers continue to ask the State Crime Lab to hurry up with ballistics reports.

### [FBI, federal prosecutors investigate District’s forensic firearms lab](#)

The investigation involves an allegation that the examiner falsely indicated that his analysis of evidence had been verified by a colleague, when it actually had not undergone a required review, according to one person familiar with the investigation. When a complaint was made,

a supervisor allegedly instructed the colleague — whose name had essentially been forged — to play down his concerns.

#### [House passes bill to let State Patrol destroy crime guns](#)

Passage by the chamber of House Bill 1010, a holdover from the last session, followed a year-long investigation by The Associated Press that found that more than a dozen weapons sold by state law enforcement agencies turned up in new criminal cases.

#### [Proposed bill would keep law enforcement from probing DNA data](#)

Rep. Craig Hall said he is filing the bill, which has yet to be publicly released, in the wake of increased police to use data from at-home DNA tests to crack cold cases, such as finding the Golden State Killer who'd eluded investigators for decades. The practice also has raised ethical and privacy concerns.

#### [Emergency classification for fentanyl analogues set to expire](#)

In February 2018, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency took an emergency step against fentanyl analogues, making them Schedule I drugs, placing them in the same category as drugs like heroin and ecstasy. That emergency scheduling is currently slated to expire Feb. 6, leaving it in Congress' hands to determine whether to extend or make permanent the emergency scheduling or let it expire.

#### [DNA match leads to arrest of Fayetteville man in 1989 rape of underage girl](#)

In 2016, the Fayetteville Police Department was awarded a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance's FY2016 National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative and that funding helped address the backlog of rape kits that remained untested for years.

#### [Forensic science: How pollen is a silent witness to solving murders](#)

Ms Wiltshire, 77, remembers with fondness the walks she went on with her grandmother, Vera May Tiley, that introduced her to the natural world.

#### [Long-running forensic hair analysis review aimed at finding old, flawed expert testimony underway in Virginia](#)

Alexander Cameron, an inmate serving life for rape and abduction, responded a year ago to a notice that officials were looking for offenders who might have been wrongly convicted by overstated expert hair testimony.

#### [Charles County Sheriff's Office Reflects on the Accomplishments of 2019](#)

In December, our Forensic Science Unit announced that it would be utilizing the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) - a program managed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). The NIBIN program automates ballistics evaluations and provides actionable investigative leads in a timely manner by allowing forensic examiners to compare ballistic evidence to crimes throughout the region.