## New Mexico's new state crime lab aims to boost efficiency

"We're looking at quadrupling the size of the lab and actually being in a building that is meant to be a forensic laboratory," she told the Albuquerque Journal. "Everybody was able to provide input using their experience in this lab."

# Sheriff's office receives forensic science grant for crime lab

The Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office has been awarded a \$376,101 grant for its forensic services division, through the Bureau of Justice Assistance's DNA Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction Program.

## More departures from troubled DC crime lab

Jonathan Pope, the head of the agency's Firearms Examination Unit, and Lyndon Watkins, the agency's quality assurance manager, both evidently left the agency last week, while it was also learned that Wayne Arendse, the head of the unit stripped of its accreditation, resigned earlier this month.

# DNA of 1 brother found on glove, defense attacks cellphone mapping accuracy: Trial updates

DNA from part of a glove found at the site of a fatal shooting matched one of the two men accused of murder, according to a forensic chemist with the Acadiana Crime Lab.

#### LSP Crime Lab assisting investigation in New Iberia

The New Iberia Police Department, with regards to an ongoing active investigation, has requested the assistance of the Louisiana State Police Crime Lab to provide additional resources for an investigation.

# After arrest in 40-year-old rape cold case, prosecutor-turned-defense attorney told to withdraw

Tommy Damico was a 29-year-old assistant district attorney on Aug. 11, 1981, when he attended and took part in an interview of a woman who claimed she had been abducted at gunpoint from the parking lot of the old Woman's Hospital on Airline Highway and raped.

## Cedar Rapids man who was removed from sex offender registry convicted of another sex abuse charge

A sleeping bag she identified as having slept in that night was tested by the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation crime lab. A DNA profile was developed, and it matched Mehaffy's DNA.

## CHATTOOGA COUNTY TO PURCHASE GBI CRIME LAB IN TRION

Chattooga County Commissioner Blake Elsberry and Sheriff Mark Schrader, along with State Senator Jeff Mullis and State Representative Eddie Lumsden announced on Friday that Chattooga County will be purchasing seven acres and the old GBI Crime Lab from the Georgia Department of Corrections.

## Court orders release of Rebello medical records

Defense attorney Ryan Searle, representing Rebello, objected to the motion, and said she doesn't think the information contained in the records is relevant. "I was looking at the toxicology reports from the crime lab that the commonwealth provided to me. The crime lab tested his blood for alcohol and other illicit substances. I'm not sure what the commonwealth is looking for by requesting these records, when they already have the evidence that they would presumably be requesting," Searle said.

#### 'She wasn't a nobody': Infant exhumed 30 years after death

Jackson County Sheriff Mike Ezell said in a news release that the remains of the infant have been sent to the Mississippi Crime Lab. Once her DNA is collected, investigators hope to use it to build a family tree.

#### Police chief gives overview of GPD's planned new DNA lab

The chief added, "It's a combination building a part of the front part of it there are classrooms and the back part of it is the DNA lab, so it's, we believe, a teaching facility along with not just forensic science building, and a DNA lab - it's a teaching facility, as well. So I think the concept is the students that are interested in forensic science and we incorporate that program into the DNA and the crime scene, studies they're right there next to each other."

# With help of DNA, cold Colorado case unthaws, leading police to Danville suspect serving time in another slaying

Steven Cumberbatch, the man who killed a woman in Danville in July 2008 and was sentenced to 40 years in prison, has been extradited to Colorado to face charges for the slaying a woman in Denver in 1994.

## IRCSO on 'standby' to send rapid DNA test machines to deadly Surfside condo collapse

The Indian River County Sheriff's Office has been notified it might be asked to respond with the agency's rapid DNA test machines to the deadly condominium collapse in Surfside, Sheriff Eric Flowers said.

## Ketchikan police say newly-tested DNA sample led to arrest in 1993 Dudley Field rape case

Ketchikan police have made an arrest in a 28-year-old rape case. Police credit a recent push to end Alaska's sexual assault kit backlog with identifying the suspect.

# State to use COVID-19 money for gun-violence prevention

The money from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act will be used to help pay for community outreach programs, regional law enforcement task forces and specialized police positions and fund real-time access to data from rapid-DNA and ballistics testing.

#### Lawmakers set aside \$3.2M for projects in Beaufort County. Where the money's going

The Beaufort County Sheriff's office will get a half-million-dollar boost for its crime lab, mirroring earmarks the agency has received in prior years because of Herbkersman.

## Austin's new, independent Forensic Science Department nearing deadline to open

Earlier this year, Austin City Council voted to move \$12 million out of the Austin Police Department's budget in order to create an independent forensics lab, as part of efforts to "Reimagine Public Safety."

## Scientists find genetic differences between northern Chinese, Koreans and Japanese

Researchers at China's top forensic academy in Beijing say they have found genetic differences between three ethnic groups in East Asia – northern Chinese, Korean and Japanese.