

### [Ballistics work at D.C.'s crime lab criticized by forensic experts](#)

The experts have recommended that the lab stop all firearms analysis in the wake of its handling of evidence in the 2015 shootings. A detective testified about the flawed analysis before a grand jury, and the two men charged in both cases now argue the case was tainted.

### [First on WTOP: DC forensic lab under criminal investigation over firearms case](#)

The D.C. Department of Forensic Sciences is under criminal investigation amid allegations that managers at the independent lab pressured analysts to change their conclusions, and then potentially misrepresented findings to its accrediting body, all in an attempt to essentially paper-over a years-old error that mistakenly linked two killings to the same gun.

### [COVID-19, crime lab delays hamstring Ogden drug robbery murder trials](#)

He said he's been trying to get a ballistics report from prosecutors to assist in Viegas-Gonzalez's defense, but the state crime lab "has a huge backlog."

### [Middlesex DA Asks SJC To Examine Convictions From Hinton Drug Lab](#)

The now-closed Hinton State Lab became infamous after a 2014 investigation revealed significant mismanagement, subpar training and other issues which culminated in two chemists --Sonja Farak and Annie Dookhan-- being convicted of corruption in one of the largest crime lab scandals in American history.

### [Massachusetts fight over 'rogue' DNA database pits DAs against state, civil libertarians](#)

Over the opposition of the State Police Crime Lab and civil libertarians, Massachusetts district attorneys can create their own database of partial DNA profiles after getting a judge's approval as part of a secret grand jury investigation.

### [Kansas man arrested in 1979 killing after DNA match](#)

A Kansas man was arrested and charged with murder in the 1979 death of a woman in Colorado after a DNA profile linked him to the crime, officials said.

### [An Improved Method for Forensic Genetic Genealogy in an Operational Crime Lab, Upcoming Webinar Hosted by Xtalks and Verogen](#)

Forensic genetic genealogy is a powerful tool for investigative lead generation for the identification of unknown remains, solving cold cases and exonerating the innocent. The traditional forensic genetic genealogy workflow combines a DNA profile generated using microarrays with a database to identify genetic relatives. Though this method has successfully resolved over 200 cases, it fails to address the challenges of forensic samples and operational laboratories, introducing consumer privacy concerns, broken chain of custody, and limited implementation utility.

### [Former Red Wing great charged after drunken driving arrest](#)

The city's police department had arrested Todd Bertuzzi, a 46-year-old Lake Orion resident, after a traffic stop that occurred just before midnight on Feb. 26 on Joslyn Road near Brown Road.

### [Massachusetts DA seeks to vacate thousands of drug convictions connected to botched evidence certification at state lab](#)

The district attorney unveiled a plan in a court filing called the "Hinton Lab Initiative," aimed at vacating the drug convictions for all whose evidence certifications were done by the William A. Hinton State Lab between May 2003 and August 2012. The Initiative potentially impacts "tens of thousands of defendants," the DA said in a press release.

### [DA Ryan Asks State's Highest Court To Review Cases Tied To Hinton Drug Lab](#)

Middlesex County District Attorney Marian Ryan filed a petition with the state's Supreme Judicial Court on Friday asking it to review all criminal drug convictions based on evidence tested at the now-closed Hinton Drug Laboratory during the years in which two disgraced state chemists worked there.

### [Sterling man sentenced to 37 years in Alaska cold-case kidnapping and rape](#)

"Due to standard practice at the time, the sexual assault kit was not sent to the State Crime Lab for DNA testing in 2001 because there was not an identified suspect whose DNA could be directly compared to the DNA collected in the sex assault kit," the state Department of Law wrote in a statement Monday.

### [Spokane Police receive more grant money to combat rape kit backlog](#)

The city council formally accepted \$44,515 to pay overtime to a detective and sergeant assessing dozens of cases.

### [Proof of Innocence: New Arizona law opens testing national databases](#)

Nineteen years ago, Ray Krone was released from the Arizona Department of Corrections, the 100th death row inmate to walk out of prison a free man after spending a decade behind bars for a murder he didn't commit. Arizona's Family was there when he walked out of the courthouse on April 8, 2002.

### [Is the UK's Forensic Regulator role fit for purpose?](#)

Over a decade on, and prior to the Forensic Regulator being given greater enforcement powers, the effectiveness of this model of forensic regulation should be examined, to determine whether the role is "fit for purpose".

### [Five Women Lead Renowned Forensic Anthropology Center](#)

Every day, the red phone rings at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville's Forensic Anthropology Center. Either Dawnie Steadman or Mary Davis, who share phone duties, answers. On the other end, a funeral home director, a police officer, or a family member shares with them some version of the same message: There's a body here for you.

### [Dozens of guns seized daily as violent crime 'never stops'](#)

"It's very dangerous out there and we got guns everywhere," incoming Houston Police Department Chief Troy Finner told 13 Investigates' Ted Oberg. "If you're a felon and you're caught and you're in possession of a gun, you have a violent history, we need to hold you accountable."

[Naked Body Found In 1977 Has Been Identified As Mother Of 2, Wife Of Ex-Cop Who Said She'd Left Town](#)

The body of a woman that turned up in Delaware nearly 45 years ago has been confirmed as Marie Petry Heiser, the wife of a deceased Philadelphia police officer who told their kids she had packed up and left, authorities and the family said this week.

[Massachusetts Has Plan to Reverse Convictions in Thousands of Cases Due to Forensic Lab Failure](#)

County District Attorney Rachael Rollins filed a motion this week announcing the "Hinton Lab Initiative" which could vacate thousands of drug convictions that were certified by the scandal-ridden Hinton Lab between May 2003 and August 2012.

[Arrests made after 100+ shots fire outside Waffle House](#)

"During this investigation, Colonial Heights investigators executed multiple search warrants, recovered multiple firearms, and recovered drug distribution materials," a Colonial Heights Police spokesperson said. "Additionally, over 150 pieces of evidence that were collected have been submitted to the Department of Forensic Science in Richmond."

[Detectives Arrest Suspect 23 Years After Deceased Newborn Found at Lake City Gas Station](#)

The 23-year-old case captured headlines at the time as police sought to identify a woman seen on the gas station's surveillance cameras. While police received leads at the time, they were unable to identify the woman. However, investigators were able to obtain DNA evidence from the scene. This evidence was entered into the Washington State Patrol Crime Lab's database, but they did not find a match.