U.S. Department of Justice

FY14 DNA Backlog Reduction Program Abstracts

This document lists grants awarded by NIJ in 2014 under the Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program. The abstracts are reproduced here exactly as they were submitted by the grantee.

NCJ 249115

FY14 DNA Backlog Reduction Program Abstracts

This table is a summary of DNA Backlog Reduction Awards issued in FY2014. Following this table are their respective abstracts.

State	FY14 Recipient Name	Award Amount
AK	Alaska Department of Public Safety	$256,958
AL	Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences	$1,263,414
AR	Arkansas State Crime Laboratory	$805,759
AZ	Arizona Department of Public Safety	$744,521
AZ	City of Mesa	$109,190
AZ	Phoenix Police Department	$554,953
AZ	City of Tucson	$228,366
CA	California Department of Justice	$2,416,870
CA	City And County of San Francisco	$355,615
CA	City of Glendale	$100,000
CA	City of Los Angeles	$1,143,819
CA	City of Oakland	$491,034
CA	City of San Diego	$340,985
CA	Contra Costa County	$270,309
CA	County of Alameda	$242,803
CA	County of Kern	$295,780
CA	County of San Mateo	$162,938
CA	County of Santa Clara	$304,784
CA	County of Ventura	$102,622
CA	Fresno County Sheriff Department	$295,000
CA	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department	$1,547,971
CA	Orange County Sheriff Coroner Department	$418,692
CA	Sacramento County District Attorney	$494,426
CA	San Diego County	$389,151
CO	City And County of Denver	$225,459
CO	City of Colorado Springs	$114,595
CO	Colorado Bureau of Investigation	$593,136
CT	Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection	$591,725
DC	Metropolitan Police Department	$458,004
DE	Delaware Health and Social Services	$292,368
FL	Broward Sheriff’s Office	$508,515
FL	Florida Department of Law Enforcement	$3,162,327
FL	Miami-Dade County	$1,001,687
FL	Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office	$383,030
FL	Pinellas County	$298,095
FL	St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office	$126,033

GA	Georgia Bureau of Investigation	$2,189,324
HI	City and County of Honolulu	$200,000
IA	Iowa Department of Public Safety	$472,448
ID	Idaho State Police	$200,000
IL	DuPage County Office of The Sheriff	$225,000
IL	Illinois State Police	$2,564,645
IL	Northeastern Illinois Regional Crime Laboratory	$320,580
IN	Indiana State Police	$737,159
IN	Indianapolis-Marion County Forensic Services Agency	$579,196
KS	Johnson County	$118,000
KS	Kansas Bureau of Investigation	$477,918
KY	Commonwealth of Kentucky	$567,963
LA	Louisiana State Police	$1,331,847
MA	City of Boston	$306,731
MA	Massachusetts State Police	$1,263,029
MD	Anne Arundel County, MD	$132,676
MD	Baltimore County	$243,294
MD	City of Baltimore	$513,548
MD	Maryland State Police	$347,703
MD	Montgomery County	$108,984
MD	State of Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention	$274,536
ME	Maine State Police	$200,000
MI	State of Michigan	$2,616,286
MN	Hennepin County	$100,000
MN	Minnesota Department of Public Safety	$623,290
MO	Missouri Board of Police Commissioners	$423,345
MO	Missouri State Highway Patrol	$580,640
MO	St. Charles County	$80,000
MO	St. Louis County	$172,810
MO	St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department	$324,729
MS	Mississippi Department of Public Safety	$453,462
MT	Montana Department of Justice	$200,000
NC	City of Charlotte	$309,110
NC	North Carolina Department of Justice	$1,698,095
ND	North Dakota	$200,000
NE	Nebraska State Patrol	$280,370
NH	New Hampshire Department of Safety	$200,000
NJ	New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety	$640,693
NJ	Union County	$457,622
NM	New Mexico Department of Public Safety	$679,086
NV	Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department	$650,858

NV	Washoe County	$325,430
NY	City of New York, Office of Chief Medical Examiner	$1,500,000
NY	County of Erie	$698,223
NY	County of Suffolk	$228,824
NY	County of Westchester	$312,865
NY	Monroe County	$383,450
NY	Nassau County	$301,419
NY	New York State Police	$1,000,000
NY	Onondaga County	$211,756
OH	City of Columbus	$282,452
OH	City of Mansfield	$60,000
OH	Cuyahoga County	$310,009
OH	Hamilton County	$188,053
OH	Lake County	$60,000
OH	Montgomery County	$189,915
OH	Ohio Attorney General	$924,406
OK	City of Oklahoma City	$813,247
OK	City Of Tulsa	$229,377
OK	Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation	$813,247
OR	Oregon State Police	$562,197
PA	Allegheny County Pennsylvania	$287,699
PA	City of Philadelphia	$1,021,202
PA	Pennsylvania State Police	$1,282,982
PR	Instituto de Ciencias Forenses	$584,794
RI	Rhode Island Department of Public Safety	$200,000
SC	Beaufort County Council	$100,000
SC	County of Greenville	$100,000
SC	Richland County Government	$200,000
SC	South Carolina Law Enforcement Division	$1,137,378
SD	South Dakota Office of The Attorney General	$200,000
TN	Tennessee Bureau of Investigations	$2,419,898
TX	City of Austin	$198,678
TX	City of Fort Worth	$256,444
TX	City of Houston	$1,261,144
TX	Bexar County	$457,402
TX	Harris County	$523,942
TX	State of Texas	$2,603,214
TX	Tarrant County	$374,182
TX	University of North Texas Health Science Center At Fort Worth	$518,609
UT	Utah Department of Public Safety	$342,222
VA	Virginia Department of Forensic Science	$906,457

VT	Vermont Department of Public Safety	$200,000
WA	Washington State Patrol	$1,187,293
WI	Wisconsin Department of Justice	$935,577
WV	West Virginia State Police	$341,814
WY	Wyoming Office of the Attorney General	$200,000
	FUNDING TOTAL:	**$72,391,712**

FY14 Recipient Name: Alaska Department of Public Safety
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0023
Award Amount: $256,958
Abstract: The Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory (AKSCDL), a division of the Alaska Department of Public Safety (DPS), is the agency that is responsible for analyzing evidentiary material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies and medical examiners within the state of Alaska. All forensic biology/DNA work is performed in the main laboratory in Anchorage. Pursuant to AS 44.41.035, the DPS-AKSCDL is the agency responsible for conducting analysis on DNA samples collected from convicted felony and misdemeanor offenders as well as certain felony misdemeanor arrestees in the state of Alaska; the AKSCDL is responsible for storing and maintaining the resultant profiles in the State DNA Index System.

As the only forensic laboratory providing DNA analysis in the State of Alaska, the Alaska Scientific Crime Detection laboratory (SCDL) is frequently the rate limiting step in the criminal justice system for processing sexual assault cases. Alaska has the unfortunate distinction of having the highest forcible rape rate of any state, at 2.5 times the national average, which places a higher than average burden on the AKSCDL with approximately 13% of its total caseload related to sexual assault. The AKSCDL also receives a higher than average number of sexual assault cases that are not positive for the presence of seminal fluid. With the high volume of sexual assaults, and the complex nature of the analysis, the forensic biology unit is significantly more expensive to operate than other laboratory disciplines. The Federal funding from this award will help to alleviate this burden by providing overtime and supplies for processing these cases.

This award will be specifically used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of cases pending DNA analysis.
2. Supply DNA Database Collection kits for offender and arrestee sample collection.
3. Maintain the laboratory's capacity for processing DNA database samples.
4. Maintain the current capabilities of the Forensic Biology discipline.
5. Provide required continuing education for DNA analysts in the lab.

The AKSCDL expects to analyze at least 125 forensic biology cases with overtime and supplies, and 3,500 DNA database samples with supply funds. The lab also expects to reduce the turnaround, seeking ultimately to achieve a turnaround of less than 90 days for casework and 45 days for DNA database.
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FY14 Recipient Name: Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0092
Award Amount: $1,263,414
Abstract: The State of Alabama - and ADFS specifically - continues to face serious budgetary constraints, already having experienced a 43% reduction in State level funding for forensic services over the last 6 years. ADFS is also beginning to see the reality of increased database sample submissions arising from the implementation of an 'all felony arrestee' DNA testing statute, which was implemented on September 30, 2010.

The Federal funding from this award will greatly offset these serious shortfalls, and will be used to realize the following goals:

1. Reduce the forensic DNA case backlog through analyst overtime and the purchase of Biology supplies.
2. Reduce the DNA database sample backlog through analyst overtime and the purchase of database supplies.
3. Increase the capacity of the statewide DNA laboratory system by purchasing: one (1) QiaSymphony/QiAgility robotic laboratory automation platform which will further streamline the DNA casework testing process in the Birmingham Regional DNA Laboratory; three (3) freezers for the storage of casework DNA extracts; and five (5) PC's for Biology analysts to further enhance the infrastructure of the laboratory DNA data review process. Additionally, the purchase of a 7500 RT-PCR DNA Quantitation instrument and barcode printers will greatly enhance the infrastructure of the DNA Databank Laboratory and streamline the testing of offender samples.

The ADFS expects to test at least 850 cases by the end of the Award period, resulting in a significant reduction in the statewide backlog of cases awaiting testing. The ADFS DNA Databank laboratory also expects to process at least 4,400 DNA database samples (which includes 400 QC samples) using Federal funding. The statewide turnaround time on Biology casework is expected to be reduced by an additional 20 days, with the analyst throughput in the casework sections expected to increase a minimum of 7%.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Arkansas State Crime Laboratory
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0122
Award Amount: $805,759
Abstract: The Arkansas State Crime Laboratory Forensic Serology and DNA Sections analyze evidence submitted by law enforcement agencies for the state of Arkansas. These two sections compliment one another in the screening and DNA analysis of biological evidence. The Arkansas State Crime Laboratory is proposing to utilize the "FY 2014 DNA Backlog Reduction Program" to purchase the necessary equipment to increase the capacity to extract, and prepare samples for quantification and amplification, to purchase software for familial and mixture interpretation, and to continue to fund the 6 Forensic Serologists and 3 Forensic DNA Analysts that were originally funded from the FY2012 Backlog Reduction Program. The goals of this program are to 1. Maintain the DNA section. 2. Improve the Capabilities of the DNA section.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Arizona Department of Public Safety (AZ)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0026
Award Amount: $744,521

Abstract: The Arizona Department of Public Safety (AZ DPS) Crime Laboratory System provides complete DNA profiling services from three of its Regional Crime Laboratories: the Central Regional Crime Laboratory, Phoenix; the Southern Regional Crime Laboratory, Tucson; and the Northern Regional Crime Laboratory, Flagstaff. These DNA services include STR analysis of autosomal nuclear DNA, Y-STR analysis of the Y chromosome and mitochondrial DNA analysis of evidence submitted by 295 law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies statewide, including municipal police departments, county sheriffs, and state law enforcement. Also, the AZ DPS Crime Laboratory, by statute, maintains the DNA Database for the State of Arizona and has been processing convicted offender DNA samples since 1993 and DNA arrestee samples for those arrested for certain violent crimes beginning in 2008.

The AZ DPS Crime Laboratory System for five previous years has faced severe budget reductions due to the dire economic conditions in the State of Arizona. As a result, the AZ DPS Crime Laboratory DNA programs had been reduced as follows:

- The DNA Arrestee Database Program had 100% elimination of funds – a loss of $980,000.00 per year.
- The DNA convicted offender database program had a 49% reduction in funds – a loss of $1.8 million per year.
- The DNA casework program had received a 12% reduction in funds – a loss of $600,000.00 per year.
- A hiring freeze had resulted in a 24% vacancy factor, with 15 DNA positions vacant or eliminated.

In the last two Arizona fiscal years, FY 2013 and FY 2014, the Arizona economy has begun to improve and limited, partial funding has been restored, but it will take years for the AZ DPS Crime Laboratory DNA Programs to fully recover. For example, three DNA laboratory technician positions eliminated during the economic downturn have not been restored and there is no expectation that they will be restored in the next two budget years, FY 2015 or FY 2016. Also, eight DNA analyst positions were eliminated and will not be restored.

Therefore, the Federal funding from the twenty-four month period of this Grant request would be utilized to accomplish the following goals:

- Reduce the projected backlog of DNA Database samples by utilizing two laboratory technicians to free DNA analysts to concentrate solely on DNA sample processing. Over the twenty-four month period of the Grant and with DNA supplies purchased from the Grant, 21,600 DNA database samples will be processed which otherwise would have been backlogged.
- Reduce the number of DNA burglary cases backlogged by utilizing one laboratory technician to free DNA casework analysts to concentrate solely on DNA casework. This frees DNA analyst's time to concentrate on additional backlogged burglary cases and with DNA supplies purchased

from the Grant, 2,160 additional DNA cases will be processed reducing the current DNA casework backlog.

- Reduce the number of DNA violent crime cases backlogged by utilizing overtime to process 63 complex violent crime cases needing timely analysis to meet court and investigative deadlines.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Mesa (AZ)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0007
Award Amount: $109,190
Abstract: Mesa Police Department Forensic Services is located at 133 N. Morris, Mesa, Arizona. Forensic Services is responsible for the collection and examination of evidence from all types of crimes committed within this community of over 439,000 residents, which is the 38th largest city in the United States. Forensic Services is composed of ten units. The Toxicology, Firearms, Biology, Controlled Substances, Crime Scene, Evidence processing, Latent Print and Quality Assurance Units are accredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB - Certificate #231).

The Mesa Police Department Forensic Services Biology Unit, consisting of 7 employees is responsible for processing biological evidence from homicides, sexual assaults, burglaries and numerous other crimes. During 2013, members of the unit processed over 1300 samples and prepared over 1200 reports regarding their scientific analyses. The laboratory is a National DNA Index System (NDIS) participant.

The Mesa Police Department Forensic Services Biology Unit participates in external audits, not less than once every two years, to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the Quality Assurance Standards established by the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The most recent external audits were performed October 21-22, 2013, August 29, 2011, May 3-May 6, 2010 and October 19-October 20, 2009.

The average turnaround time from receipt of the DNA analysis request to report being released by the laboratory for July 1, 2013- December 31, 2013 is 75 days for persons crime and 129 days for property crime. The overall average for that time period is 95 days. The average number of forensic DNA samples analyzed per analyst per month for July1, 2013 - December 31, 2013 is 48. The number of Forensic DNA cases in the MPD backlog as of March 31, 2014 is 369.

The laboratory intends to increase capacity using existing personnel. Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases.
2. Increase the capacity of the Mesa Police Department Forensic Services Biology Unit.

It is estimated that a minimum of 49 forensic DNA cases can be analyzed within the 24-month award project period using the Federal funding requested under this FY2014 program.

The laboratory expects to reduce the average turnaround time and backlog by approximately 10%. The average turnaround time would be reduced to approximately 85.5 days and the backlog would be reduced to approximately 332.

The laboratory expects to increase the number of samples analyzed per analyst per month by approximately 10%. The average number of samples analyzed per analyst per month would increase to 53.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Phoenix Police Department (AZ)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0024
Award Amount: $554,953
Abstract: The Phoenix Police Department Laboratory Services Bureau (PPD-LSB) is responsible for analyzing evidentiary material associated with criminal investigations within the city limits of Phoenix, Arizona. The Unit has recently trained additional Forensic Biology staff in DNA analysis and therefore has been able to significantly increase throughput over the past year. However, due to the continual increase in case submissions, it is difficult to sufficiently address both the increase in case submissions as well as the backlog.

As with most governmental entities, the PPD-LSB is facing budgetary constraints, but continues to focus on addressing the challenges associated with a backlog of DNA cases awaiting analysis. By processing cases through the use of outsourcing and overtime, the backlog will experience an estimated 10% reduction in the backlog. The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Decrease the DNA case backlog
2. Increase DNA capacity
3. Provide required continuing education to analysts

The unit expects to reduce the backlog by at least 520 DNA cases (500 DNA outsource cases and 20 DNA cases on overtime) and 180 Biology cases. In addition, the turnaround times are expected to decrease from an average of 385 to 355 days for cases, which is expected to reduce the overall average turnaround by an estimated 8%.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Tucson (AZ)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0005
Award Amount: $228,366
Abstract: The Tucson Police Department Crime Laboratory (TPDCL), a unit of the Tucson Police Department, is responsible for the analysis of evidential material associated with criminal investigations for the City of Tucson, to include the analysis of DNA. The TPDCL and the City of Tucson continue to face severe budgetary constraints, particularly in the area of staffing. There has been no increase in the number of permanent staff members in the DNA Unit or the Crime Laboratory for several years. The backlog of DNA cases waiting for analysis continues to increase and the turnaround time remains very high. One way to positively affect the backlog and turnaround time is to increase staffing. Funding from this grant will be used as follows:

1. Continue grant funding for a DNA Screener (CSS) position for an additional 18 months;
2. Continue grant funding for a full-time DNA Criminalist position for an additional 18 months;
3. Outsource approximately 16 cases containing 83 samples to approved accredited external vendors for analysis.
4. Purchase disposable lab coats for the DNA Screener and DNA Criminalist.

It is anticipated that the grant-funded DNA Screener will "screen" a minimum of 360 cases for potential DNA evidence while being funded with this grant. This position provides important and much needed support to the DNA analysts, freeing them up to focus their time and efforts on the actual analysis process and data interpretation.
It estimated that the grant-funded DNA Criminalist will analyze a minimum of 75 cases while being funded from this grant. The cases screened by the DNA Screener will be different case than those analyzed by the DNA Criminalist to avoid double counting cases for grant reporting. Sixteen cases containing 83 samples will be outsourced using funds from this grant to approved external accredited vendors. Once returned, the cases will be evaluated for CODIS eligibility. These will be uploaded to CODIS and any resulting hits will be reported to the investigator. Disposable lab coats will be purchased for the grant-funded Screener and Criminalist using funds from this grant.

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FY14 Recipient Name: California Department of Justice
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0009
Award Amount: $2,416,870
Abstract: CA DOJ Bureau of Forensic Services (BFS) seeks funding of $2,416,870 for casework backlog reduction. All work is to be accomplished in the two year period of the award sought.

Our goals for this grant are to reduce our backlog and reduce the overall turnaround time for handling, screening, analyzing and reviewing forensic biology/DNA samples. Increasing the capacity and efficiency of our DNA programs will be the key elements to achieving these goals.

The CA DOJ BFS proposes to achieve these goals by:
- Funding overtime for casework analysis
- Retaining one limited-term analyst
- Providing training for casework and Data Bank analysts
- Purchasing equipment for casework and Data Bank analysis

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FY14 Recipient Name: City and County of San Francisco (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0027
Award Amount: $355,615
Abstract: The San Francisco Police Department Criminalistics Laboratory (SFPD Crime Lab) is the agency that is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for the local law enforcement agencies. The SFPD has one crime lab that primarily services the City and County of San Francisco Police Department, as well as the Sheriff's

Department and other local law enforcement agencies operating within the City and County of San Francisco.

The SFPD is facing budgetary constraints related to its operational budget for equipment purchases, laboratory instruments and training. The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the forensic biology/DNA case backlog by improving efficiency of screening evidence through use of the Leeds LSV, reducing analyst time requirements for QC tasks by purchase of a temperature monitoring system and a Millipore water system, improve efficiency of data analysis by purchase of Genemapper IDX, improve efficiency of interpretation by purchase of additional ArmedXpert licenses and add-ons and fund analyst overtime.

2. Providing the continuing education required for each DNA analyst.

The SFPD can expect to reduce the DNA backlog by increasing efficiency and optimizing the case turn-around time. By the end of this award period, the turn-around time is expected to be reduced to 150 days or less.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Glendale (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0034
Award Amount: $100,000
Abstract: In 2012, the Glendale Police Department (GPD) established a regional DNA testing laboratory to serve the Cities of Burbank and Glendale. Housed within the Glendale Police Department facility, the DNA testing laboratory was consolidated with existing forensic services (crime scene investigation, fingerprints, computer forensics, NIBIN) to form the Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory (VRCL). Funding for equipment, supplies and staffing for the DNA laboratory has been financed through a combination of federal grant funding, asset forfeiture funds and the City of Glendale.

In 2012, the Cities of Burbank and Glendale with a population of approximately 300,000 reported a combined total number of 476 UCR Part 1 Violent crimes and a total of 6,249 UCR Part 1 crimes. Fraud/identity theft and property crimes remain the largest proportion of crimes within the Cities of Burbank and Glendale. Property crimes compromise over 90% of UCR Type 1 crimes, while financial crimes have been the most difficult of UCR Type II crimes to investigate. The Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory was founded mainly to address the demand for DNA testing of evidence recovered from property and financial crimes. The Forensic Biology Unit of the Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory is staffed with two DNA specialists and one DNA Technical Leader/Supervisor. With this limited staffing, the implementation of automated instrumentation is critical to the efficient throughput of DNA casework. The Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory, accredited in May 2013, has assumed forensic DNA testing of all GPD cases and is now accepting cases from the Burbank Police Department and regional local and federal law enforcement agencies. The Forensic Biology Unit has already experienced a bottleneck in the extraction process due to the limited number of samples that can be extracted at one time. While a DNA case backlog does not currently exist

for the laboratory, one can be anticipated now that the laboratory has granted access to regional and federal law enforcement agencies. Funding from this award will allow the laboratory address the influx of DNA casework from these agencies by expanding sample processing capabilities.

This award will be specifically used to meet the goal of increased sample capacity resulting in more cases completed per analyst with shorter case turnaround times. Funds will be used as follows:

Automation Instrumentation: The Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory is requesting grant funds to purchase an extraction robot with the capacity to process 96 samples at once. In 2013, the Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory requested the purchase of a 13-sample extraction robot from the FY2013 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program. Implementation in early 2014 has already demonstrated a reduction in turnaround time from 111 days to 75 days. With requests arising from agencies outside its service area, the Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory is quickly out-pacing its current sample processing workflow and requires expanded extraction capabilities to minimize a DNA backlog and to further reduce case turnaround times.

Basic Infrastructure Support: The Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory is requesting grant funds to purchase one cabinet to support expanded robotic capabilities. The cabinet is custom built to support the requested extraction instrumentation and will provide much needed storage for additional extraction supplies.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Los Angeles (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0035
Award Amount: $1,143,819
Abstract: The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), Scientific Investigation Division (SID) is the agency that is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for the City of Los Angeles. The LAPD-SID maintains the Serology/DNA Unit (SDU), housed in two facilities - one located at the Hertzberg Davis Forensic Science Center (HDFSC) and the other at Piper Technical Center (PTC). The HDFSC laboratory is responsible for conducting DNA analysis on evidence samples collected from crime scenes in the City of Los Angeles as well as conducting screening of evidence for forensic value. The PTC laboratory also conducts screening of evidence and is under development as a DNA analysis laboratory.

The City of Los Angeles has been facing serious budget shortfalls while still seeking to expand its DNA analysis capabilities. The federal funding from this award will allow the SDU to reduce its backlog (per the NIJ definition, any cases not completed within 30 days after the laboratory receives the case request) and increase its laboratory capacity to meet existing and future demand for Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) screening and testing. This award will be specifically used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases.
2. Increase and maintain the capacity and capabilities of the LAPD SDU casework laboratories.

3. Maintain continuing education for analysts in the lab.

The LAPD SDU expects to analyze at least 266 forensic biology and DNA cases (246 with overtime and supplies and 20 by outsourcing). Independent of this or any grant, the City continues to train Criminalists in support of DNA testing. Once these Criminalists are trained, they can perform evidence screening that will improve efficiency and reduce turnaround time. Those Criminalists who are already trained to perform DNA typing will be able to increase the number of samples that they analyze, further reducing turnaround time. The lab expects to reduce the turnaround time for a forensic backlog case by 5% and increase analyst productivity by an average of 5%.

Utilizing funds from this grant will allow Criminalists to meet continuing education requirements and/ or receive training, helping the laboratory to meet accreditation requirements.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Oakland (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0014
Award Amount: $491,034
Abstract: The Oakland Police Department Criminalistics Laboratory (OPD Laboratory) is the agency responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for the City of Oakland, California.

The OPD Laboratory is facing budgetary constraints. The Federal funding from this award will help to alleviate this burden as well as assist in funding Criminalists' over time and supplies to analyze forensic backlog casework. This award will be specifically used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases.
2. Increase and maintain the capacity and capabilities of the OPD Laboratory Forensic Biology Unit.
3. Retaining Biology Unit staff by continuing to fund salaries and benefits of 1.0 FTE Criminalist and 1.0 FTE Forensic DNA Technician.
4. Maintain continuing education for the Criminalists and the Forensic Technician in the lab.

The OPD Laboratory expects to analyze at least 240 forensic biology and DNA cases (140 with overtime and supplies and 100 with an additional criminalist). The lab also expects to reduce the turnaround to less than 100 days and increase the productivity of each Criminalist to 50 samples per month.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of San Diego (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0017
Award Amount: $340,985
Abstract: The demand for DNA typing services in the City of San Diego remains high. We continue to explore ways in which to increase our efficiency and address the high casework demands placed on our Forensic Biology Section. As our testing techniques become more sensitive, we are finding that we can get meaningful results from evidence that previously eluded

us. Our successes lead to continual requests to do more, faster, with difficult evidence. It is our goal to utilize these grant funds to continue to increase the efficiency of casework output in our DNA laboratory, and to provide the funding to allow additional cases to be worked on overtime. The combination of these two things should result in a decrease in backlogged cases. We seek $340,985 in grant funds in an attempt to achieve some important specific results.

1. Reduce the average turnaround time on DNA cases from 83 days to 75 days.
2. Increase the average number of samples analyzed per analyst per month from 38 samples (currently) to 40 samples per month.
3. Reduce the backlog (cases over 30 days) by approximately 10% from 260 to 234, in part by completing 78 cases in-house using grant funded overtime.
4. Provide mandated training to all analysts in the DNA laboratory.
5. Purchase software that will increase our ability to interpret complex mixtures, thereby enhancing our abilities in touch DNA cases.
6. Provide equipment and expertise necessary to go to a completely paperless system, with the intention of increasing efficiency.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Contra Costa County (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0036
Award Amount: $270,309
Abstract: The Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff Forensic Services Division is the agency responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for twenty five routine law enforcement clients and other governmental agencies in Contra Costa County, CA. The population served by the Forensics Services Division exceeds one million. The Forensic Service Division includes the Forensic Biology Unit which is a full service DNA unit within the laboratory.

The DNA Unit has been working to increase capacity with the addition of new equipment and automation. In addition, the DNA Unit has been working to embrace a case flow efficiency model, that focuses on a "Team-based" approach and batching of casework. This model was developed from the published reports of past NIJ "Forensic DNA Unit Efficiency Improvement" grant recipients and the Oakland Police Department Crime Laboratory. The objective of the NIJ Program was to publish successful and carefully evaluated novel efficiency improvement methodologies intended to serve as models for forensic science laboratories. The "Team" based approach has demonstrated great success improving case flow efficiency, hence increasing sample throughput and reducing turn around time. The Oakland PD model uses a technician for sample processing, which greatly improved their efficiency.

The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goal:

1. Hire two employees "Forensic Analyst - Projects" with grant funds to assist the DNA analysts and facilitate the processing of forensic biology/DNA casework.

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FY14 Recipient Name: County of Alameda (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0031
Award Amount: $242,803
Abstract: The Alameda County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) Crime Laboratory is responsible for processing all evidence submitted to the laboratory associated with criminal investigations from local law enforcement agencies throughout Alameda County excluding the City of Oakland.

In order to continue meeting the needs of our user agencies in providing DNA analysis in a timely manner, grant funds from this award will be used to continue funding two positions (two Criminalists) in the DNA Unit.
These two positions have been funded through NIJ / DNA grant funds since 2008, and without these grant funds, the positions would not exist.

The funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Increase case throughput
2. Reduce case backlog
3. Reduce case turn around time to 100 days or less

The Forensic Biology Unit expects to maintain monthly case productivity as well as reduce the case backlog. The DNA Unit expects to reduce turn around time to 100 days or less. The two funded Criminalists will be responsible for conducting DNA casework and performing technical reviews and administrative reviews of casework.

The FY 2014 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program will also provide funds for training and continuing education of the DNA analysts per the FBI's quality assurance standards for forensic testing laboratories. Providing continuing education and advanced training to the laboratory's experienced DNA analysts will ensure that the crime laboratory delivers the best possible, most efficient, and timely forensic DNA analytical services to Alameda County.

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FY14 Recipient Name: County of Kern (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0018
Award Amount: $295,780
Abstract: The Kern Regional Crime Laboratory seeks to strengthen its DNA program through the improvement of its delivery of complex DNA mixture interpretation in forensic casework using probabilistic genotyping and the expansion of its STR typing panel to 23 loci. A three-pronged approach, which includes analyst training, hardware enhancement, and kit chemistry validation, shall be used to meet these goals.

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FY14 Recipient Name: County of San Mateo (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0021
Award Amount: $162,938
Abstract: The County of San Mateo is located in Northern California. It is positioned just south, and adjacent to, the City of San Francisco. It has a population over 730,000 and comprises 450 square miles, 25% of which is urban space. Forensic Services for the County are provided by the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Forensic

Laboratory services approximately thirty law enforcement and law enforcement related agencies in the County of San Mateo. These agencies include San Mateo County departments: Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's Office, Probation Department, Coroner, Parks and Recreation, and Animal Control, as well as, the California Highway Patrol, local law enforcement agencies, California Fish and Game, and local transportation authorities. The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Forensic Laboratory also provides forensic services, by contractual agreement, to the City of Vallejo (Solano County), the cities of Concord and Pittsburg (Contra Costa County), and the cities of Fremont and Union City (Alameda County).

On May 11, 2005, the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Forensic Laboratory began performing STR DNA analysis.

On September 11, 2010, the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Forensic Laboratory was accredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board International (ASCLD/LAB). The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Forensic Laboratory undergoes external audits, not less than once every 2 years, to demonstrate compliance with the DNA Quality Assurance Standards established by the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Federal funding from the FY2014 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program will be used between October 1, 2014 and September 30, 2016, for the following goals:

1. Reducing the forensic DNA case turnaround times through the continued employment of one (1) extra-help criminalist and the purchasing of supplies.
2. Increasing the capacity of the Laboratory by continuing to employ one (1) extra-help criminalist.
3. Providing the required continuing education for criminalists employed at the Laboratory.

The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office does anticipate a reduction in the DNA case backlog; however, this reduction will not occur until the Laboratory fills a recently created vacancy, until four (4) examiners have returned from Family Leave, and until one (1) criminalist completes his training in Differentials (anticipated completion date of June 2014). The Laboratory does expect to complete at least 158 cases by the end of the award period. The turnaround time is expected to remain close to 175.5 days, and the criminalist throughput for samples analyzed per examiner per month is expected to remain consistent at 28.6 samples per analyst per month. Currently, five (5) fully qualified, independent examiners are responsible for working on DNA cases, one (1) examiner is working DNA cases as part of his supervised casework, and two (2) examiners are on Family Leave. Two examiners are scheduled to be on Family Leave at some point during this grant period.

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FY14 Recipient Name: County of Santa Clara (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0033
Award Amount: $304,784
Abstract: The Crime Laboratory, under the Office of the Santa Clara County District Attorney, is the local government laboratory responsible for the analysis of physical evidence collected

within Santa Clara County and serves over 30 criminal justice agencies, including the sheriff, medical examiner, and all municipalities within the County. Crimes reported for Santa Clara County in calendar year 2009 included 5,013 violent crimes, 23,790 property crimes, 28,303 instances of larceny-theft, and 403 cases of arson. This information was obtained from the Office of the Attorney General for the State of California Department of Justice's website, and has been provided as an attachment. We are a full-service DNA laboratory providing biological screening of evidence, autosomal STR analysis, and YSTR analysis.

The SCCCL is currently facing budgetary constraints in California, which makes assistance through Federal funding essential to decrease the laboratory's backlog. We are hoping to use the Federal award to achieve the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases.
3. Increase the capacity of the DNA casework laboratory.
3. Send analysts to DNA-related conferences to obtain DNA-related continuing education.

The DNA casework laboratory expects to analyze at least 40 forensic biology and DNA cases through one grant-funded casework analyst. Additionally, we hope to improve turn-around times by streamlining the DNA analysis process with the implementation of a new DNA-specific Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS).

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FY14 Recipient Name: County of Ventura (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0011
Award Amount: $102,622
Abstract: In this grant application, the Ventura County Sheriff's Forensic Services Bureau (VCSFSB) is requesting funds to continue funding a fixed-term DNA position to help reduce the backlog. The DNA position was established six years ago through this grant.

Senior examiners have been required to perform screening tests, which could be equally well performed by a junior person. The FSL would like to continue employment of a Forensic Scientist I in the DNA section, thereby allowing the senior staff to concentrate on the more complex DNA cases. This individual will help screen evidence and conduct DNA analysis.

The overall objective of this grant is to improve DNA analysis capacity and to reduce the number of backlogged DNA cases. The laboratory’s goals are 1) to maintain the turn around time at 102 days between submission of a DNA sample to the laboratory to having a report written for the submitting agency. 2) To reduce the number of pending cases by 105 in the two-year grant period. This will result in an additional 35 to 50 DNA profiles being entered into CODIS with an anticipated result of twelve to seventeen CODIS hits.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Fresno County Sheriff Department (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0012
Award Amount: $295,000
Abstract: The geographic location of Fresno County is approximately an equal distance between the major metropolitan areas of San Francisco and Los Angeles in the Central San Joaquin Valley. From east to west, the County's boundaries extend 135 miles, encompassing a geographical area of 6,007 square miles with the Coast Mountain Range to the west and the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range to the east. Fresno County has a population of 900,348 that is expected to grow 3.4% annually in the future.
The Fresno County Sheriff's Department Forensic Laboratory provides services for the Fresno County Sheriff's Office. The forensic laboratory has two Criminalists that are trained and qualified to perform STR analysis and currently one more is scheduled to start our DNA training program soon. Due to staffing needs and the growing demand for DNA analysis, the Fresno County Sheriff's Department Forensic Laboratory needs to find a way to reduce backlogged DNA casework and increase our capacity. The Sheriff's Department has over 15 unsolved homicide/rape cases that need to be examined for potential DNA evidence. DNA cases can take four to five month from request to final report, due to the size of our staff and non-efficient equipment. The forensic laboratory is seeking $295,000 in federal funds to decrease the backlog of cases from the DNA unit and purchase updated equipment to increase the capacity of the DNA unit. This will be accomplished by using grant funds to purchase one Qiagen EZ1 XL extraction robot, hire a part time forensic laboratory technician to process DNA kits, send two DNA analysts to the AAFS conference, purchase two digital camera kits, three lap top computers for DNA data analysis, one low temp evidence freezer, one digital overheard camera system for evidence documentation, a digital UV gel documentation system for yield gels, and using funds to send backlogged cases to fee for services vendors to reduce our backlogged cases. Funding will also be used for hiring Sorensen Forensics to perform the validation of the EZ1 robot and the Qiagen investigator kit, ten investigator kits will be purchased with grant funding for the validation of the kit and instrument. The result will be a reduction in the number of days from request to issuing final DNA results to our clients and a reduction of in the numbers of backlogged DNA cases.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0020
Award Amount: $1,547,971
Abstract: The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Scientific Services Bureau (LASD-SSB) Crime Lab exists under the County of Los Angeles and is responsible for analyzing evidence from criminal investigations for the entire County, excluding the City of Los Angeles and the area it serves.

The LASD-SSB remains under severe budget constraints and overtime is strictly controlled. The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce and prevent casework backlog through analyst overtime and supply purchases.
2. Increase or maintain capacity of the biology section by purchasing equipment (Air Liquid Handler upgrades for three Tecan EVO150 biorobots, storage cabinets for

extracted DNA stored in the Biomatrica solution, laptop computers, and a bench top plate centrifuge.)
3. Provide the required continuing education for 23 analysts.
4. Purchase a carousel file storage system to store and maintain an overflow of case files and provide future storage needs.

The LASD-SSB can expect to reduce the DNA case backlog by at least 874 cases by the end of the award period. The turnaround time is expected to be reduced to 90 days or less, and the analyst throughput for casework is expected to be maintained at the present level of 22 samples per analyst, per month.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Orange County Sheriff Coroner Department (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0010
Award Amount: $418,692
Abstract: We have three goals and associated objectives that we intend to fund using the 2014 DNA Backlog Reduction Program Grant:

1. Continue funding one Forensic Scientist II position for the last 18 months of this grant period.
2. Continue funding two Forensic Technician positions for the entire 24 month grant period.
3. Provide required continuing education to DNA casework analysts.

By using the 2014 program grant funds for the above goals, the Orange County Crime Laboratory will be able to increase its capacity by retaining a fully trained DNA analyst and two Forensic Technicians in the DNA Section. The DNA analyst will complete a major project during this grant period and will be able to dedicate 100% of her time to analyzing major crime case work during the last 18 months of this grant period. The two Forensic Technicians will continue to cover support duties in the DNA Section and will also assist with the analysis of property crime cases by sampling evidence and operating the extraction, liquid handling, and CE plate set-up robots in the laboratory. Their work will free the Forensic Scientists in the DNA Section to focus on data analysis and interpretation, report writing, and report review. The continuing education funded by the grant will provide DNA analysts the opportunity to learn about new technology and instrumentation which they can then implement in the laboratory to improve efficiency and increase capacity.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Sacramento County (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0015
Award Amount: $494,426
Abstract: The Sacramento County District Attorney Laboratory of Forensic Services (hereafter referred to as the crime laboratory) is to continue partnering with local police agencies and the District Attorney to target and solve those criminal cases that will have the most significant impact on the prosecution of violent crimes. The emphasis of the crime laboratory's 2014 backlog reduction operations will be on the timely analysis of DNA-related evidence from violent crime cases and the remediation/prevention of a backlog of DNA cases across the spectrum of reported crimes identified by law enforcement agencies as critical homicide and sexual assault cases. There is no crime scene collection component to this grant.

The objectives of the crime laboratory to be completed during the 24 month duration of the FY 2014 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program includes directing the grant-funded DNA analysts to conduct the screening, preparation, and DNA profiling on biological evidence from at least 102 DNA cases. Eligible DNA profiles from these cases will be uploaded to CODIS.

One consultant will be funded to assist in backlog reduction and casework turnaround time projects by conducting administrative reviews of DNA casework reports prior to release to the investigating agencies.

As with previous DNA grants, the FY 2014 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program will provide funds for training and continuing education of the DNA analysts per the FBI's quality assurance standards for forensic testing laboratories. Providing continuing education and advanced training to the laboratory's experienced DNA analysts will ensure that the crime laboratory delivers the best possible, most efficient, and timely forensic DNA analytical services to Sacramento County.

The primary objectives also include purchasing a second Applied Biosystems (now ThermoFisher) AB-3500xl Genetic Analyzer for use in forensic casework. We currently have one 3500xl in the laboratory, which was purchased using funds in our 2012 award. It is currently being validated for use with the next generation of forensic STR typing kits, which are not compatible with our existing 3100-series of electrophoresis instruments. At this time, we have five 3100-series instruments that will ultimately be replaced with two 3500xl instruments. The 3500xl instruments, coupled with Genemapper ID-X (also purchased with funds in our 2012 award), are intended to improve casework productivity.

Our laboratory is requesting funding to purchase a copy of STRmix mixture analysis and statistics software and one year of software upgrades from NicheVision. We are in the process of validating the next generation of STR kits, which yield typing data for 23 STR loci. The use of an expert assistant mixture analysis and statistics calculation software package should help alleviate a data analysis backlog since we currently do DNA mixture interpretation manually.

The crime laboratory has prepared an implementation plan that funds three DNA analysts, a consultant to administratively review DNA reports, purchasing a second 3500xl Genetic Analyzer and a copy of STRmix software, and continuing education and training opportunities for DNA analysts in the Crime Laboratory's Biology Unit. The Project Director will closely monitor the grant to ensure progress is being made in all aspects of the grant.

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FY14 Recipient Name: San Diego County (CA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0022
Award Amount: $389,151
Abstract: The Lab is a full-service, ASCLD-LAB accredited forensic science facility. The Lab's forensic biology section provides casework DNA analysis services to law enforcement agencies in the County of San Diego, California (exclusive of the City of San Diego).

The Lab faces a steadily increasing workload of DNA analysis requests, occasioned by our recent focus on property crime cases and the expectations of our clients. This increase will further strain our already stretched financial and personnel resources. We also face the additional burden imposed by the expansion of the CODIS core loci set. We hope to minimize the resulting impact on our operation by pursuing the following goals:

1. Reducing our backlog of work requests by providing overtime and supplies for additional casework.
2. Improving our analysis capacity by acquiring additional equipment for DNA extraction and genetic analysis.
3. Providing required continuing education for some of the Lab's DNA analysts.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City and County of Denver (CO)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0085
Award Amount: $225,459
Abstract: The Denver Police Department (DPD) Crime Laboratory serves the City and County of Denver by using forensic technology to solve crime, thereby increasing public safety. The DPD Crime Laboratory DNA and Forensic Biology (DNA/FBIO) units seek federal support to achieve two goals:

1. To reduce the number of cases backlogged throughout the FY2014 grant period.
2. To fulfill continuing education requirements specified in the DNA Quality Assurance Standards for eighteen DNA/FBIO analysts and staff.

The laboratory will meet these goals by way of the following objectives:

1A. Outsource 200 backlogged property crimes to a vendor DNA laboratory for STR DNA analysis.

1B. Provide forensic scientist overtime to support the outsourcing project through the technical review of the STR DNA data and upload of eligible DNA profiles to CODIS for 200 outsourced cases.

1C. Provide forensic scientist overtime to support the reduction of 150 backlogged DNA cases that have been processed in-house and have been waiting over 30 days for interpretation and review.

2. Providing training opportunities for eighteen DNA/FBIO analysts and staff to meet their 2015 required continued education requirements specified in the DNA Quality Assurance Standards.

By implementing these measures, the DPD Crime Laboratory will target a significant backlog of all case types (including property crimes, sexual assaults and homicides) and comply with national quality assurance standards regarding continuing education.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Colorado Springs (CO)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0095
Award Amount: $114,595
Abstract: The Colorado Springs Metro Crime Laboratory (MCL) provides forensic chemistry, firearms, and DNA analysis of evidentiary items resulting from criminal cases within the jurisdictions of the Colorado Springs Police Department (CSPD) and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office (EPSO).

During 2013, the MCL's DNA analysis unit was fully operational and accepted new cases. In addition, the MCL received unworked DNA cases back from CBI that were sent there for analysis while the MCL was not fully staffed. As a result, the MCL had a significant number of requests for DNA analysis that were more than 30 days old, and per definition, are backlogged.

Grant funding from the DNA Backlog Reduction program will be used to hire an additional DNA analyst for the MCL to ensure not only increased productivity by adding a person, but to drastically reduce the amount of time a peer reviewer is unavailable. It is anticipated that grant funding will cover the DNA analyst's salary and benefits for approximately 34 pay period (68 weeks). During that time we project the grant-funded DNA analyst can work 120 cases.

It is anticipated that the addition of a DNA analyst to the MCL will result in a measurable reduction in the DNA backlog.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CO)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0096
Award Amount: $593,136
Abstract: The Colorado Bureau of Investigation – Forensic Services (CBI-FS) is the state agency responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local criminal justice agencies. CBI-FS maintains five regional laboratories located in Denver, Grand Junction, Greeley, Pueblo and Boulder. The facilities located in Denver, Boulder, Grand Junction, Pueblo have DNA analysis capabilities. The Boulder laboratory is expected to be opened during the life of this grant.

In 2013 the Colorado legislature past a law requiring the submission of nearly all sexual assault evidence kits (SAEKs) collected in the state of Colorado to be submitted to an accredited forensic laboratory. In the first several months prior to and since the passing of this legislation, the CBI-FS has seen an increase in the submission of SAEKs from every law enforcement agency within the state, including those which have accredited laboratories as their labs do not have the capacity to analyze all of these kits. Other cases are continuing at their normal pass. The Colorado legislature did include funding for personnel hiring, facilities and some equipment and consumables. However, this funding does not cover all the needs of the DNA casework laboratories and did not include the addition of the laboratory in Greeley.

Additionally, as is always the case in DNA analysis, the technologies continue to improve for both casework and database analyses.

Therefore, the four goals of the FY 2014 DNA Backlog Reduction Program are to:

Goal 1: Reduce the backlog of DNA forensic samples
Goal 2: Increase capacity of the CBI-FS DNA Casework Unit
Goal 3: Provide required continuing education
Goal 4: Increase the capacity of the CBI-FS DNA Database Unit

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FY14 Recipient Name: Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (CT)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0041
Award Amount: $591,725
Abstract: The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) is a unit of State government. DESPP's Division of Scientific Services (DSS) has three sections: the DNA/Forensic Biology Section, the Controlled Substances and Chemistry Section, and the Identification Services Section. These sections, each unique in its service offerings, conducts all evidence examinations for Connecticut. DESPP has an existing forensic DNA laboratory. DSS is the designated crime laboratory that conducts analysis of DNA database samples for Connecticut, serving over 370 local, State, and Federal stakeholders. DSS derives its statutory authority from Connecticut General Statutes §29-7b and §54-102h.

Connecticut has faced budgetary challenges over the last several years and DSS continues to experience backlogs. Faced with these challenges, DESPP requests Federal grant funds to support DSS.

Goals and objectives - The number of backlogged DNA cases to be solved by DNA testing is about 115 cases. During the grant period (October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2016), the following will be accomplished:

1. To reduce the backlog of DNA cases by about 115 and, as appropriate, enter DNA profiles into state and national DNA databases
2. To increase the testing capacity of the DNA/Forensic Biology Section
3. To reduce the backlog of database samples by 2,200 and enter database profiles into state and national DNA databases
4. To increase the professional development of staff

Project plans and methods of achieving goals - The standard DSS Quality Assurance/Quality Control policies and procedures will be followed regarding evidence examination, confirmation of biological materials, decisions concerning which cases to forward for DNA testing, and all interpretations of DNA profiles, using current DSS staff.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Metropolitan Police Department (DC)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0053
Award Amount: $458,004
Abstract: The District of Columbia Department of Forensic Sciences (DFS) is responsible for providing forensic analyses of physical evidence as it pertains to violent crimes committed in the District of Columbia.

The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology cases

2. Improve laboratory efficiency by increasing laboratory capacity and reducing bottlenecks.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Delaware Health and Social Services (DE)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0052
Award Amount: $292,368
Abstract: The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner - Forensic Sciences Laboratory is the agency that is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies and medical examiners within the state of Delaware. Delaware Code (Title 29, Chapter 47) designates the DE OCME as the agency responsible for conducting DNA analysis on DNA samples collected by the Delaware Department of Correction from all convicted felons; the DE OCME is responsible for storing and maintaining the resultant DNA profiles in the Delaware State DNA Index System.

1. Reducing the forensic DNA case backlog through the purchasing new equipment and supplies.
2. Reducing the DNA database sample backlog through the purchasing new equipment and supplies.
3. Increasing the reportable data for mixtures as well as eliminating complicated statistical calculations by purchasing mixture interpretation software (ArmedExpert, STRMix).
4. Providing the required continuing education for each analyst.

The DE OCME - DNA Unit can expect to reduce the DNA case backlog by at least 60 cases by the end of the award period. The agency also expects to work at least 1,500 DNA database samples using Federal funding. The turnaround time is expected to be reduced to 90 days or less, and the analyst throughput in the casework sections is expected to increase.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Broward Sheriff’s Office (FL)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0025
Award Amount: $508,515
Abstract: At the current time, the Broward Sheriff's Office has a backlog of approximately 1100 cases. We are requesting funding so that the unit can continue to perform in-house analysis on these cases. This funding will assist in keeping the backlog from growing and will be utilized to work cases that are being requested or those that have court dates in the foreseeable future. In addition, cases which lack suspects will also be worked. Funding is being requested for kits, consumables, and personal protective equipment.
As part of the DAB requirements, every DNA analyst must attend training on a yearly basis. This has always presented a challenge due to budget restraints; this has not changed. The department's budget has been cut and training was one of the areas that funding was reduced. As a result, funding for training is being requested so that we can circumvent this continuing critical issue.
As part of this grant we would like to request continued funding to two individuals who have been hired using previous grant funds. They will assist with the reduction of the back log.
Recently we completed the validation on a new procedure for the Qiacube. The volume is larger and with the existing Thermomixers we have, the liquid isn't heating equally due to the lack of

the depth of the block. Eppendorf is willing to accept our current units as a trade in on new units that will alleviate this problem. With unexpected storms and hurricane seasons, the UPS is a necessary part of ensuring that samples are not lost or corrupted when the power goes out. The first UPS will be used on our second 3500 and the second one on our Liquid Handlers. The UPS keeps the instrument running during times of outages due to severe weather conditions. Additional/replacement batteries are also needed to ensure the UPS units already here in the laboratory are running at full capacity. The Screen cluster is used with the Rotorgene. We have decided to start using melt curve analysis using the Rotorgene 6000. To remain DAB compliant the laboratory must undergo internal and external audits on a yearly/biyearly basis respectively. Many of our DNA analysts are ISO internal audit trained with a goal to have them all trained.We are proposing bringing the course/instructor to the laboratory as it would be more cost effective. In addition, we are requesting funds to have an external audit performed as they are no longer offered at no cost. Lastly, as we continue to move forward with our LIMS and the ability to go paperless, we have a great deal of paper that still needs to be converted. The document imaging system allows us to create electronic files of old validation logs, training logs, case jackets, etc., for easy access for discovery motions etc.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0004
Award Amount: $3,162,327
Abstract: Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), as mandated by Chapter 943 Florida Statutes, operates a statewide forensic crime laboratory system to provide timely, expert and professional examination of evidentiary materials to aid in the investigation, prosecution and exclusion of criminal offenses in the state of Florida. The Biology/DNA needs of Florida's criminal justice community are serviced by a network of FDLE laboratories and five local laboratories that comprise the Florida crime laboratory system. FDLE has six internationally accredited DNA laboratories that provide Biology/ DNA analysis services.
The heavy demand for Biology services continued in 2013, with over 10,000 Biology cases worked. The large volume of cases have been attributed to a number of factors including Florida's 18 million population and continued high volume of reported crime (725,944 index crimes as of last available report in 2012). Increased law enforcement awareness of the crime-solving value of Florida's DNA database also contributes to requests for Biology/DNA service that would not have been submitted a few years ago. Biology casework related to cold cases and touch DNA are on the rise. During 2011, Florida began collecting DNA from persons arrested for violent felony offenses. Moving from conviction-based criteria to include arrestees increased submissions to the database and increased case work demand as well. The third phase will begin during this grant period on January 15, 2015 and will include crimes related to kidnapping, false imprisonment and weapons charges. FDLE anticipates this expansion phase will continue to increase the volume of submissions to the DNA database and the incoming casework for Biology will continue to be significant over the next several years.
With funding provided under this award, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement plans to achieve a reduction in the forensic DNA case backlog, an increase in DNA analysis throughput, an increase in laboratory capacity, and the continuing education for analysts.
In order to reduce the DNA case backlog, the FDLE will fund overtime and supplies to be used for in-house casework as well as outsource casework to private accredited laboratories. DNA analysis throughput will be increased by funding overtime for laboratory personnel and

employing three temporary Forensic Technologists for case management. The FDLE proposes to increase laboratory capacity by continuing its path towards laboratory automation with the purchase of the Qiagen EZ1 Advanced XL robots and Qiagility liquid handlers.
Capacity will also be increased with overtime used to perform case work screenings and analysis. Finally, as a goal is to provide continuing education for analysts, the FDLE plans to provide reasonable travel expenses and registration costs for training and conferences associated with the Biology/DNA discipline, as well as offer in-house training for the biology discipline.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Miami Dade County (FL)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0006
Award Amount: $1,001,687
Abstract: The National Institute of Justice has allocated $5,479,686 to the State of Florida as part of the FY 2014 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program. Based on data obtained from the 2012 Florida Uniform Crime Report (UCR), the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) Forensic Services Bureau (FSB) Crime Laboratory has been offered $1,001,687 as its portion of the formula grant. The FSB Crime Laboratory proposes to use these funds to continue to increase the laboratory's capacity to analyze DNA samples, reduce the DNA sample turnaround time, and reduce the number of backlogged DNA cases awaiting analysis.

The laboratory's capacity to analyze DNA samples has benefited directly from the current grant-funded personnel and these three positions will be funded via this award as well. The Criminalist is a fully trained DNA analyst performing both serological and DNA analysis on all of her assigned cases. The Forensic Photographer will continue to enhance case documentation by photographing each evidence package upon submission to the laboratory with the possibility of expanding his duties to include the photographing of presumptive and confirmatory screening test results. Also, the Police Property and Evidence Specialist (PPES) will continue to handle evidence storage and retrieval within the Forensic Biology Section as well as assist with shipments of DNA casework outsourced to the vendor laboratory. As the number of cases being outsourced is reduced, the PPES will focus more time on coordinating evidence flow within the Forensic Biology Section (FBS).

In addition to these three positions, the FSB will hire two more grant-funded personnel. One Criminalist will be hired and the FSB will expedite their DNA analysis training. Also, a MDPD LIMS & CODIS Administrator/Operator will be responsible for the numerous Information Technology (IT) needs of the Forensic Biology Section.

Funds are requested in order to reduce the backlog of DNA cases by outsourcing casework to a commercial DNA laboratory. To maximize the number of cases that can be outsourced for DNA analysis, funds are requested to pay overtime to FSB Crime Laboratory Criminalists to conduct the initial examination and screening of the evidence for potential biological material, prepare the DNA samples to be shipped and conduct the DNA technical review required to determine whether the criteria are met for CODIS entry. The commercial laboratory will conduct the DNA analysis, issue a court-ready report and provide testimony in any future judicial proceedings.

The FSB is requesting funds in order to ensure compliance with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Quality Assurance Standards (QAS). The FSB will submit a request to the National Forensic Science Technology Center (NFSTC) to provide the required external QAS DNA audit in 2014. Also, each DNA analyst must fulfill annual continuing education requirements. Travel and registration funds are requested for FSB DNA analysts to satisfy these requirements by attending national conferences and participating in workshops.

The FSB Crime Laboratory has identified these goals for this project and has formulated a detailed plan to accomplish these goals. Ultimately, through funding from this award, the FSB Crime Laboratory will be able to increase its capacity to analyze DNA cases and reduce its backlog. This will generate more DNA profiles for CODIS entry which will provide aid in more investigations, thus contributing to the safety of Miami-Dade County's residents.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (FL)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0019
Award Amount: $383,030
Abstract: The Forensic Biology Unit (FBU) of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO) Crime Laboratory is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for over 28 municipalities, the school systems and assists local Federal agencies as needed. The function of the FBU is to conduct DNA analysis on crime scene evidence regardless of the offense.

The goal of reducing the existing forensic DNA casework backlog must be accomplished coincident with the reduction of the turnaround time for processing, recording, screening, and analyzing forensic DNA cases. The citizens of Palm Beach County have been and will continue to be provided with fully validated technologies and methodologies in forensic DNA analysis in order to provide the highest quality casework and prevent future DNA backlogs. The Federal funding from this award will help the laboratory increase and maintain capacity as well as help the laboratory implement a more streamlined workflow. This award will be specifically used for the following goals:

1. Decrease non-casework related activities through vendor contracts.
2. Increase and maintain the capacity of the Forensic Biology Unit.
3. Increase the efficiency of the CODIS Administrator by funding a casework position dedicated to creating and maintaining electronic casefiles for outsourced DNA cases, researching database matches, and analyzing data and compiling metrics.
4. Maintain continuing education for all analysts in the lab.

As a result of funding from this grant the PBSO Forensic Biology Unit expects to be able to continue its quest to reduce turn-around-time by increasing the focus time available for casework, added instrumentation, and increasing the analysis and review of the number of cases entered into CODIS. In turn, these actions will have the ultimate effect of reducing the number of cases currently on the laboratory's backlog.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Pinellas County (FL)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0030
Award Amount: $298,095
Abstract: The Pinellas County Forensic Lab (PCFL) provides laboratory services for the forensic analysis of evidence associated with criminal investigations and decedent identification for the law enforcement community and medical examiner's office operating within Pinellas County, Florida. PCFL maintains a full service casework DNA section within its operations.

PCFL is continuing to face significant budgetary constraints, which is coupled with an increasing DNA submission rate. Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Maintain minimal DNA backlogs by maintaining staffing levels.
2. Increase casework capacity by decreasing key bottlenecks in case analysis and management.
3. Maintain or increase current laboratory capabilities by purchasing supplies and services.
4. Increase casework capabilities by validating and implementing new technologies.

PCFL expect to analyze at least 225 additional cases (based upon casework supply funds (84) and casework performed by grant funded analysts (141) over the award period. The agency will maintain an average turnaround time of less than 45 days and maintain productivity levels for of each analyst of at least 60 items per month.

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FY14 Recipient Name: St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office (FL)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0008
Award Amount: $126,033
Abstract: The Indian River Crime Laboratory provides scientific and technical services to all state, county, federal and municipal law enforcement agencies within the 19th Judicial Circuit of Florida, and occasionally assists agencies outside the Circuit. The Laboratory is located in the city of Fort Pierce and covers a four county service area of 2,420 square miles which includes St. Lucie, Indian River, Okeechobee and Martin counties.

The Laboratory's budget is comprised of funds contributed by 12 law enforcement agencies located within the circuit. The extended economic downturn has forced public sector agencies to institute significant cuts to their budgets over the past few years which requires the Indian River Crime Laboratory to continue to anticipate possible reduced funding levels in the near future. Capital improvements such as the purchase of new instrumentation can put a laboratory's annual budget at risk due to the high cost outlay of the equipment.

In recent years the FBI has announced a timeline for instituting an expansion of the CODIS core loci required for databasing purposes. Currently the laboratory is performing casework on instrumentation that is between 5 and 15 years old. Manufacturers of emerging technology / chemistries have indicated that these instruments will need to be upgraded to accommodate the changes associated with the multiplexing of extra loci. With this in mind, the IRCL is proposing an incremental plan to prepare for the changes in the requirements of the industry. The IRCL is

requesting funds under this award to begin building the instrumental infrastructure to accommodate the upcoming expansion by completing the following goals:

1. Increase the capacity and capabilities of the Indian River Crime Laboratory by upgrading instrumentation.

2. Meet / maintain required annual continuing education for new and existing DNA analysts to meet the FBI DNA Quality Assurance Standards.

The IRCL is continually looking for ways to make the best use of its existing funding as well as further streamline processes to increase throughput, reduce the time of delivery of results to our service area and continue efforts to reduce/eliminate the DNA backlog.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0102
Award Amount: $2,189,324
Abstract: The GBI Division of Forensic Sciences is responsible for conducting DNA analysis for cases submitted by all state and local law enforcement in the State of Georgia. The major problems faced by the laboratory are insufficient state funding to support a staffing level necessary to address new casework analysis requests within 30 days of case submission and purchase of DNA analysis supplies.

The goals of this project are to maintain current casework analysis staffing levels in forensic biology, This award will be used to fund salary and benefits for 7 casework analysts, 5 casework technicians, and 2 validation scientists hired using prior year DNA Backlog awards. Funding will also be used to purchase supplies associated with DNA casework analysis. Mandatory continuing education for analysts will be funded.

The expected outcome of this project is that at least 1,271 cases (971 using grant funded supplies + 300 from grant funded analysts) will be analyzed in-house as a result of award funding. The average number of days to release a report to the submitting agency and the number of cases over 30 days old (backlog) will be decreased by the end of the award.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City and County of Honolulu (HI)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0028
Award Amount: $200,000
Abstract: The Honolulu Police Department's Scientific Investigation Section (HPD-SIS) maintains the only forensic DNA testing laboratory in the State of Hawaii. The section serves a county population of more than 900,000 and is staffed with four criminalists and three grant-funded criminalists. In addition to providing casework services, the unit is also responsible for the state's convicted offender DNA database. Although we are a county agency, we are often asked to assist other jurisdictions including federal agencies, branches of the military, and law enforcement agencies located in the Pacific Basin.

After years of hiring freezes, the HPD-SIS is starting to fill vacant, permanent positions. Unfortunately, due to the transient population of the state, attrition keeps the unit operating at a personnel deficit. The Federal funding from this award will be used toward the following goals:

1. Increase the capacity of the HPD-SIS's forensic biology laboratory
2. Provide supplementary, continuing education to junior staff

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FY14 Recipient Name: Iowa Department of Public Safety
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0097
Award Amount: $472,448
Abstract: The Iowa Department of Public Safety, Division of Criminal Investigation Crime Laboratory (Iowa DCI Crime Lab) is the agency that is responsible for analyzing evidential material that is associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies within the state of Iowa. The Code of the State of Iowa designates the Iowa DCI crime lab as the agency responsible for conducting DNA analysis on DNA samples collected from crime scenes as well as DNA samples collected from all individuals convicted of a felony, certain aggravated misdemeanors, and sexual offenses within the State of Iowa. The Iowa DCI crime lab is a single laboratory system.

The Iowa DCI crime lab is facing budgetary constraints due to the inability to replace staffing lost over the last five years. The Iowa DCI crime lab will also realize a significant increase the number of DNA database samples that will need to be analyzed due to the addition of certain aggravated misdemeanors.

The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog and increase capacity of forensic biology/DNA cases.
2. Increase capacity and capability in the databasing section.
3. Provide required Annual QAS Training for two DNA analysts.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Idaho State Police
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0094
Award Amount: $200,000
Abstract: Project Scope and Objectives
The scope of this project is to increase the analysis capacity and efficiency of the DNA lab, enhance the current DNA Database sample process capacity, and bolster the mixture interpretation capability of the laboratory.
The objectives are:

1. Increase the analysis capacity and efficiency of the DNA lab by each analyst having a microscope.
2. Improve the DNA Database analysis capacity by purchasing two FTA card punchers.
3. Bolster the mixture interpretation capability of the DNA laboratory.

Project Design and Methodology

Idaho State Police Forensic Services (ISPFS) will use the 2014 DNA funds to refine the DNA and DNA database programs. Laboratory management used previous grants to build capacity by purchasing instruments, implementing software, and validating new technologies. The strategic plan of the DNA section this year is to focus all efforts on process efficiency. The objectives written in this grant will adhere to that strategic plan by improving the capacity and quality of the DNA unit. ISPFS will accomplish the three outlined objectives as described below.

To meet objective #1, the laboratory will purchase a microscope for the DNA casework unit. Having multiple microscopes allows analysts to work independently and simultaneously without having to stop the process to wait their turn for a given piece of equipment. The laboratory currently has four DNA scientists working in the laboratory, and the additional microscope will allow each analyst to have their own microscope.

Objective #2 is for the laboratory to purchase two FTA punchers for the DNA database unit. The BSD-600 punch used by the laboratory has recently been discontinued and it is no longer possible to service or obtain parts to maintain. The laboratory needs to replace the BSD punch and add a second punch to maintain productivity in the DNA Database unit. The laboratory processed over 12,000 samples last year and the number of samples increases every year. The laboratory also employs three DNA database staff who run plates simultaneously and compete for punching time.

Objective #3 is to purchase commercially available mixture interpretation software. Mixture interpretation software provides a mathematical tool for deconvoluting and interpreting mixtures which removes much of the subjectivity currently involved. The DNA Technical Leader is currently evaluating which software suite is best for the laboratory. The laboratory will use grant funds to purchase the software for each analyst to use.

The objectives outlined will allow ISPFS to accomplish the goals of capacity enhancement, efficient operations, and quality standards. ISPFS is firmly committed to backlog elimination and capacity enhancement, and this grant will provide the required funds for those goals to be accomplished in Idaho.

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FY14 Recipient Name: DuPage County Sheriff's Office (IL)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0101
Award Amount: $225,000
Abstract: The DuPage County Forensic Science Center (DCFSC) analyzes DNA using STRs and Y-STRs. Many of the validations and much of the equipment needed for this technology has been supported through NIJ grants. DCFSC is under increasing regulatory scrutiny while demand for various DNA services also expands. This grant will reduce some of the pressure for case analysis by adding additional staff, providing supplies needed for additional casework, and funding continuing education mandated by regulatory standards. In addition, analysis procedures will be improved with the addition of new capabilities such as an improved Y-STR kit and DNA profile interpretation software.

Funding from this grant will be used for the following objectives:

- Employ one part-time analyst for the screening and analysis of DNA cases
- Fund overtime for two DNA analysts for casework and one analyst for grant management

- Hire part-time contractors to assist with quality control in order to meet accreditation and QAS standards
- Purchase supplies necessary for the validation of a Y-STR typing kit
- Purchase and validate STRmix, a fully continuous DNA profile interpretation software package
- Purchase consumable supplies necessary for the analysis of forensic casework samples
- Provide continuing education for each analyst to comply with FBI QAS requirements
- Renew subscriptions to DNA-specific journals
- Pay for the expenses of an audit team to conduct an external audit of the DNA section per QAS.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Illinois State Police
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0083
Award Amount: $2,564,645
Abstract: The Illinois State Police (ISP), Forensic Sciences Command is responsible for analyzing evidence associated with criminal investigations for approximately 1,200 criminal justice agencies located throughout the State of Illinois. The ISP forensic science laboratory system has six case working laboratories, a Research and Development Laboratory, and a Statewide Training Program. Each laboratory has a DNA section. The state's DNA indexing laboratory is also a part of the Illinois State Police, Springfield Forensic Science Laboratory.

The Illinois State Police is facing budgetary constraints. The federal funding from this award will be used with the goal of improving the forensic biology and DNA capacity and backlog at the Illinois State Police forensic laboratories by achieving the following performance targets:

1. Reducing the forensic biology and DNA case backlog
2. Reducing the turnaround time of forensic biology and DNA case backlog
3. Outsource cases to be analyzed by a private vendor.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Northeastern Illinois Regional Crime Laboratory
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0091
Award Amount: $320,580
Abstract: The Northeastern Illinois Regional Crime Laboratory is an intergovernmental laboratory that analyzes evidential material, including Biology/DNA analysis.

NIRCL is experiencing budgetary constraints. This is in spite of the great increase in the number of DNA submissions as well increased expectations of applying DNA analysis to a myriad of case types.

Funding will be used to address the following goals:

1. Decrease the backlog by reducing the turn-around time of DNA analysis
2. Increase DNA and Biology capacity by grant funded employees (GFE)
3. Provide required education for DNA analysts

4. Purchase small equipment to maintain case flow.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Indiana State Police
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0046
Award Amount: $737,159
Abstract: The Indiana State Police (ISP) is the agency that is responsible for analyzing evidentiary material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies within the state of Indiana with the exception of Indianapolis/Marion County. ISP maintains four regional laboratories - the Evansville, Fort Wayne, Indianapolis and Lowell Laboratories. Indiana Code designates the ISP as the agency responsible for conducting DNA analysis on DNA samples collected from all convicted felons in the state of Indiana; the ISP is responsible for storing and maintaining the resultant profiles in the Indiana DNA Database. The Indianapolis Regional Laboratory maintains the DNA Database Unit.

The ISP is facing budgetary constraints. State funds for overtime, equipment, supplies, training and contracts is non-existent or very limited. This has placed a burden on the Laboratory Division to maintain operations, The Federal funding from this award will help to alleviate this burden as well as assist in giving analysts more time and supplies to work forensic casework. This award will be specifically used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases.
2. Increase the capacity and capabilities of the ISP casework laboratories.
3. Maintain continuing education for all analysts in the lab.

The ISP expects to analyze at least 1000 forensic biology and DNA cases (200 with overtime and 800 with supplies) using funds from this grant. The lab also expects to reduce the casework turnaround to less than 40 days and increase the productivity of each analyst to 60 samples per month.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Indianapolis-Marion County Forensic Services Agency (IN)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0073
Award Amount: $579,196
Abstract: The Indianapolis-Marion County Forensic Services Agency, (I-MCFSA) is a local government agency, which provides Indianapolis, Marion County, State, and the Federal criminal justice system with forensic laboratory services. We provide prompt, accurate and quality forensic analysis on requests submitted by Public Safety agencies in the Criminal Justice System. The I-MCFSA performs scientific examinations of physical evidence pertaining to crimes occurring in the City of Indianapolis and the County of Marion. The laboratory also supports federal investigations in other Indiana Counties as part of joint investigation task forces originating in Marion County.

This laboratory is the first full service forensic laboratory in Indiana accredited in the ASCLD/LAB–International program, and the 35th laboratory accredited in the ASCLD/LAB-International program, worldwide. The accreditation consisted of a very comprehensive assessment in which every aspect of the laboratory's operation, to include the Crime Scene Unit,

and was carefully reviewed to include its management practices, evidence handling procedures, and laboratory security procedures.

The continued effort to eliminate an increase in violent crime includes the Indianapolis-Marion County Forensic Services Agency as an integral element within the various criminal justice and public safety agencies of Marion County and the City of Indianapolis. The reduction in violent crime continues to be an issue that several Marion County and City of Indianapolis government entities have attempted to address over the past several years, with 2014 being no different. The Indianapolis-Marion County Forensic Services Agency is a vital participant in the Criminal Justice System. The laboratory continues to pursue the goal of reducing the amount of time between submissions for requests of analysis to the point of case completion to a maximum of six weeks in all forensic disciplines.

A percentage of the success in reducing previous years' backlogs in various forensic disciplines within the laboratory is due to previous federal grant funds awarded by NIJ. If awarded, this project will continue to improve efficiency and assist in backlog reduction in our Biology Unit.

The I-MCFSA met requirements, from local government, to reduce approximately 5% of the operating budget, each year, for the previous seven years. The lab is currently operating on a budget that was in place in 2007. All overtime funds, the majority of costs associated with training, along with a significant reduction in supplies, equipment, and other 'services' were cut from the budget. These 'services' include maintenance agreements and contractual services associated with validation. The budgetary challenges we face directly impact the timely analysis of forensic evidence.

In addition to the budgetary challenges, the introduction of the Life Technologies 3500 genetic analyzer is inevitable due to the withdrawal of technical support of the 3130 genetic analyzer by Life Technologies at the end of 2018. The most efficient way to validate and bring this instrument on line would be to combine this process with the validation of the GlobalFiler (or similar) genetic analysis PCR kit. The introduction of the GlobalFiler genetic analysis PCR kit (or similar product) is inevitable due to the expansion of the CODIS core loci by the end of 2016. The best way to meet this challenge is to validate and bring on line the GlobalFiler kit by mid 2016. This target will leave sufficient time for any unforeseen result/problems during the validation process.

If awarded, funding will assist in providing the equipment, services and training needed, as well as assist in allowing more time for analysts to complete casework, validate new equipment, and the supplies to assist with both validation and analysis. This award will be specifically used for the following goals:

1. Reducing the forensic Biology/DNA case backlog.
2. Increase and maintain the capacity and capabilities of the Biology Unit casework through the required equipment upgrade.
3. Maintain continuing education for laboratory employees as it pertains to the Biology Unit and to complete the external DNA audit.

With funding, the laboratory expects to analyze at least 209 forensic biology and DNA cases. This grant award will greatly assist the laboratory as we continue to strive for a six week turn around time for all laboratory cases, to include Biology (Serology/DNA) casework.
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FY14 Recipient Name: Johnson County (KS)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0104
Award Amount: $118,000
Abstract: The Johnson County Sheriff's Office Criminalistics Laboratory (JCCL) is the agency responsible for analyzing evidentiary materials associated with criminal investigations for all local law enforcement agencies and medical examiners within the county of Johnson in Kansas. The Biology section of the laboratory performs STR and Y-STR DNA analysis methods on forensic casework samples. All CODIS eligible DNA profiles generated by JCCL are uploaded into NDIS.

The Biology section of the Johnson County Sheriff's Office Criminalistics Laboratory (JCCL) consists of eight fully trained Forensic Scientists and one (FS) in training capable of performing biological screening and DNA analyses. The Biology section supervisor/DNA Technical Leader spends the majority of their time performing duties other than casework. In 2009, the request for services in the Biology section reached a peak. There was a significant upward trend in requests for biology screening and DNA analysis services in prior years. However, the incoming requests were greater than our output capacity. This resulted in increases in case backlogs and turnaround times. The biology and DNA submissions were increasing by approximately one thousand requests per year due to several factors: advances in DNA technology, increased sensitivity of detection, prevalence of "touch" DNA, and the "CSI effect". In 2010, the JCCL implemented new DNA submission guidelines for the following reasons: better management of the supply line of evidence coming from our customers and enforcement of the standards for evidence acceptance. This alone had a significant impact on reducing the backlog and turnaround time because the number of submissions declined rapidly by the end of 2012; however, by the end of 2013 requests for biology and DNA examinations have increased.

The number of biology items examined steadily increased from 2006 through 2008. In 2009, the number of biology items examined decreased due to the resignation of one fully trained (grant funded) scientist and the training of two new Forensic Scientists. In 2010, productivity bounced back upward due to the grant funding for additional staff (up to three FTE's), automation, and instrument upgrades. In 2013, the Biology section's output capacity was 2041 items for biology screening and 2192 DNA samples. This level of productivity is slightly less than the total number of biology submissions (2382) in 2013.

The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goal and objectives:
Goal:

1. Retain three fully trained Forensic Scientists in the Biology section with this grant funding. This funding will be used to pay the salary and benefits only for these three positions.

Objectives:

1. Maintain or increase current productivity levels in biology screening and DNA analysis.
2. Maintain or reduce the biology screening and DNA item backlogs and turnaround times.
3. Focus on reducing part I UCR violent crime DNA backlogs.

The JCCL can expect to reduce the DNA backlog by at least 81 cases and the biology processing backlog by 81 cases with funding of these three positions for 22 weeks. Performance measurement data will be collected and reported primarily with data obtained from the JCCL LIMS.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Kansas Bureau of Investigation
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0108
Award Amount: $477,918
Abstract: The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) Forensic Laboratory is the agency that is responsible for the analysis of evidentiary samples from possible crimes for all state and local law enforcement agencies and medical examiners offices within the state of Kansas. The KBI has four laboratories within the system three of which conduct DNA testing. The three laboratories conducting DNA testing are Great Bend (West Region Laboratory); Topeka (headquarters), and Kansas City. The KBI laboratory in Topeka also houses the Databank Laboratory.

The State of Kansas recently approved the design and construction of a 100,000 sq. ft. Forensic Science Center on the campus of Washburn University in Topeka, KS. Construction began on this state of the art facility in May 2014 with an anticipated completion date of October 2015. The new laboratory will provide enhanced capabilities while allowing for growth to meet the demand of the evidence submissions. This facility will also provide conference/consult rooms, training areas and office space for staff and students. Approximately 12,000 sq. ft. of shared educational space will allow Washburn University to closely collaborate with the KBI on research, teaching and training opportunities while preparing future scientists for the forensic science workforce.

The KBI Biology section of the Forensic Laboratory currently has eleven qualified DNA scientists, an increase of four DNA scientists in the section. The laboratory lost one qualified DNA scientist in March 2014. Two of the qualified DNA scientists also serve as supervisors and one of the supervisors is also the DNA technical leader. Four scientists are completing training in DNA analysis with an expected completion time of September 2014. All three casework laboratories are facing significant backlogs of screening and DNA cases.

Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals.

1. To continue funding for salary and benefits for a Forensic Scientist II in the Kansas City Laboratory and a part-time Laboratory Technician for the Great Bend Laboratory. These positions are currently funded by the FY2012 and FY 2013 DNA Backlog Reduction grants.
2. Provide training and the required continuing education for four of the analysts.
3. Purchase refrigerators and freezers with monitoring capability for the Biology department in the new KBI Laboratory.

4. Purchase three new Mideo™ camera units for the three additional shakedown rooms gained in the new KBI Laboratory.
5. Purchase a SMART board for the Biology conference room in the new KBI Laboratory for meetings and training.
6. Purchase eight centrifuges for the Biology section in the new KBI Laboratory for the increase in laboratory workbenches and extraction room workbenches.
7. Purchase an ABI 3500 HID Genetic Analyzer 8-capillary from Life Technologies for DNA casework.
8. Purchase three Crime-Lites™ with IR capability for the three additional shakedown rooms acquired in the new KBI Forensic Laboratory.
9. Purchase fifteen computers with Microsoft Office software for the new KBI Laboratory to equip the increased number of laboratory workbenches, reagent preparation area, office desks, and CODIS workstations.
10. Purchase a 9700 Thermalcycler for the amplification room to increase the number of instruments for scientists to alleviate wait times for equipment.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Commonwealth of Kentucky
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0039
Award Amount: $567,963
Abstract: The Kentucky State Police Forensic Laboratories (KSPFL) has continued to provide DNA analysis to the Commonwealth of Kentucky since 1989. During this period of 25 years many technological advances have occurred in DNA analysis. Along with these technological advances, procedural changes have been implemented within the KSPFL to accommodate the ever advancing science of DNA analysis. First, current evaluations have identified that the casework section is in need of an additional thermocycler instrument. Second, is a lack of additional analytical time dedicated to processing cases in the casework section. Submissions that request DNA analysis are increasing and are being requested in a wider variety of case types. This trend leads to larger backlogs and longer turn around times (TAT). Third, is a continued need to purchase reagents utilized in DNA analysis in both the casework and database sections. Fourth, is analysts need to attend workshops and training to stay abreast of new advances and techniques in the forensic biology field as the topics relate to both casework and database.

By providing high throughput procedures, overtime (OT) hours, supplies, and training opportunities the Kentucky State Police Forensic Laboratory Casework and Database section anticipates that the TAT will decrease along with the number of backlogged cases.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Louisiana State Police
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0071
Award Amount: $1,331,847
Abstract: Louisiana has six active accredited crime laboratories at this submission that are currently performing DNA analysis: the Louisiana State Police Crime Laboratory (LSPCL), Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office Regional DNA Laboratory (JPSO), North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory (NLCL), Acadiana Crime Laboratory (ACL), Southwest Louisiana Crime Laboratory (SWCL), and St. Tammany Parish Coroner's Office (STPCO). All six labs are fully accredited and maintain their individual accreditation. Each lab undergoes a stringent

external audit every two years to maintain their accreditation. All six labs are equipped and currently perform forensic DNA casework. All DNA analyses performed under this program are maintained in each respective lab as mandated by the federal privacy regulations. The LSPCL is the only lab that uploads all eligible DNA profiles into NDIS. All labs participating in this grant solicitation send their eligible profiles to LSPCL CODIS Unit for upload into the NDIS system.

The entire state of Louisiana and all of the crime labs within it are facing stricter budgets. This could potentially reduce funding for staff, supplies, equipment, service contracts for new equipment and valuable training. Although backlogs of DNA cases have decreased, backlogs of forensic DNA cases in Louisiana still exist. Additionally, according to the UCR 2012 statistics, Louisiana remains as one of the highest states in violent crimes per 100,000 inhabitants. To provide the maximum assistance to the crime fighting agencies, Louisiana crime laboratories must maintain and exceed their current level of funding support. The goals of the projects funded by this grant are:

1. Reduce or maintain forensic and database DNA case/sample turnaround time,
2. Increase the throughput of current public DNA laboratories,
3. Reduce forensic and database DNA backlogged cases,
4. Increase knowledge of staff in current and future technologies to enhance the capabilities of the laboratories.

Adding additional analysts will increase a laboratory's capacity and decrease the time to completion of casework samples. Likewise, technicians allow for the less technical duties to be completed by staff who can be readily trained to screen evidence and complete quality control duties. This frees DNA analysts to focus on the steps of DNA analysis and interpretation, which requires a more experienced analyst. By applying the analysts' time to casework, a higher productivity is obtained and hence the forensic case turn-around-time is reduced, as well as the backlog is attacked. Continuing education is critical to maintaining a high level of quality of DNA analysis. Training is essential in fully equipping the DNA analysts to stay abreast of current technologies and practices and to perform at the highest level possible.

Providing additional equipment, supplies, and replacing aging equipment will allow these agencies to increase their capacity and decrease the backlog. This allows the laboratories to become poised to complete the number of requests that are submitted in a timely fashion. The ultimate goal is for all laboratories within the State of Louisiana to be providing real time support to investigating agencies. As a State we expect there to be a decrease in the laboratory backlogs, a decrease in sample turnaround times, and a higher laboratory throughput to better service the law enforcement agencies.

In the 2014 solicitation allocation table, the state of Louisiana is estimated to receive an aggregate amount of $1,334,847. It is our intent to share these funds corporately among the six accredited public laboratories performing DNA analysis in Louisiana. Our anticipated breakdown is as follows:

- Louisiana State Police Crime Laboratory - $550,628
- Jefferson Parish Sherriff’s Office Regional DNA Lab - $110,596

- North Louisiana Crime Laboratory - $328,259
- Acadiana Criminalistics Laboratory - $142,383
- Southwest Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory - $100,000
- St. Tammany Parish Coroner's Office - $100,000

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Boston (MA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0070
Award Amount: $306,731
Abstract: As part of the Boston Police Departments (BPD) Crime Laboratory's overall plan to meet its goals and objectives outlined in this application, it is critical for the lab to continue utilizing the funds provided by the National Institute of Justice, for the purpose of supporting the work being done by the Criminalistics criminalist and the DNA criminalist positions thus allowing us to meet the caseload demands in 2014 through 2016 and work to further reduce the backlog of cases.

The ability of the department to maintain these positions will aid the BPD in achieving the goals of this program; Reducing the backlog of forensic biology cases, maintaining high quality forensic services, and increasing the capacity of the lab.

Utilizing these funds to fund casework overtime for currently trained and caseworking analysts in the laboratory will also assist with backlog reduction by allowing for an increase in productivity by the full time analysts, and in funding validation overtime will allow the laboratory to address ever increasing demands on the DNA Section for new instrumentation and testing systems.

The use of funds to offer expanded services through outsourcing for male specific testing will help to reduce the backlog by allowing the case managers in the laboratory to focus testing efforts on the most probative samples in a given case, rather than attempting traditional DNA testing on additional samples using DNA tests offered at the Boston Police Department only.

Lastly, the BPD plans to utilize the funds made available through this application to further support the growing demands of the continuing education needs of the DNA support staff by providing reimbursement for costs associated with registration and travel to specifically identified trainings.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Massachusetts State Police
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0049
Award Amount: $1,263,029
Abstract: The Massachusetts State Police Forensic Services Group (FSG) is the agency responsible for analyzing evidentiary material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies within the state of Massachusetts, with the exception of the city of Boston. The city of Boston has a forensic laboratory to address the needs of the city.

The FSG has several satellite laboratories but all DNA analysis is conducted at the main laboratory in Maynard, MA. The FSG is the agency responsible for performing DNA analysis

on all convicted offender samples for the state. The FSG is responsible for storing and maintaining the DNA profiles in SDIS.

The FSG continues to face budgetary constraints and the federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases
2. Update critical equipment in the Forensic Biology Unit
3. Purchase supplies for DNA analysis
4. Maintain and improve current laboratory systems
5. Provide required continuing education to all DNA analysts

The FSG expects to reduce the DNA caseworking backlog by outsourcing 385 samples and by 112 cases completed by in house testing by the end of the grant period.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0068
Award Amount: $132,676
Abstract: A grant award under the FY14 DNA Backlog Reduction Program would support ongoing capacity increases in the Forensic Biology/DNA Unit of the Anne Arundel County Police Department Crime Laboratory. Enhanced productivity (case output) and efficiency is expected to reduce the existing case backlog thereby decreasing the overall turnaround times for newly submitted Forensic Biology cases through the following objectives:

i) Retention of full-time W-2 temporary grant-funded Biology/DNA analyst via salary funding to perform independent DNA casework analyses.
ii) Funding for overtime (approximately 437 hours over the award period) for the DNA unit.
iv) Purchase of laboratory equipment (UV lights for serology screening of DNA cases, microscope with camera and monitor, pipettes, thermal cycler).
iv) Purchase of laboratory consumables (pipette tips, etc.) for the DNA unit.

First, this award would fund the (W-2 FTE Chemist II under temporary County contract) forensic analyst to conduct in-house Biology/DNA casework. This individual will be directly involved in the handling and analysis of forensic cases submitted to the Biology/DNA Unit. As an NDIS-participating laboratory, the individual is also responsible for the data entry and/or reviewing of eligible DNA profile data from that casework into CODIS as applicable. The scope of this position also involves peer reviewing Unit case files, participation in quality assurance and control duties both in the Unit and Lab wide as needed, and providing expert witness testimony. Other duties as assigned may also be performed.

Secondly, funding for approximately 437 overtime hours for the DNA unit would assist in backlog reduction in that at least 80 additional cases would be completed over the award period. 437 hours of overtime would correlate to about 9 hours per analyst per month for the award period.

New equipment is necessary. A new UV screening light is needed to serology/DNA cases. The old light is very weak and is not expected to function much longer. A new microscope with camera and monitor will allow specimen searches on DNA evidence with more accuracy. New pipettes are required for the DNA lab. A new thermal cycler is needed to replace one that has malfunctioned and is not out of service.

Lastly, some laboratory consumables, such as pipette tips, will be needed for the DNA unit to perform DNA analysis duties. An additional grant funded position as well as overtime hours for the DNA unit would result in the need for additional consumables.

These requests are critical to addressing the current case submissions levels for the Unit to meet or exceed adequate turnaround times for trial date deadlines and to manage the backlog. In the absence of this analyst position and overtime hours, the backlog will spike severely resulting in missed court dates within a very short period of time (<6mos). The position is expected to result in more than 50% of the Unit's case output in one year (>240 cases) with additional case output anticipated with the overtime hours available to the DNA unit. As such, the backlog can be expected to vastly decrease over the award period.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Baltimore County (MD)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0038
Award Amount: $243,294
Abstract: The Baltimore County Police Department - Forensic Services Section's (BCoPD-FSS) Biology Unit is a unit of local government of Baltimore County, Maryland that is responsible for analyzing evidentiary materials associated with criminal investigations conducted by the Baltimore County Police Department. The BCoPD maintains a memorandum of understanding with the Maryland State Police Department for CODIS entry.

Budgetary constraints preclude BCoPD from increasing the capacity and efficiency of the DNA laboratory. Federal funding under this award will be used: (1) to increase the capacity and efficiency of the BCoPD-FSS DNA casework laboratory in order to significantly reduce existing backlogs and mitigate future backlogs, improve turnaround time and increase throughput with the purchase of upgraded and additional equipment needed to support and improve DNA laboratory operations, procurement of calibration and external audit services, and installation of software upgrades for current equipment; (2) to install new DNA case management modules to decrease the time spent on administrative tasks and improve the workflow efficiency, and; (3) to further develop staff abilities by providing continuing education opportunities and training to existing and new DNA analysts.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Baltimore (MD)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0077
Award Amount: $513,548
Abstract: The Baltimore Police Department, Crime Laboratory (BPD-CL) is the agency section responsible for analyzing material evidence associated with criminal investigations for all local law enforcement agencies within the City of Baltimore, performing, among other disciplines,

serology screening with autosomal and YSTR DNA casework analysis. The City of Baltimore is facing budgetary constraints and State licensing requirements through the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene as well as new accreditation standards following their successful International Accreditation through Forensic Quality Services. This will increase the documentation and regulation required for all sample analysis. The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Continue to work toward the elimination of the forensic DNA case backlog through analyst overtime, maintaining grant funded Criminalists, and responsive outsourcing Serology and DNA casework. Continue to decrease the turnaround time for these analyses in response to the decrease in backlogged requests.
2. Sustaining laboratory processing and turnaround times by retaining the unit evidence technician. By eliminating time needed for evidence transport and management as an analyst responsibility, the unit has made strides in casework processing. Retention of the technician is critical to this effort.
3. Purchase of an additional set of multi-channel and repeater pipettes to assist with increasing efficiency of plate load times. Purchase of a intermediary statistical analysis software for use on moderately complex mixtures.

The BPD-CL can expect to reduce the DNA case backlog by at least 463 cases (448 in-house overtime technical and administrative review only and 15 outsourced) by the end of the award period. The turnaround time for new cases is expected to be reduced as the backlog is further reduced.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Maryland State Police
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0042
Award Amount: $347,703
Abstract: The Maryland State Police Forensic Sciences Division (MSP-FSD) requests funds under the 2014 DNA Backlog Reduction Program with the goal of focusing on DNA casework in an effort to continue to reduce existing backlogs and prevent future backlog build up while at the same time sustain/improve turn around time.

MSP-FSD has been very successful in the implementation of a long term project to control, significantly reduce and eventually eliminate the DNA casework backlog. This project is based on an approach that combines the use of in-house outsourcing and agency direct outsourcing of casework as well as a tier approach and other streamlining techniques to improve the in-house operations. MSP-FSD's goal is to keep utilizing these techniques and therefore the requested funds are geared towards continuing this proven to be successful methods of addressing the casework backlog.

The federal funding from this award will be used for the following specific goals:

Goal 1: Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases by outsourcing.
Goal 2: Maintain current laboratory capabilities and improve operations while preparing for the incorporation of the expanded CODIS Core loci panel by purchasing a new genetic analyzer and with purchase of new hardware.

Goal 3: Provide required continuing education

MSP-FSD expects to analyze casework by outsourcing 103 DNA cases.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Montgomery County (MD)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0051
Award Amount: $108,984
Abstract: The Montgomery County Police Crime Laboratory, Forensic Biology Unit (MCPCL FBU) is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations handled by the Montgomery County Police Department. As a courtesy, the MCPCL FBU performs the same analyses on evidential material for the following other agencies in Montgomery County: Takoma Park Police Department, Gaithersburg City Police Department, Rockville City Police Department, Montgomery County Park Police Department and Metro Transit Police Department. The MCPCL FBU consists of 3 full-time, fully trained analysts, a Technical Leader and one forensic specialist.

The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the forensic DNA case backlog by increasing the DNA sample throughput and reducing the turnaround time.

This goal will be achieved by the following: purchase of equipment and funding for outsourcing casework. A vortexer and balance are being requested to outfit additional areas of our new lab space to allow for greater functionality. In addition, a Crime-Lite ML2 Body with white, IR and blue light options attached to a computer and camera from Foster and Freeman is requested. This instrument will provide a hands free alternate light source capability to the analysts to search for body fluids, especially blood on dark items. The camera will allow documentation for our case files which will be key when tiny amounts of blood are noted using IR light on dark items. Searching for tiny of amounts of blood on dark items currently takes a significant amount of time for each analyst. This lite should speed up the process and provide a better approach in searching items of evidence. Funding is also being requested for outsourcing casework to Bode Technology. We currently have an outsourcing contract in place with Bode Technology to assist with our increasing backlog. In the fall of 2013, 2 analysts left the Biology Unit which left only 3 analysts, one technician and a Technical Leader. The lab director also resigned in the fall of 2013 so the Technical Leader of the Unit moved into a temporary assignment as the lab director until her maternity leave started in January 2014. As a result of this move and maternity leave, one of the analysts was moved to fill the Technical Leader position leaving only 2 analysts working casework.

2. Provide required continuing education for casework analysts.

This goal will be achieved by providing the necessary funding for analysts to attend 2015 Annual MAAFS meeting and 2014 Annual DNA and Investigators Workshop Bode Mid-Atlantic to meet the continuing education requirements.

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FY14 Recipient Name: State of Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0078
Award Amount: $274,536
Abstract: The Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention is the State Administering Agency for Maryland. GOCCP does not have a lab, so we will be providing a sub-award to the Prince George's County Police Department DNA Laboratory.

The Prince George's County DNA Laboratory is an ASCLD/LAB accredited laboratory (Cert# 353) that serves a population of approximately 881,138 individuals (according to the Census Bureau data). The laboratory is responsible for receiving, analyzing and reporting and storing evidence received form any submitted forensic casework in the County. Three analysts recently resigned which resulted in a tremendous workload output reduction. Similarly, there has been an increase in the workload of the remaining analysts. Personnel reductions coupled with restricted funding for the laboratory has impacted our ability to maintain our previous years output. While the laboratory has improved on streamlining the submissions policies and intake procedures, staffing shortages of analysts and a lack of technicians have increased workload for the remaining personnel. This includes tasks outside of casework analysts such as filing, preparing reagents, researching cases, screening cases, monitoring and maintaining instruments, as well as retrieving evidence directly from evidence storage.

With all of these issues and the possibility of further reduction in staffing, the requested federal funding will be used to achieve the following goals:

Goal 1-Reduce the backlog of cases

Goal 2-Reduce in-house analysis turnaround time.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Maine State Police
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0058
Award Amount: $200,000
Abstract: The Maine State Police Crime Laboratory is the state agency that is responsible for analyzing evidence associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies within the State of Maine. We are the only full-service laboratory in Maine. Maine State law requires our state laboratory to be responsible for conducting DNA analysis on DNA database samples collected from all convicted felony and some misdemeanor offenders in the State of Maine; the Maine State Police Crime Laboratory is responsible for storing and maintaining the resultant profiles in the Maine DNA Data Bank.

The Maine State Police Crime Laboratory faces budgetary constraints which limits our ability to hire additional state-funded staff. However, in the past few years we have been able to significantly reduce casework backlogs with grant-funded analysts. We desire to continue with this success that would not be possible without the grant funds. We propose to support the continued salary of trained, skilled grant-funded DNA analysts.

Additionally, we have made huge strides in database backlog reduction. With DNA Backlog Reduction Program funds we outsourced our entire database backlog and renovated space to

create an in-house CODIS unit. Current state-funded staff are now able to keep up with new database samples. Whereas we have satisfied the needs of our databasing program we propose to use funds to further reduce casework backlogs. The area of need is at the stage of screening. We propose to hire and train a forensic chemist to process, record, and screen items for biological evidence for DNA testing.

Therefore, our proposal is to use the federal funding from the FY14 award to:

1. Continue casework capacity enhancement of the laboratory by continuing to employ one full-time DNA analyst, one part-time DNA analyst at 28 hours per week, and hire one full-time Forensic Chemist I.

The goal of the Maine State Police Crime Laboratory is for the grant-funded screening chemist and DNA analysts to complete at least 255 DNA cases by the end of the award period. These cases would not be completed without this funding.

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FY14 Recipient Name: State of Michigan
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0059
Award Amount: $2,616,286
Abstract: The Michigan State Police requests FY 2014 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program funding to assist the Forensic Science Division (FSD) in reducing the statewide backlog of DNA casework awaiting analysis and to increase the capacity of its DNA and Database laboratories. The requested funding will be used to: (1) continue payroll support for laboratory personnel; (2) provide limited overtime for backlog reduction; (3) provide continuing education to laboratory personnel; (4) purchase DNA database collection kits; (5) outsourcing of case work; (6) purchase eight thermal cyclers; (7) purchase two robotic platforms; (8) purchase hardware for implementation of the new DNA LIMS system.

DNA analysis conducted under this program will be maintained pursuant to all applicable federal privacy requirements. All eligible profiles obtained with funding from this program will be entered into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) and uploaded to the National DNA Index System (NDIS), when applicable. Participating laboratories will follow the NDIS DNA Data Acceptance Standards for all profiles uploaded to NDIS.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Hennepin County (MN)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0123
Award Amount: $100,000
Abstract: The HCSO lab proposes to purchase a 3500 Genetic Analyzer with funds from this award. This will allow the lab to upgrade from our existing two 4 capillary instruments into one 8 capillary instrument. Although the overall number of capillaries available for processing has not increased, it is projected this will be a savings in time required to complete the CE portion of the DNA analysis process by eliminating instrument maintenance and downtime.

Additionally, the 3500 Genetic Analyzer is able to utilize six color channels which will allow the lab to validate anyone of the expanded marker DNA STR kits that are on the market. Since NDIS

has stated their intention to require additional markers for CODIS eligible samples in the near future, the lab should begin acquiring the necessary technology at this time.

The lab will use a portion of this award to provide continuing education at a forensic DNA seminar for one lab scientist.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Minnesota Department of Public Safety
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0106
Award Amount: $623,290
Abstract: The BCA FSS is part of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, providing forensic services to over 500 local law enforcement agencies within the state as well as State and Federal agencies. The BCA FSS is also the laboratory responsible for receiving and analyzing all convicted offender samples and maintaining the DNA database.

Our agency continues to see a steady increase in the number of casework submissions requesting DNA analysis each year. The number of DNA case submissions have increased 6% and 8% in each of the last two years and a total of 35% in the last three years. Although we did receive some additional funding for personnel from the State Legislature in FY14, those positions were earmarked for in the Drug Chemistry and Toxicology sections of the Laboratory. There has been no state legislation that would increase resources to be used in the DNA discipline.

The 2014 BCA FSS DNA Backlog Reduction program will continue to utilize many of the same overall strategies used in previous grant cycles to reduce the backlog of DNA cases. For the past several years, we have utilized a portion of each DNA Backlog Reduction grant to increase capacity through the purchase of automated liquid handing systems, DNA extraction robots, and upgrades to our genetic analyzers to increase the number of capillaries available for analysis. We are now at a point where we feel that further increases to our capacity would have diminishing returns. Therefore, in this program, we will limit our capacity enhancement to the purchase of only one additional RT PRC instrument and the replacement of thermocyclyers that are nearing the end of their life cycle.

The 2014 BCA DNA Backlog Reduction program will focus more heavily on providing funding for the supplies needed to perform analysis on the estimated 7,000 cases that will be submitted for DNA testing in the two year grant period. The program will also seek to increase the number of hours that trained DNA scientists are available to work on backlogged cases by providing funding for overtime and to fund a support position whose job duties include reagent preparation, quality control checks, and participation in validation studies.

We are also are seeking to improve the quality of examination by providing funding for educational opportunities for scientific staff.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Missouri Board of Police Commissioners (MO)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0113
Award Amount: $423,345
Abstract: The Kansas City Police Crime Laboratory (KCPCL) has experienced tremendous success with prior NIJ DNA backlog reduction grants, and will no doubt continue this success with the FY2014 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program grant. The primary goal for the use of funding provided by this grant is to reduce the backlog of cases awaiting DNA testing. A secondary goal will be an effort to reduce the TAT of violent and non-violent crimes cases by 5% each.

Funding from this grant primarily focuses on the retention of grant funded personnel previously hired and trained under prior grant awards. The above goals of a reduction in backlog and an effort to reduce TAT will be met through the continued efforts of these staff in the processing of cases with requests for biological evidence screening and subsequent DNA analysis. Staff funded under this grant reflect one full time biological evidence screener, one full time DNA analyst and two full time technicians. These individuals will complete cases that otherwise would not have been completed without this funding thereby reducing the backlog.

Funds will also be directed towards overtime monies to be used to address the aforementioned goals. Specific batches of cases will be processed from biological screening through DNA analysis solely on overtime funds. These cases will reflect a subset of the backlog that would not otherwise have been completed without this funding thereby reducing the backlog.

Additionally, two capacity enhancements will be addressed through these grant funds. Modifications will be requested to the DNA Batching Software which is a component of the LIMS system. These modifications entail upgrading the application for use with next generation quantitation and amplification kits. The second enhancement entails acquiring a new CODIS server as the current server is nearing the end of its recommended life expectancy.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Missouri State Highway Patrol (MO)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0120
Award Amount: $580,640
Abstract: The Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) Crime laboratory provides PCR-STR DNA analysis on samples from crime scene evidence without cost to all law enforcement agencies within Missouri. The need for DNA analysis continues to increase at a rate greater than present funding and resources support. Our goal is to improve turnaround time, decrease backlogs and increase throughput.

The MSHP Laboratory's portion of Missouri available funds for 2012 for Part A. was calculated to be $585,393. This amount is based on the Highway Patrol's portion (10,126 = 37.8%) of the State's 26,784 UCR, Part 1 violent crimes reported to the FBI in 2012.

As recommended by the grant solicitation, the funding was adjusted to allow St. Charles County Sheriff's Department to apply for the minimum $100,000. In an agreement with the Missouri Association of Crime Laboratory Directors, St. Charles Co. would apply for $80,000.

Accordingly, The Missouri State Highway Patrol Crime Laboratory portion of the $1,581,524 was adjusted to $580,640.00.

The Laboratory will use the awarded funds to purchase DNA reagents, supplies and amplification kits, cover our annual maintenance agreements for STaCS DNA, fund salaries and benefits for additional employees and fund training and travel to various conferences and workshops.

It is expected that once implemented, these improvements will increase throughput (samples per analyst per month), decrease backlogs, and reduce average turnaround.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Saint Charles County (MO)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0081
Award Amount: $80,000
Abstract: The St. Charles County Sheriff's Department Criminalistics Laboratory (SCCSDCL) provides forensic DNA analysis services to the law enforcement community of St. Charles County Missouri. The SCCSDCL has seen an increase in DNA evidence submitted as DNA evidence continues to be more prevalent and valuable to criminal investigators. As a result, the SCCSDCL is committed to using efficient and reliable supplies and methodologies to analyze the varied forensic DNA samples submitted. Funding analyst overtime is a proven way for the SCCSDCL to reduce its DNA backlog and improve the timeliness of forensic DNA testing it provides.

The SCCSDCL will use its portion ($80,000) of the FY14 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program to enhance its DNA testing capacity and reduce its DNA backlog by providing overtime for analysts and purchasing DNA testing supplies. The SCCSDCL anticipates working 400 additional DNA cases during the program period as a result of program funding. The two major goals of this program are:

1) Reduce the DNA backlog by 10% through analyst overtime and the purchase of supplies.
2) Reduce the turnaround time to less than 250 days by funding analyst overtime.

Achievement of these goals will increase the overall productivity and efficiency of the SCCSDCL - positively impacting the investigations and prosecutions of all laboratory cases, especially those with DNA evidence. This program will also strengthen the SCCSDCL's commitment to the law enforcement agencies it serves.

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FY14 Recipient Name: St. Louis County (MO)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0087
Award Amount: $172,810
Abstract: An important objective of the St. Louis County Police Crime Laboratory is to provide more efficient processing to reduce or at least maintain turn-around-time and increase the number of forensic DNA samples processed. The Laboratory serves more than one million citizens and provides services to the St. Louis County Police Department, as well as 90 municipalities, 56 of which have their own police departments.

The Biology/DNA Unit within the Crime Laboratory has seen a significant increase in the number of samples submitted for biological screening and DNA analysis each year due to the success of obtaining profiles from samples which would previously have not been submitted to the laboratory.

Grant funding provided by the 2014 DNA Backlog Reduction Program will be used to maintain two full-time biologist positions and a DNA technician position. By maintaining the two biologists and DNA technician with grant funding, the DNA analysts will be able to work full-time performing DNA analysis.

The St. Louis County Crime Laboratory expects to complete approximately 900 additional cases over the award period of 24 months than would be possible without grant funding. The laboratory expects to maintain at least an average of 50 DNA samples per analyst/per month.

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FY14 Recipient Name: St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department (MO)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0082
Award Amount: $324,729
Abstract: 2014-91033-MO-DN Federal Assistance Funding Requested for is $324,729. The St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department Crime Laboratory (SLMPD) has a backlog of cases at the DNA analysis level that could be partially alleviated by continuing to hire part and full time DNA analysts. The SLMPD is requesting $324,729 from the DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Grant FY2014, the money allocated to them from the total allocated to the state of Missouri. The overall goals and objectives of this program will be to reduce the number of untested forensic casework samples, to enter eligible profiles into CODIS and obtain hits, and to prosecute the suspects. This will be accomplished by continuing to hire 1 part-time and 3 full-time grant-funded employees. By increasing throughput and creating a more efficient laboratory, it is expected that at least 324 cases will undergo biological screening, DNA analysis where appropriate, upload of eligible profiles into CODIS when obtained, and prosecution of suspects.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Mississippi Department of Public Safety
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0110
Award Amount: $453,462
Abstract: The Mississippi Crime Laboratory System, an ASCLD/LAB, ISO 17025 accredited system, consists of a central full-service laboratory in Jackson and three regional labs located in Batesville, Meridian and the Gulf Coast. The mission of the laboratory is to provide a full range of forensic services to law enforcement agencies in the state by performing testing activities that meet the stringent requirements of the International Standard ISO17025 and satisfy the needs of the customer.

The Mississippi Crime Laboratory (MCL) faces the challenge of providing essential forensic services to the criminal justice system of the state in a time of reduced budgets and increasing crime. At the present time, all DNA analysis, are performed in the Jackson Laboratory. The regional laboratories receive evidence from agencies in their region and provide weekly courier

service to the main lab for evidence requiring examinations not available at the branch lab. Conventional Serological Examinations have been added to the services provided by the three regional laboratories, the Meridian, Batesville and Gulf Coast laboratories. Currently all DNA database samples are being outsourced using Federal funding for DNA database sample testing assistance. Because of space limitations and lack of equipment in-house DNA database sample testing has not been possible in the MCL system. However, the new laboratory is under construction with adequate space planned for DNA database sample testing. The new laboratory was projected to be complete in the spring of 2014, however, there have been significant construction delays.

The primary goal of this project is to develop the capacity of the MCL DNA laboratory to analyze database samples in-house. The capabilities of the laboratory must be enhanced by increasing the staff of the DNA Database Unit of the MCL Bioscience Section by two additional staff and by the acquisition, installation and validation of the instrumentation required to perform large scale processing of database samples efficiently.

The second goal is to provide the required continuing education for existing MCL DNA staff.

The third goal is to outsource database samples that are submitted before the in-house processing can begin, as there will necessarily be a significant time required for the database laboratory to become operational, review the profiles produced by the contract lab and enter all eligible profiles into CODIS and where applicable upload to NDIS.

The fourth goal is to continue to assist the Department of Correction in the sample collection process by purchasing
Convicted Offender Buccal Swab Collection Kits and providing training for the collectors as needed.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Montana Department of Justice
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0109
Award Amount: $200,000
Abstract: The Montana Department of Justice Forensic Services Division (MT DOJ FSD) is the agency responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies and medical examiners within the state of Montana. Montana Code Annotated 44-6-102 designates the MT DOJ FSD Laboratory to conduct analysis of DNA database samples collected from all convicted felons.

Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce casework turnaround times by implementation of lean six sigma business efficiency practices.
2. Increase the capacity and throughput of the laboratory by purchasing a second 7500 Real Time PCR instrument, a Maxwell 16 extraction robot, a 9700 Thermal Cycler and an AutoRep Pipette.

3. Provide the laboratory with extraction, quantitation, and amplification reagents for the processing of backlogged (>30 days) cases and database samples. Provide the laboratory with Convicted Offender Collection Kits.
4. Provide continuing education for forensic scientists.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Charlotte (NC)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0114
Award Amount: $309,110
Abstract: The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department Crime Laboratory (CMPD) seeks $309,110 in federal funding to maintain four current federally funded positions. The laboratory is growing and with that growth is becoming an increase of demand for DNA.

The CMPD has a limited budget in the laboratory for personnel and without this funding would be unable to maintain these positions. With the success of DNA in helping to solve all cases, both violent and property crimes, the number of cases submitted to the laboratory for DNA testing has increased to a size that cannot be managed with the current number of city allotted positions. The DNA analyst positions were originally funded under the FY10 DNA grant. Since then the city has picked up several positions but the demand for DNA has increasingly grown. Under the FY12 DNA Backlog Reduction grant, a trainee position was added so that we could help to alleviate the cases needed to be processed for biological fluids, so that they could be carried on to DNA; in addition, the crime lab tech was added to the biology section to help analysts with such tasks as making reagents, checking lab requests, and gathering information about cases that need to be processed for DNA.

The CMPD faces budgetary constraints in personnel. The number of cases coming into the laboratory exceeds the capacity of the current employees. We are slowly working them into our budget. The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases.
2. Maintain current laboratory capabilities by keeping current personnel.

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FY14 Recipient Name: North Carolina Department of Justice
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0119
Award Amount: $1,698,095
Abstract: The North Carolina State Crime Laboratory-Raleigh (NCSCL) is accredited by ASCLD-LAB and FQS. The laboratory is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for state and local law enforcement agencies and medical examiners within the state of North Carolina. North Carolina has a population of about 9,656,401 (2011 census estimate) people. The North Carolina State General Statutes 15A-266.4 and 15A-266.3A, designate the NCSCL as the agency responsible for conducting analysis on DNA samples collected from all convicted felon and certain misdemeanor offenders as well as certain felony and misdemeanor arrestees. The NCSCL is responsible for storing and maintaining the resultant profiles in the North Carolina DNA Databank. The Raleigh laboratory maintains the DNA Database Section. With the continued grow and success of the Combined DNA Indexing System (CODIS) database, forensic DNA analysis is increasingly being used as

an investigative tool. The number of requests for analysis on all types of cases consistently out paces the laboratory's ability to work these cases. In order to meet this demand, the NCSCL continually strives to obtain and retain additional laboratory personnel. As part of National Institute of Justice (NIJ) DNA Backlog Program grants, the Forensic Biology Section of the laboratory has worked numerous backlogged cases and obtained CODIS hits thereby solving cases which would not have been solved had it not been for the funds provided by these grants. However, as more cases are solved through DNA analysis, more cases are also submitted. There has been a marked increase in the number of unsolved property crimes and touch DNA cases being submitted to the laboratory. The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases.
2. Reduce the backlog of DNA database samples.
3. Increase and maintain the capacity and capabilities of the casework laboratory.

The North Carolina Crime Laboratory expects to analyze at least 686 forensic biology and DNA cases, provide technical review on approximately 27,000 outsourced DNA database samples and perform in-house analysis on 4,935 DNA database samples.

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FY14 Recipient Name: North Dakota Office of Attorney General
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0105
Award Amount: $200,000
Abstract: The Office of Attorney General, Crime Laboratory Division is the agency that is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies and medical examiner and coroners within the state of North Dakota. The North Dakota Century Code 31-13 designates the Office of Attorney General, Crime Laboratory Division as the agency responsible for conducting DNA analysis on DNA samples collected from all convicted felony and registered offenders, as well as all felony arrestees in the state of North Dakota; the Office of Attorney General, Crime Laboratory Division is responsible for storing and maintaining the resultant profiles in the North Dakota State Index System (SDIS) and uploading the qualified profiles into the National DNA Index System (NDIS).

The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases work requests and database samples through the adequate access to DNA profiling kits and supplies.
2. Provide continuing education to DNA analysts.
3. Provide funding to train and qualify additional DNA analysts with the Fusion profiling kit.
4. Provide funding to purchase additional pipettes and thermomixers.
5. Provide funding for custom computer programing to enhance the workflow.

The Office of Attorney General, Crime Laboratory Division is striving to attain an average 30 day DNA and database case turn-around time and to increase the productivity of each analyst to at least 32 samples per month.

The agency also expects to work at least 90 cases and 4,000 DNA database samples (which includes 200 QC samples) using Federal funding.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Nebraska State Patrol
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0093
Award Amount: $280,370
Abstract: The Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab (NSPCL) is the state agency that is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies in the state of Nebraska. In addition, the NSPCL is mandated by State law to be responsible for DNA analysis on DNA samples collected from all convicted felony and certain qualifying misdemeanor offenders. The NSPCL is responsible for storing and maintaining the resultant profiles in the Nebraska Data Bank.

The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases through the continued funding of an analyst.
2. Maintain the current turn around time and backlog free status of DNA database samples through the continued funding of the laboratory technician and the purchase of supplies.
3. Provide continuing education to DNA analysts as required by the accrediting bodies.
4. Increasing the capacity of the Laboratory by purchasing additional equipment (microscopes).
5. Fund an external DNA assessment (audit) of the Laboratory as required by the FBI's Quality Assurance Standards.

The NSPCL expects to analyze at least 144 cases by the grant funded analyst and 2,000 database samples with the use of grant purchased supplies. The NSPCL expects to reduce the turnaround time of forensic cases to under 3 months and maintain the no backlog status in the Database Section.

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FY14 Recipient Name: New Hampshire Department of Safety
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0065
Award Amount: $200,000
Abstract: The New Hampshire State Police Forensic Laboratory (NHSPFL) is the sole provider of forensic services in the State of New Hampshire. As such, the laboratory performs all serology and DNA analyses in association with criminal investigations in the state, and also is responsible for the analysis and entry of offender and casework samples into the CODIS database.

Like all other states, the NHSPFL is facing increased budgetary constraints. The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reducing the forensic biology case backlog and maintain or improve the current turnaround times through analyst overtime and purchasing supplies.

2. Reducing the DNA database sample backlog.
3. Providing the required continuing education and proficiency tests for analysts, as well as maintaining licenses necessary for the laboratory's LIMS system.

It is expected that the NHSPFL will analyze a minimum of 250 DNA cases and 700 database samples utilizing grant funds, and maintain its compliance with the FBI's DNA Quality Assurance Standards.

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FY14 Recipient Name: New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety (NJ)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0045
Award Amount: $640,693
Abstract: The New Jersey State Police (NJSP), Office of Forensic Sciences (OFS) maintains five forensic laboratories, which service over eight million people living in New Jersey. The system is comprised of the Hamilton Technology Complex which houses the Central Regional and DNA Laboratories, and the North, East, and South Regional Laboratories. The Hamilton Technology Complex is a full service State laboratory and is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations (including DNA analysis of the 13 core loci), analysis of convicted offender and arrestee samples for entry into the State and National Combined DNA Index System. The three regional laboratories provide drug, toxicology, and fire debris analysis services and two of these are responsible for taking in potential forensic biology cases.

The overtime provided by the grant will give the OFS DNA Laboratory the additional time to perform DNA analysis on 610 cases from its backlog and upload the resultant DNA profiles generated into CODIS.

Funding provided for training will enable four analysts to attend the Fall 2015 Promega meeting and two analysts to attend the 2015 Bode East meeting.

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FY14 Recipient Name: County of Union (NJ)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0060
Award Amount: $457,622
Abstract: The Biology Section of the Union County Prosecutor’s Office Forensic Laboratory offers biological screening and DNA analysis to law enforcement agencies within Union County, Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office as well as other counties at the request of the Union County Prosecutor. The Laboratory consists of two county-funded DNA analysts (full-time), including the DNA Technical Leader/CODIS Administrator. There are also two grant-funded temporary DNA analysts and one full-time Middlesex County DNA analyst performing testing within the UCPO Lab as part of a shared services agreement. These analysts share the casework responsibilities for the Laboratory.

UCPO intends to employ a temporary DNA analyst in a full-time capacity to perform casework. Grant funds will enable temporary DNA analysts (Amanda Duda and Kristen Balsamo-Kleinbach) to dedicate time to casework responsibilities in the section. The analysts are paid with FY2012/FY2013 funds and will utilize FY2014 funds once the previous years' salaries are

expended. They will focus on casework testing related to violent and property crimes under this grant funding, with probative DNA profiles entered into CODIS for searching against felon offenders and other crime scene DNA profiles.

With the grant-funded DNA analysts, the Laboratory anticipates an increase in DNA testing capacity and a corresponding reduction in turnaround time. Analysts will focus on casework testing related to violent and property crimes under this grant funding, with probative DNA profiles entered into CODIS for searching against felon offenders and other crime scene DNA profiles. The UCPO Forensic Laboratory expects to analyze 264 cases with funding for overtime and supplies as well as an additional 40 cases for those analysts dedicated to DNA analysis; the Laboratory hopes to reduce turnaround time to approximately 35 days with these improvements.

The remaining grant funds in this submission will be used to augment capacity within the Laboratory. Additional thermal cyclers will prevent unnecessary backlogs during processing. Swab dryers allow for proper handling of biological evidence samples. Pipettors and other basic laboratory equipment will enable contractual staff hires to perform routine technical tasks. DNA supplies (e.g., kits and consumables) will provide for the analysis of all common sample types. Funds will also be used to allow analysts to attend yearly ISHI and AAFS meetings to satisfy continuing education requirements.

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FY14 Recipient Name: New Mexico Department of Public Safety
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0016
Award Amount: $679,086
Abstract: The New Mexico Department of Public Safety (NMDPS), as the State Administering Agency for U.S. Department of Justice funding, is applying for the DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program grant on behalf of three of New Mexico's forensic laboratories. In a collaborative effort to improve crime laboratories, the Albuquerque Police Department (APD) Crime Lab case working DNA unit and the New Mexico DNA Identification System (NMDIS), administered by APD, are jointly submitting this application for grant funds with the New Mexico (NM) Department of Public Safety (DPS) Forensic Laboratory.

The DPS Forensic Laboratory is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for most state and local law enforcement agencies and medical examiners within the State of New Mexico. The APD Crime Laboratory case working DNA unit is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for law enforcement agencies within Bernalillo County. The New Mexico Statute designates the New Mexico DNA Identification System (NMDIS) as the agency responsible for conducting DNA analysis on DNA samples collected from all convicted felony offenders as well as all felony arrestees in the State of New Mexico; the NMDIS is responsible for storing and maintaining the resultant profiles in the New Mexico DNA Database. The A PD Crime Laboratory maintains the DNA Database Unit.

This award will be specifically used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases.

2. Increase and maintain the capacity and capabilities of the DPS/APD casework laboratories.
3. Maintain continuing education for all analysts in the DPS/APD labs.
4. Purchase supplies, assemble, and distribute DNA Database collection kits.
5. Upgrade all CODIS and expert system related software and equipment.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (NV)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0032
Award Amount: $650,858
Abstract: The City of Las Vegas and the surrounding area of Clark County, Nevada, have a current population in excess of 2 million persons and hosted over 39 million visitors in 2013. The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) Forensic Lab operates as a unit of local government providing full service forensic analysis capabilities. In addition, it is the sole provider of forensic DNA analysis services to all of southern Nevada. The LVMPD Forensic Laboratory also operates and administers the Southern Nevada Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). The database is a CODIS Local installation with both casework and convicted offender responsibilities. In July 2014, Nevada will begin collecting DNA samples from felony arrestees and, therefore, arrestee samples will also be entered into CODIS at that time.

The Biology/DNA Detail of the LVMPD processes violent offenses and biological evidence associated with homicides, sexual assaults, robberies, attempted homicides, and kidnapping cases. Additionally, it processes a full range of property crimes, including burglaries and vehicle thefts in southern Nevada.

The LVMPD Forensic Laboratory, Biology/DNA Detail is faced with budgetary constraints and case backlogs. The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of Biology/DNA cases and decrease turnaround time through outsourcing DNA cases and using overtime to process DNA cases in-house.
2. Increase the capacity of the LVMPD Forensic Biology/DNA Detail through overtime for performing validations including a new quantification system, Y-STRs and an expanded loci amplification kit.
3. Improve the capabilities of the Biology/DNA Detail through semi-annual pipette calibration, the purchase of a temperature monitoring system, and through contracting a DNA module for the currently utilized LIMS to create and upgrade current DNA worksheets that will incorporate newly validated technology to streamline DNA case processing.
4. Maintain DNA database sample collection requirements by purchasing database collection kits for use in the southern half of Nevada.
5. Fulfill the FBI's QAS DNA education requirements by sending DNA staff to conferences and with literature review through purchasing subscriptions to current scientific journals.

The LVMPD Biology/DNA Detail expects to process at least 100 cases in-house with federal-funded overtime. An additional 340 cases currently contained in DNA's backlog are targeted to be completed through grant funded outsourcing of casework to Cellmark Forensics, Inc.

Processing cases in-house on overtime combined with outsourcing DNA cases will work towards reducing the overall backlog of DNA cases at the LVMPD, with the goal of reducing case turnaround time from 287 days to 250 days. An additional goal is to increase the capacity of the Biology/DNA Detail from processing an average of 37 samples per analyst per month to 45 samples per analyst per month.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Washoe County (NV)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0029
Award Amount: $325,430
Abstract: The Washoe County Sheriff's Office, Forensic Science Division (WCSO-FSD) is the agency that is responsible for analyzing forensic evidence associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies within the northern region of the state of Nevada. The WCSO-FSD Biology Unit is responsible for overseeing DNA analysis and subsequent upload to NDIS of forensic profiles and DNA samples collected from all convicted felons within the northern portion of the state. As the designated state CODIS laboratory, they are responsible for uploading all eligible database profiles submitted from the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Forensic Laboratory as well.

With the passage of SB 243 (Brianna's Law) requiring the collection and analysis of DNA from those arrested of a felony, the number of database samples is expected to increase from 200/month (convicted offenders) to approximately 825/month (convicted offenders and arrestee samples). Collection will begin July 1, 2014. The funding mechanism put into place as part of the law is insufficient to completely fund this arrestee program. Therefore, this award will be primarily used to fund the outsourcing of arrestee sample analysis and the in-house technical review and upload of these samples. These funds will be essential to ensure that these samples are rapidly processed and uploaded into CODIS. This award will be specifically used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases.
2. Ensure a rapid turnaround time of DNA arrestee database samples.
3. Increase the capacity of the WCSO-FSD casework laboratory.

The WCSO-FSD expects to analyze at least 15 forensic DNA cases above the capabilities of the laboratory and outsource 10,416 felony arrestee database samples. The laboratory expects to create a rapid turnaround time of 60 days or less for arrestee samples; decrease the casework turnaround time to 54 days or less; decrease the number of backlogged cases to less than 50, and increase the average number of samples analyzed per analyst per month to 22.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of New York, Office of Chief Medical Examiner
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0076
Award Amount: $1,500,000
Abstract: The Department of Forensic Biology, of the Office of Chief Medical Examiner, serves as the public forensic laboratory for the City of New York providing serology and DNA testing on thousands of case submissions every year. In 2013 a total of 29,192 DNA samples

were extracted, with 33,790 STR profiles generated, analyzed, and reviewed. As a result, the Department of Forensic Biology uploaded 4,185 profiles into CODIS. During the same year, 1,955 matches were made.

Ongoing budget reductions and attrition have lowered the existing DNA criminalist head count, threatening Forensic Biology productivity and the timeliness of DNA testing results. 2014/2015 goals are to improve upon the current capacity and reduce turnaround time (131 days) and case backlog (2,644) to 65 and 1,322, respectively. The FY14 backlog reduction proposal aims to achieve this by focusing on six types of actions to be taken:

1.) Increase available staff hours through overtime.
2.) Maintain our head-count by funding the continuation of employment for 5 employees previously funded under the DN12 and DN13 Backlog Reduction program.
3.) Increase our head-count through the hiring of one general laboratory technician to help increase our case processing capacity.
4.) Make efficiency improvements in our case tracking and metrics reporting through the modernization of older databases, use of visual scoreboards, document control software and integration into our LIMS system.
5.) Maintain our accreditation through a mandatory bi-annual externally conducted DNA QAS Audit.
6.) Increase efficiency and throughput by the validation and use of new technologies such as faster serological and DNA testing platforms, and CODIS eligible Megaplexes. We will also purchase additional licenses of GeneMarker analytical software to expedite STR analysis and technical review.
7.) Provide continuing education through scientific conference and professional meeting travel.

It is expected that overtime and increased staff funding will result in additional assignments that can be processed. Database modernization and process improvements will result in increased capacity of our laboratory. The goal is to continue to reduce both the case backlog and turnaround time by half within the next 18 months by implementing efficiency measures and by increasing our throughput with technology and record keeping improvements.

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FY14 Recipient Name: County of Erie (NY)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0079
Award Amount: $698,223
AbstractThe Erie County Central Police Services Forensic Laboratory performs forensic DNA analysis for the local, State and Federal law enforcement agencies of Erie County, New York (population 900,000). Additionally, we provide forensic DNA analysis for all of Niagara County and Orleans County (total population 270,000) and occasional forensic DNA analysis for law enforcement agencies from 3 neighboring counties. We currently have 9 full-time DNA analysts (includes 2 section supervisors who also perform DNA/Biology casework analyses) and one part-time DNA analyst (total of 10). Additionally, the Quality Assurance Coordinator performs DNA/Biology casework. With the success of CODIS, casework requests have been steadily increasing, especially in the area of forcible sexual assault, burglary, weapons possession, robbery and assault. The weapons possession cases require a short turn around time in order to

meet court mandated time constraints. These cases are worked during regular operating hours. Additionally, we are experiencing an increase in the number of items submitted for each case and more requests for DNA analysis on evidence associated with homicides, including cold cases. This has resulted in a significant backlog and a need to decrease the turnaround time. In order to further increase the analytical capabilities of this lab, it is necessary to perform a portion of the lab work on backlogged cases using overtime and to continue the funding for the 2 DNA analyst positions and the Quality Assurance Coordinator position that were funded under previous NIJ grant programs.

The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic DNA/Biology cases.
2. Increase the capacity of the laboratory and reduce bottlenecks.
3. Improve the overall turnaround time for the completion of DNA cases.
4. Provide validation services for new technology.
5. Provide funding for a required external DNA audit.

It is anticipated that the additional overtime spent on casework will result in a decrease in the turnaround time and a decrease in the number of backlogged cases, since the analysts will be able to process more cases in a shorter period of time. The long term goal is to analyze the current backlog of cases and to then provide a 30 day turn-around time for new cases. The funding from this grant ($698,223) will result in the completion of 241 additional cases using overtime and 382 DNA/Biology cases are expected to be completed by the 2 DNA analysts and Quality Assurance Coordinator that were hired using this funding.

A portion of the funding will be used to purchase the supplies necessary to analyze the additional cases. Additional funding is requested to purchase validation services for new DNA methodology and to provide funding for a required external DNA Quality Assurance audit.

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FY14 Recipient Name: County of Suffolk (NY)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0064
Award Amount: $228,824
Abstract: The 2014 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction program is intended for increasing the throughput and timeliness of forensic analysis of evidence submitted to the Suffolk County Crime Laboratory Biological Sciences Section. This task is to be completed in three separate ways. First, capacity and efficiency will be increased through the purchase of a Qiagen EZ1 Advanced XL robotic workstation. This will increase our capacity, allowing more rapid extraction of DNA from evidence samples. Second, funds will be used for the purchase of supplies, such as capillary arrays and kits, used in DNA analysis. This replaces supplies that we will not be able to purchase due to budget cuts, allowing us to maintain our current level of service. Third, funds will also be used to outsource backlogged DNA samples to an accredited fee-for-service vendor laboratory for DNA Analysis. This will allow us to add DNA profiles to CODIS from no-suspect property crime cases that we are not able to analyze in-house due to a lack of staff. Contract employees will be hired to assist in the screening of backlogged biological evidence. This will ultimately lead to DNA analysis and CODIS entry of samples from backlogged cases that we are not able to analyze due to our manpower constraints. Finally,

funds will be used for validation of the Y-Filer Plus kit, which will allow our lab to conduct Y-STR analysis.

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FY14 Recipient Name: County of Westchester (NY)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0037
Award Amount: $312,865
Abstract: Funding from this grant will go toward satisfying two ends: increasing the capacity to perform DNA analysis, and reducing the backlog created by uncompleted cases in the Forensic Science Laboratory of the Westchester County New York Division of Forensic Sciences. The accomplishment of these goals is in line with our pledge to furnish preliminary DNA results to investigating agencies in a timely manner.

Our laboratory has been on-line with STR DNA typing since 1999. In fifteen years the demands on, and expectations of, all forensic case-working laboratories has intensified such that analytical turn-around time must be greatly reduced and the typing techniques employed must be increasingly more sophisticated. Currently our laboratory employs nuclear STR typing and Y-STR typing techniques. In addition, the FBI Quality Assurance Standards, which took effect in July 2009, and the SWGDAM (Scientific Working Group on DNA Analysis Methods) Guidelines, which took effect in January 2010, have imposed additional requirements for casework analysis and mixture interpretation.

To maintain pace with evolving trends and national accreditation requirements for DNA analysis and to reduce our current backlog of cases to be analyzed for DNA, our laboratory will require new laboratory supplies and equipment, access to training opportunities and travel monies, and the capability to hire temporary laboratory technician support staff. This augmented capacity will enable us to process, record, screen, and analyze forensic DNA samples in order to further reduce the amount of time required to complete casework. We anticipate the momentum created by this optimized work flow will preemptively reduce future bottlenecks at the examination, analytical, and review stages of casework by substantially minimizing our current backlog.

In this grant we are requesting funding that would allow us to: continue the trend of providing the most probative case results to the requesting agency in a timely manner, increase our capacity to complete ancillary casework procedures, and reduce our backlog of “UCR Part 1 Violent Crimes” forensic casework including property crimes.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Monroe County (NY)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0072
Award Amount: $383,450
Abstract: The Monroe County Crime Laboratory (MCCL) is a regional crime lab that regularly provides forensic services for over 40 police agencies within an eight county region of New York State. In addition to these Counties, the laboratory often provides services to the New York State Police, ATF, US Attorney's Office and the New York Park Police (approximately 52 agencies). The City of Rochester is the largest city within the eight county region and accounts for the majority of cases completed by the MCCL. The total service area represents a population

of approximately 1,204,275 (U.S. Census, 2010). The MCCL is the agency responsible for conducting DNA analysis on the DNA samples collected in the region and uploading samples into the CODIS database.

The MCCL is facing monetary constraints severely impacting the supply purchases, instrument maintenance and travel budget allotted to the Forensic Biology section. The federal funding from this award will be used to achieve the following goals:

1. Provide the required continuing education for each analyst.
2. Support a more efficient work flow as previously established through a Lean Six Sigma project by purchasing DNA kits, supplies, and software.
3. Maintain optimal instrument performance by continuing preventative maintenance on analysis instrumentation and supporting system equipment.
4. Implement the appropriate tools needed to process and interpret the more complex samples being processed.
5. Maintain accreditation requirements by supporting calibration and certification of equipment.
6. Maintain accreditation requirements by participating in regularly scheduled proficiency testing programs.
7. Maintain accreditation requirement for review of relevant scientific literature.
8. Maintain current staffing levels by funding one Forensic Biologist III position that was previously funded by State grant.

The MCCL can expect to reduce the DNA case backlog by at least 149 cases by the end of the award period.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Nassau County (NY)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0047
Award Amount: $301,419
Abstract: The Nassau County Medical Examiner's Office, Department of Forensic Genetics (DFG) is the agency responsible for analyzing biological evidence associated with criminal investigations for all local law enforcement agencies within the county of Nassau. The DFG functions as the county's CODIS custodian. The laboratory is located at 2251 Hempstead Turnpike in East Meadow NY, a separate location from its administrative office located at 1 West Street, Mineola N.Y.

The objective of the proposed National Institute of Justice Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program for FY2014 is to reduce the overall turnaround time for the handling, screening, and analysis of forensic DNA samples, and to improve laboratory throughput in an effort to prevent future DNA forensic casework backlogs within the County of Nassau. In order to reduce the overall turnaround, bottlenecks in backlogged case reviews (technical and administrative reviews) will be addressed through funding of overtime for administrative personnel responsible for the review process. Improvements in laboratory technology and workflow will be addressed through the funding of overtime for validation reviews of ABI quantitation and amplification technologies and funding for LIMS customization to support casework implementation of these techniques. With the use of 2013 NIJ Backlog Reduction funds the laboratory was successful in

reducing its turnaround from 113 in 2012 to 71 days, the laboratory's most significant reduction in throughput. For this current solicitation, the laboratory will be striving to meet its goal of a 60 day turnaround for the delivery of test results to its users.

In order to maintain the current capacity of property crime related DNA analysis the laboratory is requesting the funds for the purchase of reagents and consumable which will prevent the rejection of a significant number of property crime related cases. This is a vital initiative to the laboratory and its users since property crimes accounted for approximately 56% of submissions, 51% of CODIS profiles entered and 66% of CODIS hits returned in 2013.

The methods proposed for this project will be measured by the expected decrease in case turnaround time and the number of CODIS eligible profiles entered into the database. Metrics will be generated by the Laboratory Information Management System report function.

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FY14 Recipient Name: New York State Police
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0040
Award Amount: $1,000,000
Abstract: DATABASE UNIT (DNA DATABANK):
The DNA Databank is seeking funding for new DNA modules to enhance their Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS). The current Databank LIMS application has limited functionality that is primarily designed for sample accessioning, tracking and assignment. The DNA Databank has a critical need to integrate the analytical elements of their workflow into new DNA modules to streamline sample throughput and increase quality control measures. By improving LIMS functionality, the DNA Databank expects to consistently maintain a sample turn around time of less than 30 days.
The DNA Databank will seek funding for continuing education training, which is mandated by the FBI for qualified DNA analysts. Grant funding will provide six forensic scientists registration and travels costs for training opportunities at two premiere DNA conferences.

FORENSIC DNA CASEWORK UNIT:
The funding from the National Institute of Justice FY2014 DNA Backlog Reduction Grant will be applied to the following goals:

1. Reduction of the current backlog by outsourcing Short Tandem Repeat (STR) DNA casework to a commercial forensic genetic identity testing laboratory.
2. Increase in the analytical capacity of the forensic DNA casework laboratory by the purchase of an M-Vac system (MSI M-Vac Systems, Inc.) for collection of biological substances from “low template” evidence items. The availability of the M-Vac is expected to increase the effectiveness of evidence collection which should result in more probative DNA test results from a broader range of low yield or “touch” DNA items.
3. Decreased sample turn-around times are also expected because of the efficiency of the M-Vac system to collect biological material from evidence items with large surface areas. The increased yield and more effective concentration should also increase the success rate for DNA analysis and decrease turn-around times by reducing re-runs. Further increased efficiency for STR DNA testing is expected because of the on-site

availability of a LIMS Coordinator to maximize the record keeping and report preparation functions of the casework unit's LIMS system.

4. Provision of mandated continuing education by attendance at professional meetings for four forensic scientists in the Biological Science casework unit and access of staff to current literature on forensic DNA technology.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Onondaga, County of (NY)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0043
Award Amount: $211,756
Abstract: The Onondaga County Health Department, Forensic Laboratories is the bureau responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for all local law enforcement agencies within the County of Onondaga. The Forensic Laboratories are being challenged with an ever increasing workload and tightening local government budgets. With the general goals of reducing the number of backlogged cases and increasing section capacity, the DNA section will utilize funds from the 2014 DNA Backlog Reduction Grant for the following:

1. Retain a DNA analyst
2. Fund analyst overtime
3. Provide discipline specific continuing education
4. Purchase equipment
5. Purchase supplies
6. Purchase proficiency tests
7. Acquire contracted validation services

The Forensic Laboratories intend to analyze 32 backlogged DNA cases on overtime. The increased throughput will effectively reduce turn-around time, further enhancing the services offered to the criminal justice community of New York State.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Columbus (OH)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0048
Award Amount: $282,452
Abstract: Columbus Police Crime Laboratory DNA Backlog Reduction Project 2014 seeks to enact improvements that will enable the crime laboratory to process DNA samples efficiently and effectively thereby reducing the backlog of DNA cases awaiting analysis.

The Columbus Police Crime Laboratory has faced challenges in addressing casework for several years. These challenges include a shortage of personnel and instrumentation compounded by a lack of laboratory space to house additional staff and equipment. The laboratory will move into a new facility in October 2014. This grant's objectives will complement those from past DNA Backlog Reduction Program grants and will provide funding necessary to equip the new facility with technology capable of greatly increasing capacity.

Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:
1. Reduce the forensic DNA case backlog through analyst overtime and purchasing supplies.

2. Increase the capacity of the laboratory by purchasing equipment (robotic liquid handling workstations for automated PCR setup such as Qiagen QIAgility) and probabilistic genotypying software.
3. Provide the required continuing education for each analyst.

The Columbus Police Crime Laboratory can expect to reduce the DNA case backlog by at least 107 cases by the end of the award period. The turnaround time is expected to be reduced to 180 days or less, and the analyst throughput in the casework sections is expected to increase to 40 samples per month per analyst.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Mansfield (OH)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0075
Award Amount: $60,000
Abstract: The Mansfield Division of Police Forensic Science Section DNA Laboratory is an agency that is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for local law enforcement agencies in Mansfield, Ohio and adjoining communities. The DNA Laboratory is composed of 2 DNA Analysts and has been in operation since 2001. This laboratory is also one of seven Ohio NDIS laboratory participants. CODIS operations are performed on the local level with samples being uploaded to the State of Ohio for submission to NDIS.

The Mansfield Division of Police Forensic Science Section DNA Laboratory continues to face budgetary constraints with respect to personnel. The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reducing the forensic DNA case backlog, maintain a low turn-around time and to continue participation in CODIS.
2. Providing the registration costs associated with required continuing education for each analyst.
3. Utilize overtime to maintain current turnaround time and the technical review of a minimum of 50 DNA cases. backlog of 420 cases.

The Mansfield Division of Police Forensic Science Section DNA Laboratory can expect to reduce the DNA case backlog by at least 126 cases by the end of the award period.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Cuyahoga County (OH)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0061
Award Amount: $310,009
Abstract: The CCRSFL is the primary DNA Analysis Laboratory for Cuyahoga County and the region. The Lab continues to maintain ASCLD/LAB-International Accreditation and completed their Biennial External DNA Audit in May of 2013. In 2012, the Lab began taking additional casework and is now accepting rape kit tests and other non-fatal casework from numerous jurisdictions throughout Cuyahoga County and the region. Since then the Lab continues to add jurisdictions to the list of submitting agencies. For these reasons, the Lab has experienced a large increase of casework and it is anticipated to continue to increase into the foreseeable future.

In 2012 the Lab accepted 591 requests for casework and in 2013 the Lab accepted 681 requests for casework (491 non-fatal and 177 homicide), which represents a 15% increase in casework. A first quarter comparison shows that in 2012 there were 162 requests for casework and in 2013 there were 196 requests.

To address the increase of casework to the Lab the Medical Examiner has added three new general funded DNA Analysts and two DNA Technician positions. All of these new hires are in place and will have completed all competency training by the start of this grant project period. In addition to staffing, the lab has acquired new instrumentation with non-grant fund dollars.

Given the increase of casework it is not clear how sample turnaround time, throughput capacity, and backlog statistics will fluctuate, however the CCRFSL is optimistic that these numbers will be in a positive direction as a result of the funding under the 2014 DNA Backlog Grant. The DNA Technical Manager and Supervisor will be tracking all of the metrics as explained elsewhere in this application.

This year's project will address capacity enhancement and backlog reduction and will consist of the following:

1. Procurement of two Maxwell 16 Instruments for forensic DNA Extractions
2. Procurement of DNA consumable supplies.
3. Procurement of validation supplies for Maxwell 16 and TECAN Robotics Workstation (purchased from non-grant fund dollars).
4. Procurement of five Justice Trax LIMS Plus licenses.
5. Continuing professional development for DNA staff.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Hamilton County (OH)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0054
Award Amount: $188,053
Abstract: The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. To enhance the capacity of the DNA section by purchasing an additional microscope for the Forensic Biology/DNA section as well as upgrading the camera functionality of our current microscope system. The section currently has a single microscope available to perform sperm searches in sexual assault cases. When sexual assault kits are analyzed in the laboratory, analysts must wait in line in order to use the sole microscope available in the section. The purchase of an additional microscope with a camera mount function for capturing digital imagery and subsequent upload into the LIMS will allow analysts to process more sexual assault cases.

2. To reduce the backlog by 129 old cases. Grant funds will permit purchasing critical reagents and other supplies necessary for the processing of these backlogged cases. The laboratory will process these cases in-house using existing procedures and recently upgraded equipment.

3. To meet FBI QAS requirements and to maintain continuing education for all DNA analysts in the laboratory.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Lake County (OH)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0056
Award Amount: $60,000
Abstract: The LCCL is an ASCLD/LAB-International accredited laboratory. DNA has been in place in the laboratory since 1993. STR-CE technology has been in place since 2000, with one full time DNA Technical Manager analyzing most/all of the DNA cases. The second full time DNA Analyst was also the Laboratory Director, Quality Manager, DNA Technical Reviewer, Training Manager and Crime Scene Analyst. The laboratory has been able to maintain this configuration for many years. Now that the laboratory is accredited under the international program, the amount of work required of the Quality Manager and Laboratory Director positions has greatly increased. In order to keep up with the work flow in DNA and the rest of the laboratory duties, the LCCL hired an additional person to fill the position of DNA Analyst, using DNA grant funding. This second full time analyst has been trained and is currently analyzing DNA cases. The LCCL requests the funding for a portion (approximately 62.5%) of the DNA Analyst's salary, in order to continue her employment. These grant funds will support the DNA analyst's salary and benefits for approximately 7.5 months of the period of the grant (this will be less than 24 months because of the amount of the grant funds).

The other portion of this analyst's salary will be paid for through Lake County Crime Laboratory funds.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Montgomery County (OH)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0067
Award Amount: $189,915
Abstract: The Miami Valley Regional Crime Lab (MVRCL) is a full-service forensic lab serving the law enforcement agencies in southwestern Ohio. Approximately, seventy-five law enforcement agencies in eight counties regularly use the services of the MVRCL. Additionally, numerous other law enforcement agencies will use the services offered as needed.

The MVRCL will use grant funds to purchase the following:

1. overtime for existing DNA staff and supplies for analysis of DNA cases
2. validation of two new DNA analysis kits to include software adjustments
3. provide required training for DNA staff
4. purchase sample support for software

The turn around time on DNA cases is anticipated to reduce by 35% to 18 days.

The number of samples worked by an analyst each month is anticipated to increase by 15% to 43.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Ohio Office of the Attorney General
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0062
Award Amount: $924,406
Abstract: The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) is responsible for testing DNA/biology cases from all law enforcement agencies in Ohio. BCI operates two DNA/Biology laboratories: one in Richfield and one in London. BCI continues to decrease turnaround time and increase capacity.

The number of requests for DNA/Biology testing has risen continuously over the last several years and this trend is expected to continue. In 2011, 3652 DNA analysis requests were received. In 2012, requests increased 54% to 5621. In 2013, requests again increased 35% to 7577. If the submission rate of the first three months of 2014 continues throughout the year, we expect to see a 42% increase over 2013. With the 2014 closure of the Canton-Stark Regional Crime Laboratory DNA unit, the number of requests is expected to increase annually by 652. Additionally, BCI is working a substantial number of cases from the Columbus laboratory area. In 2013, BCI received 662 DNA analysis requests from Columbus.

The untested rape kit testing initiative has significantly impacted caseloads above and beyond that generated by current offenses.

Funding from this award will be used to advance the following goals:
1. Reduce the DNA/Biology case backlog and decrease the turnaround time through the purchase of supplies.

2. Increase the capacity of the DNA/Biology laboratory by purchasing new equipment and upgrades for existing equipment.

BCI expects to reduce the DNA/Biology backlog by 505 cases through in-house testing using federally-funded supplies. The BCI turnaround time is expected to be reduced to 20 days or less for actively investigated cases.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Tulsa (OK)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0080
Award Amount: $229,377
Abstract: The Tulsa Police Department Forensic Laboratory (TPDFL) is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for the Tulsa Police Department within the City of Tulsa. The TPDFL has a fully operational existing forensic DNA casework section that undergoes external quality assurance audits in accordance with the FBI's Quality Assurance Standards at least once every two years and is accredited under the ASCLD/LAB program.

The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Increasing the capacity of the Biology section by purchasing equipment (genetic analyzer and laser microdissection (LMD) microscope optics) and supplies to validate

the LMD microscope (obtained using FY13 DNA Backlog Reduction Program funds) and the genetic analyzer.

2. Decrease the backlog of the Biology section through analyst overtime.

3. Purchase text books for each analyst.

4. Purchase Document Compare module from Qualtrax for the Biology sections document management quality assurance.

The TPDFL expects to reduce the DNA case backlog by at least 18 cases by the end of the award period. The agency expects to decrease the turnaround time to less than 120 days and increase analyst throughput by 10%.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0115
Award Amount: $813,247
Abstract: The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation is the agency that provides forensic services in criminal cases to all eligible agencies in the state of Oklahoma. The Biology discipline of the OSBI consists of three Forensic Biology Units located in two laboratories across the state. The primary unit and a property crime/cold case unit are located at the Forensic Science Center in Edmond, Oklahoma, while the regional laboratory is located in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. The OSBI is also responsible for processing offender samples in accordance with state law. The CODIS unit of the OSBI located at the Forensic Science Center in Edmond, Oklahoma is the corresponding unit.

The OSBI has been through significant budget cuts throughout the past several years. The agency is still operating under a reduced budget this next fiscal year which means that funding is limited for consumable products and salaries of the technicians. The funding from this award will assist the OSBI in continuing it's mission of providing the resources listed above to agencies in Oklahoma.

The OSBI has the following goals for this award:

1. Reduce and prevent the backlog of DNA cases and offender samples
2. Increase capacity in both casework and database
3. 30 day turnaround time for DNA cases

The OSBI seeks to improve casework productivity while decreasing the overall turnaround time and back log of cases and maintain the productivity of analysis regarding offender DNA samples. The increase in casework productivity and capacity for offender DNA sample processing will be achieved by continuing to include technicians in the processing of certain steps. The increase in database productivity and decrease in turnaround time will also be achieved using reagents and supplies which otherwise would not be purchased.

The OSBI requests $185,985.07 to extend three technician positions. This funding request includes both salary and benefits. The biology technician positions will be used to aid in the handling, screening, and analysis of forensic biology evidence. The CODIS technician position will be used in the ascessioning,processing and input of offender samples. In addition, all three technician positions will be utilized for QA/QC, and overall laboratory maintenance.

The OSBI requests $378,994.36 for equipment purchases. Two Automates will be purchased for the casework section to supplement and increase capacity of units already validated. One 3500xl will be placed in the CODIS unit to increase their sample processing by allowing for new amplification kits. Fifteen new laboratory protection systems will be purchased to protect instrumentation in the laboratory and prevent failures due to power outages. Seven thermomixers will supplement the current ones in the laboratory allowing for faster processing of samples. Eleven new generation thermocyclers will be purchased for the casework section to allow for shorter thermocycling times and greater capacity.

The OSBI requests $182,314.75 for the purchase of supplies that will reduce sample-processing time and/or increase the number of samples processed. The Database funding will be used to purchase supplies used throughout the profiling process in all DNA database work performed in the CODIS unit.

Finally, the OSBI requests $53,713.82 for the purchase of CODIS offender collection kits. These kits are provided by the OSBI to agencies responsible for the collection of offender samples. These kits are then returned to the OSBI CODIS unit for processing. Additionally, one subscription to Forensic Science International genetics will be purchased to keep analysts up to date on new technology and trends. $2,500 are being requesting for shipping costs associated with supply costs.

With this funding, the OSBI expects to analyze at least 5,500 offender samples. The OSBI has been able in the past to reach a 30 day turnaround time, and would expect to reduce the turnaround time significantly using this funding bringing us closer to meeting this goal.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Oregon State Police
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0118
Award Amount: $562,197
Abstract: PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
The goals of this proposal are to 1) reduce the DNA casework and database sample backlog and 2) provide required training and continuing education for DNA analysts.

The objectives are: A) to fund two Forensic Scientists positions (one for casework and one for database analysis), B) to provide overtime for the analysis of backlogged DNA cases and convicted offender samples, C) to provide training and/or continuing education opportunities to analysts to assist with obtaining competency or maintaining proficiency (anticipating the training will be in the subject of probabilistic genotyping).

PROJECT DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

Objective A: We will provide support for 12 months to one full time DNA database (CODIS) analyst and one full time DNA casework analyst. One Forensic Scientist 1, step 2 will be retained with OSP for 12 months (April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016) to process, analyze and report the DNA results from backlog DNA cases. The current funding for the DNA casework position is a NIJ FY2013 DNA Backlog Reduction Program grant (2013-DN-BX-0037). Funds from this grant will allow us to retain this position. If retained, this analyst will analyze any backlogged DNA cases.

In 2010 we began processing all CODIS samples in-house. We have dedicated space, equipment, and 1 full time CODIS analyst. The full time CODIS position is currently funded using the FY2013 DNA Backlog Reduction Program Grant (2013-DN-BX-0037). To continue processing all CODIS samples in-house and maintain our current capacity of ~688 samples/analyst/month, we will use the FY2013 DNA grant funds to support this position for 12 months.
Objective B: Grant funds will provide overtime for approximately 22 Forensic Biology/DNA analysts to process and analyze backlogged DNA cases. The majority of the backlogged samples are no suspect(s), property crime cases. Profiles from these cases will be entered into CODIS and subsequent hits will be reported to the police agency to aid in their investigation. The overtime will help to minimize our DNA backlog. In addition, overtime funds will be used for validation, which will assist to minimize the effect of analysts working regular time on validation rather than casework. Grant funds will provide overtime for approximately 3 analysts to process and analyze backlogged database samples.
Objective C: In-house training will also be provided to 17 DNA analysts on a topic to be determined at a later date.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Allegheny County Pennsylvania
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0066
Award Amount: $287,699
Abstract: The Forensic Biology Section of the ACOME has worked extensively in recent years to develop and implement an automated DNA processing methodology that has effectively increased the DNA sample throughput and improved the turnaround time for casework. Through the acquisition of advanced robotics and information technologies, Forensic Biology has successfully established the framework for this automated DNA processing design. At the same time, the ACOME has devoted significant resources and effort to the training of new personnel amid personnel turnover. The ACOME now has a staff of eight forensic biologists; five of the staff members are court-qualified DNA analysts. With the automated framework in place and a fully trained staff with which to operate, the ACOME recognizes the opportunity to bypass potential workflow bottlenecks, streamline the entire laboratory workflow, and reduce the casework backlog through additional capacity enhancements, training, quality improvements, and casework overtime.

Funding from the proposed project will be used to purchase equipment including a new 7500 Real Time PCR (RT-PCR) system, a new alternate light source (ALS), a new analytical balance, a new microcentrifuge, a new high throughput color printer/scanner/fax machine, a freeze dryer, 2 new hot plate/stirrers, 2 new vortex mixers, 3 new bench top polishers, 4 new dry baths, 12 new pipettes, and 12 computer tablets. Funding will also be used to purchase supplies for

training, casework, and to performance check the new 7500 RT-PCR. Additionally, funding will be used for additional training, an external DNA audit, and casework overtime for staff scientists.

The ACOME projects a budget of $287,699 and an estimated timetable of 24 months (October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2016) for successful completion of the proposed program.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Philadelphia (PA)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0050
Award Amount: $1,021,202
Abstract: The Philadelphia Police Department, Office of Forensic Science, Criminalistics Unit is responsible for analyzing evidentiary material, associated with criminal investigations for the City of Philadelphia. The Criminalistics Unit is comprised of the "DNA Laboratory" which conducts all DNA typing analysis and the "Trace Laboratory" which screens evidence for biological material suitable for DNA analysis.

The Philadelphia Police Department, Office of Forensic Science, Criminalistics Unit is facing budgetary constraints. For the years 2010, 2011 and 2012, the City of Philadelphia accounted for approximately 40% of the Violent Part 1 Crimes in the State of Pennsylvania for each year listed. The demand for services to the Office of Forensic Science DNA Laboratory continues to expand, while available funding decreases or plateaus. Increases in the sensitivity of DNA Technology and the success of CODIS entries has resulted in the increased application of DNA analysis to any evidence that is known to have been handled/touched by an individual probative to the investigation. The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reducing the forensic DNA case backlog by funding analysts to work overtime to analyze backlogged forensic biology/DNA cases..

2. Reducing the forensic biology/DNA case backlog through the outsourcing of backlogged cases to be screened for biological material suitable for DNA analysis and the development of any DNA profiles.

3. Purchase of equipment to expand existing capabilities and provide additional work space for additional analyst being hired.

4. To send nine forensic scientists to continuing education in forensic DNA technology. This will keep the laboratory informed about technological advances, analytical modifications, interpretation issues, and provide necessary continuing education.

The Philadelphia Police Department, Office of Forensic Science, Criminalistics Unit can expect to reduce the backlog of forensic biology DNA cases by at least 665 cases by the end of the award period.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Pennsylvania State Police
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0069
Award Amount: $1,282,982
Abstract: This proposal will provide funding for overtime to enable the PSP-BFS to screen backlog serology cases for potential DNA analysis and to provide overtime for the analysis of DNA backlogged cases. Funds are requested for equipment, and supplies to continue to streamline techniques to maximize throughput in the analysis of casework samples. The overtime is for the serology sections in the six (6) regional laboratories to screen evidence for DNA analysis and for the Forensic DNA Division to complete the DNA analysis.

This proposal will provide funding for the PSP-BFS to utilize overtime to process, analyze, review, and upload convicted offender samples analyzed in-house in order to input the genetic profiles into CODIS within 30 days of receipt.

The PSP-BFS is backlogged in each of its six (6) regional crime laboratories and its Forensic DNA Division. Overtime will be used to control and potentially reduce or eliminate these backlogs. The PSP-BFS is no different than many forensic laboratories throughout the country that experience large backlogs due to increasing casework demands, and rapidly expanding laws. The continued level of case submissions, coupled with resignations, time spent on validations, training, and maternity/sick leaves has made it difficult to reduce turnaround time.

The PSP-BFS remains dedicated to reducing its current average turnaround time in both the screening and DNA analysis while increasing the number of cases processed per month per analyst.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Instituto de Ciencias Forenses (PR)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0125
Award Amount: $584,794
Abstract: he PRIFS is an autonomous, full service forensic facility and currently serves the U.S. Citizens of Puerto Rico and stakeholders at the federal and local levels. Currently, the Puerto Rico Institute of Forensic Sciences has an existing forensic DNA Laboratory which is fully accredited by ASCLD-LAB and the FBI since 2008.

The proposed goals for this funding is to continue reducing Casework and Convicted Offender/Arrestee backlogs and increase throughput. FY2014 DNA Backlog Reduction Program funding will be used to retain currently employed personnel: seven (7) forensic DNA Analysts and five (5) forensic technicians. Three analyst and three technicians will be employed for 18 months, while the remaining four analysts and 2 technicians will be employed for 8 months. Overtime funds are also requested for in-house and transitory analysts and forensic technicians. A minimum of 117 forensic cases will be analyzed based on supplies/overtime funding requested; whereas a minimum of 1,815 CO/Arrestee single-source samples will be outsourced to virtually eliminate this type of backlog at the Institute when outsourcing under this proposal is completed. In lieu of the funding requested for personnel retention, a minimum of 258 additional forensic cases will be analyzed. Funds will also be used for attendance of personnel to the CODIS and PROMEGA annual conference and registration and workshop fees. A CODIS Consulting Services by a CODIS consultant who currently works in an ASCLD-LAB/FBI

accredited laboratory is requested to provide continuity to this important service and future aggressive efforts to eliminate CO/Arrestee backlog. In addition, funds awarded will be used to provide in-house continuing-education training to analysts during five days. Lastly, funds will be used for acquisition of supplies with which to carry out the proposed backlog reductions. All CO/Arrestee single-source genetic profiles obtained herein will be revised on a timely fashion and, if NDIS Acceptance Criteria is met, transferred to CODIS and uploaded to NDIS within 90 days of their receipt from the outsourcing vendor.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Rhode Island Department of Public Safety
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0055
Award Amount: $200,000
Abstract: The Rhode Island Department of Health Forensic Sciences Laboratory (RIDOH-FSL) serves the entire state of Rhode Island, with a population of approximately 1 million. Agencies served include state and municipal police, the Office of the State Medical Examiner, Attorney General, and other law enforcement agencies. The laboratory is divided into four sections: Drug Chemistry, Forensic Toxicology, Breath Analysis, and Forensic Biology/CODIS. The Laboratory is the sole Forensic DNA laboratory and CODIS site in the state, and is in good standing with CODIS and NDIS. Casework is submitted by more than 40 stakeholders. Database collections are carried out by RIDOH-FSL staff at the RI Adult Corrections Institution, and a separate probation collection office. The Laboratory is accredited under ISO 17025 standards by Forensic Quality Services, Inc, and undergoes external audits every two years as required by the FBI's DNA Quality Assurance Standards.
The federal funding from this award will help achieve the following goals and objectives:

a) Reduce the forensic DNA case backlog by funding a full time Forensic Scientist to process DNA casework;
b) Increase throughput of both casework and database functions by funding a Laboratory Technician to perform CODIS sample collection and processing, and casework functions as they relate to evidence management;
c) Provide required continuing education for each DNA analyst through training and travel;
d) Increase the capacity of the laboratory in both casework and CODIS with the purchase of a new CODIS server and software, direct amplification kits, convicted offender collection kits and infrared light evidence viewing system and computer, and smaller pieces of equipment such as a thermomixer, vortex, and mini-centrifuge.

The RIDOH-FSL expects to reduce the DNA casework backlog by at least 54 cases, and to be able to process incoming cases within an average 30 day time frame, assuming no changes in staff or workload. We believe that making the long term investment in personnel will increase the overall efficiency of our laboratory, thereby reducing the backlog of DNA casework. The laboratory technician will maintain our CODIS collections in real time and we expect to decrease the turn around time to be less than 30 days.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Beaufort County Council (SC)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0100
Award Amount: $100,000
Abstract: The Beaufort County Sheriff's Office Forensic Services Laboratory (BCSO-FSL) provides forensic DNA testing of evidence from criminal investigations for all law enforcement agencies within Beaufort County, South Carolina with funding provided by the Beaufort County Council. The laboratory was accredited by Forensic Quality Services in 2011 under ISO 17025; following accreditation, the number of submissions to the laboratory increased significantly as the laboratory began accepting cases with unknown suspects.

Federal funding will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic DNA/biology cases.
2. Replace old instrumentation with newer, faster quantification instrumentation and quantification system.
3. Maintain laboratory capabilities through purchase of a service contract for new equipment.

The BCSO-FSL expects to reduce the overall turnaround time to 100 days, increase the productivity of each analyst to at least 60 samples per month, and process at least 30 backlogged cases.

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FY14 Recipient Name: County of Greenville (SC)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0098
Award Amount: $100,000
Abstract: The County of Greenville is the agency that is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for all local law enforcement agencies and the coroner's office within the County of Greenville, South Carolina. The County of Greenville operates one forensic science laboratory under the Greenville County-Department of Public Safety (GC-DPS). The County of Greenville designates the GC-DPS as the agency responsible for conducting DNA analysis on DNA samples collected from all casework requested by the Greenville County Sheriff's Office and the Greenville City Police Department. The GC-DPS forensic DNA Laboratory began receiving and processing forensic biology/DNA cases from the two agencies listed above after the accreditation date of March 16, 2011.

The County of Greenville's current budgetary constraints prevents the GC-DPS forensic DNA Laboratory from offering free services to neighboring counties and municipalities in the upstate region of South Carolina. Although a fee-for-service is available to these agencies, their budgetary constraints have hindered them from using the GC-DPS forensic DNA Laboratory.

The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Expand services to regional upstate SC agencies at a no-cost basis, increasing overall capacity of GC-DPS forensic DNA Laboratory with forensic biology/DNA cases from regional agencies.
2. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases.
3. Provide required continuing education for analysts when needed.

The GC-DPS forensic DNA Laboratory expects to analyze at least 97 forensic biology and DNA cases with Overtime and Supply funds over the award period. The agency also expects to increase the capacity of each analyst to at least 25 samples per month.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Richland County Government (SC)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0084
Award Amount: $200,000
Abstract: The Richland County Sheriff's Department is currently seeking funds to enhance its capacity for DNA analysis through the DNA Backlog Reduction Program Formula Grant FY 2014. With the implementation of this grant, the following goals will be achieved; reduction of backlogged DNA cases and increase laboratory capacity with the objective of an overall reduction in violent and nonviolent crimes in Richland County through a continuation of current analyst throughput (54 cases/month). Without the grant-funded re-employment of the full time analyst and the full time technician, laboratory case throughput will be reduced by approximately 30 percent. The project plan/method is to utilize the grant-funded full time analyst and full time technician along with the two county-funded full time DNA analysts and existing laboratory infrastructure to coordinate and process DNA backlogged cases during the grant period. Annual training for the DNA Analysts will allow for continuing education. Funds will also allow for the purchase of upgraded instrumentation that was previously non-operational. The new instrumentation will decrease the footprint of laboratory and will bring this component of the DNA process up-to-date. Upgrades to operating system software for existing instrumentation that is required as the current operating system (Windows XP) is no longer supported by the manufacturer.

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FY14 Recipient Name: South Carolina Law Enforcement Division
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0111
Award Amount: $1,137,378
Abstract: SLED is responsible for the majority of DNA analysis requests for the state of South Carolina. The SLED DNA Laboratory is an NDIS participant lab in good standing and is eligible to upload appropriate profiles to NDIS.

Funds from this award will be specifically used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases. This will be accomplished by utilizing these funds for overtime salaries for DNA personnel, on-going support of grant-funded DNA personnel, and outsourcing of backlogged cases to qualifying fee-for-service laboratories.

2. Provide continuing education for DNA analysts and external training for new analysts and technicians who will have recently started accepting cases. Educational information and new technologies presented in these training events enhance the lab's capabilities in implementing new DNA methodologies and increasing throughput through exposure to novel automation and techniques.

3. Cover travel expenses associated with site visits to the fee-for-service laboratories that are currently contracted to perform DNA analysis on SLED cases.

4. Purchase approximately 15,000 collection kits for the purpose of arrestee/convicted offender DNA collection. With the recent implementation of arrestee legislation, DNA collection kits are being distributed to detention centers throughout the state. Other state agencies that supervise convicted offenders also use these collection kits to obtain a biological sample if an offender was not collected at arrest. SLED provides these kits at no cost to the collecting agency.

While many variables determine the number of backlogged cases, through the use overtime and grant funded personnel internally, and outsourcing analysis on property crimes externally; SLED expects to reduce the DNA case backlog by the end of the award period. Funding on this award will allow us to analyze 300 cases using overtime and federally funded supplies; and the analysts funded by this award will have access to overtime funds requested on this award and will work cases as well. Additionally, we anticipate that we will outsource approximately 377 cases using these funds.

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FY14 Recipient Name: South Dakota Office of the Attorney General
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0117
Award Amount: $200,000
Abstract: The South Dakota Forensic Laboratory has enjoyed a ~90 day turnaround time on DNA cases for several years now. This has largely been accomplished through the utilization of NIJ funding. Renewed funding will allow us to continue purchasing supplies for working cases and maintain a consistent turnaround time.

Funding of this grant will provide funding for five DNA examiners to receive their annually required DNA training.

Additionally, grant funds will continue offender DNA database sample analysis at an accredited fee-for-service (vendor) laboratory. This arrangement is the most cost effective and efficient process for the SDFL and NIJ. All samples were uploaded to CODIS within 10 working days of data receipt. The average number of days from offender sample receipt to CODIS entry is approximately 45 days.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Tennessee Bureau of Investigations
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0057
Award Amount: $2,419,898
Abstract: The Forensic Services Division of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) is the division within the TBI that is responsible for analyzing evidentiary material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies within the state of Tennessee. The TBI Forensic Services Division is composed of three crime laboratories located in Nashville, Knoxville, and Memphis. The TBI is headquartered in Nashville. Knoxville and Memphis are the two regional laboratories. The TBI is an approved NDIS participating laboratory, which allows for the upload of acceptable DNA profiles into the FBI CODIS

database from all convicted felons, registered sex offenders, and individuals arrested for certain violent felony offenses.

The TBI is facing continuing budgetary constraints, which affect the ability to analyze casework as well as the ability to analyze all convicted felon, sex offender registry, and arrestee samples collected across the state.

Funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Maintain or decrease the current backlog of casework samples.
2. Maintain the employment of contracted employees in each of the state laboratories.
3. Reduce the anticipated backlog of DNA database samples, both Convicted Offender/Sex Offender registry and Arrestee.
4. Provide the required continuing education for each analyst.

Currently, the three TBI DNA units have a collective turnaround time of approximately 177 days for all casework (138 days per case for DNA analysis), with a collective 65 samples worked per analyst per month (35 DNA samples worked per analyst per month). The TBI also expects to outsource 5,500 Convicted Offender and 26,500 Arrestee samples over the 2-year period for processing using grant funding, with at least 3,000 of these samples reviewed, using overtime funds from this award, prior to upload to NDIS.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Austin (TX)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0103
Award Amount: $198,678
Abstract: The City of Austin is a home-rule municipality situated in Travis, Williamson, and Hays Counties of Texas. The City of Austin Police Department Forensic Sciences Division Crime Laboratory provides forensic and investigative services to over 842,000 persons residing within 307 square miles.

In 2004, the city opened a state-of-the-art forensic facility and in 2005, received ASCLD/LAB Legacy Accreditation in the areas of biology, toxicology, controlled substances, firearms, latent print, and crime scene. In 2013, the APD Crime Lab underwent successful ASCLD/LAB internal Legacy and FBI audits. The laboratory is preparing for ASCLD/LAB ISO accreditation, with an external audit planned in the spring of 2015.

With this application, the City of Austin requests $198,678 in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice FY 2014 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program for a proposed project period of October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2016. The goals of this program are to reduce DNA casework backlogs, to improve the throughput of the DNA Section, and to provide required continuing education for existing city-funded forensic DNA analysts. If funding is awarded, the program anticipates improvements in the APD Crime Lab DNA Section by purposing funds for personnel, overtime,supplies, and training. The City of Austin requests grant funding in the amount of $71,191.36 to continue the grant funded salary of a DNA Serologist; $54,097.76 to allow existing laboratory employees to work on an overtime basis; $69,051.80 to purchase essential supplies; and, $4,337.08 to send three DNA Section laboratory analysts to a Promega meeting.

The impact of funding from the National Institute of Justice would be significant and would include: a reduction in DNA casework backlogs by a minimum 300 cases and the completion of required training for DNA Section analysts.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Fort Worth (TX)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0086
Award Amount: $256,444
Abstract: The City of Fort Worth is submitting an application for a grant under the DNA Backlog Reduction grant program in the amount of $256,444 to fund the purchase of a Lean/Six Sigma-type efficiency study, equipment, quality management software, DNA sample management software compatible with the lab's existing LIMS system, and professional development training. The Fort Worth Police Department (FWPD) Crime Lab is a unit of local government laboratory that primarily serves the City of Fort Worth Police Department and the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office. The City of Fort Worth represents a population of approximately 781,100 citizens. The Fort Worth Police Department Crime Lab is a multi-disciplinary crime lab consisting of five units (Chemistry, Firearms/Tool Mark, Latent Print, Biology Screening, and Evidence Handling Units) and provides Forensic DNA testing. In 2013, the Fort Worth Police Department submitted a total of 545 submissions to the Crime Lab for evidence screening and/or DNA analysis.

Problem Statement and Data
The Biology Unit in the FWPD Crime Lab is relatively new, having been ASCLD/LAB (International) accredited in June 2012. The Biology Unit was also successfully audited against the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Quality Assurance Standards at that time. Prior to June 2012 all FWPD DNA analyses were either outsourced to an accredited vendor lab or processed by the University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNT-HSC).

Currently the lab employs one serology/DNA trainee, one fully qualified serologist who is training to become a fully qualified DNA analyst, two fully qualified DNA analysts (one of which is the technical leader) and one vacant position. Our ability to turn around a high volume of casework is limited until the fall of 2014 when we anticipate the DNA trainee(s) will become fully qualified and the vacancy is filled by a fully qualified DNA analyst. In calendar year 2013 the Biology Unit screened and conducted full DNA profiling on 273 cases. The Biology Unit also outsourced approximately 294 cases. In order to reduce the turnaround time for forensic DNA samples to be processed and uploaded into CODIS, reduce backlog cases, increase throughput of DNA samples, reduce the need to outsource casework, enhance capacity and provide developmental training to qualified analysts and trainees, additional funds are needed to purchase a Lean Six Sigma-type efficiency study, equipment, quality management and sample management software compatible with our existing Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) and to provide needed professional developmental training for analysts.

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FY14 Recipient Name: City of Houston (TX)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0116
Award Amount: $1,261,144
Abstract: The Houston Police Department Crime Lab is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for the Houston Police Department. The Houston Police Department is the largest police department in the state of Texas. The Houston PD Crime Lab is primarily responsible for analyzing violent offenses and a much smaller number of non-violent cases such as burglaries using DNA technology. The HPD Crime Lab, in an effort to be compliant with Texas Senate Bill No. 1636, must address approximately 6,600 sexual assault kits that had been stored in the HPD property room but not previously tested, along with all new and incoming cases, totaling approximately 10,000 cases. The HPD Crime Lab receives approximately 1,000 new sexual assault kits/year. The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Complete reviews on 3,080 cases that have been outsourced in an effort to fully deplete the backlog in the HPD Property Room and HPD Crime Lab. A backlogged case is one that is not completed by report within 30 days of submission to the lab. Approximately 10,000 cases will be tested by vendor labs. These cases are currently being returned and will continue to be returned through May or June, 2014. These reviews will result in CODIS entries, where applicable. Overtime reviews associated with this grant will be strictly limited to cases tested using funds other than DNA Backlog Reduction Program awards.
2. Procure additional technology and equipment, including a PCR amplification kit that includes the additional NDIS-approved loci, such as the Globalfiler kit, or other NDIS-approved PCR amplification kit, 3500xL HID Genetic Analyzers which enable use of this new technology, a third 7500 Real Time PCR System, and DNA data analysis software.
3. Invest in the service contracts, validation, and training of the new technology and equipment so that analysts can maintain productivity.
4. Provide access to outside training for DNA analysts to ensure analysts remain abreast of current trends and technologies in the field and satisfy continuing education requirements.
5. Reduce the forensic DNA case backlog through outsourcing property-crime cases.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Bexar County (TX)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0099
Award Amount: $457,402
Abstract: As part of our ongoing effort to advance the workload capacity and reduce the backlog of pending forensic Serology/DNA casework at the Bexar County Criminal Investigation Laboratory (BCCIL), an ASCLD/LAB accredited laboratory since 1998 (ISO 17025 accredited as of January 2009), and to better serve our community, we propose continuing the development and implementation of a DNA backlog reduction program through the hiring of two (2) full-time forensic scientists be trained and qualified in forensic DNA analysis and two (2) part-time temporary forensic serologists to screen evidence and free trained and qualified DNA analysts to focus on processing and analyzing DNA samples, rather than screening evidence.

The Assistant Crime Laboratory Director (ACLD) will manage and monitor this capacity enhancement program. The ACLD, acting as the Grant Manager and Point of Contact, will compile and send all necessary progress reports to the appropriate agencies.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Harris County (TX)
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0124
Award Amount: $523,942
Abstract: The goal of this proposed project is to reduce our current number of backlogged cases and to reduce our turnaround time to 60 days. The use of funding from the Backlog Reduction program will assist the HCIFS Forensic Genetics Laboratory (HCIFSFGL) by increasing the laboratory's DNA casework capacity. Funding will improve the laboratory's ability to assist in criminal and death investigations.

The HCIFSFGL had approximately 1468 cases available for DNA testing as of December 31, 2013. With funds requested through this grant, we plan to decrease turnaround time and reduce the backlog of DNA cases. Additionally, we will continue the implementation of processes begun in the current project year that will improve our efficiency and increase the number of samples that can be completed per analyst.

To maintain and increase our capacity, we plan to continue to employ contract personnel and purchase DNA testing supplies not provided by our in-house budget. The purchase of new equipment as well as the upgrade of current equipment will assist in reducing turn around time. Equipment upgrades will also allow implementation of newer technology that is expected to be required for continued participation in the CODIS program. Funds from this award will also be used to provide scientific continuing education to DNA Analysts to meet accreditation requirements.

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FY14 Recipient Name: State of Texas
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0090
Award Amount: $2,603,214
Abstract: The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is currently operating forensic DNA laboratories in eight cities, and will open a ninth in Laredo by September 2014. On April 30, 2014, these DNA laboratories had a combined number of 2,110 un-worked forensic DNA cases awaiting testing. At the present output rate for these type of cases, this is a five month inventory of forensic DNA testing work. This time to complete testing is a problem, and the DPS labs wish to reduce that analysis and reporting time.
With the FY 2014 DNA Backlog Reduction Program funds, the DPS laboratories would plan to examine evidence in 2,000 forensic DNA cases in house using both the fourteen grant salaried employees as well as by paying overtime for the state's seventy DNA Forensic Scientists to work DNA cases. Grant funds would also be used to pay for the supplies needed to process these 2,000 DNA cases.
This project would be expected to reduce the time required to complete testing on forensic DNA cases from five months to three months by the end of the project on September 30, 2016.

Funds will also be used to reduce the backlog of DNA database samples awaiting testing. DNA scientists in the DPS DNA CODIS laboratory will be paid overtime to analyze database samples from felony offenders, and to upload the offenders' DNA profiles into the CODIS database.
In addition, capacity for forensic DNA testing will be enhanced in the DPS DNA laboratories by acquiring continuing education for around sixty DNA Forensic Scientists, and by updating software and hardware for DNA testing.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Tarrant County
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0088
Award Amount: $374,182
Abstract: The Tarrant County Medical Examiner's (TCME) Office is a regional medical examiner's facility located in Fort Worth, Texas that provides services to Tarrant, Parker, Denton, and Johnson Counties. These counties represent a core population of approximately 2.75 million citizens. The Medical Examiner's Office operates a multi-discipline crime laboratory that offers Forensic Biology and DNA analysis. The Forensic Biology/DNA laboratory not only serves the Medical Examiner, District Attorney, and other Tarrant County agencies, but also provides analysis, on a fee for service basis, to law enforcement agencies throughout the four counties served, as well as many other agencies throughout North Central Texas and the rest of the United States. Based on data reported to the Department of Public Safety Uniform Crime Reporting Bureau indicated that the percentage of the Texas UCR Part 1 Violent Crimes represented by our service area was 6.034% in 2012.

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) has allocated $6,201,230 for the state of Texas and the TCME Crime Laboratory has been offered $374,182 as its share of the formula grant.

The project would fund salary and benefits for a serologist to assist in the initial screening of biological samples, purchase software upgrades for instrumentation currently in use in the DNA lab, fund validation services for new DNA methodologies and Lean-Six-Sigma studies within the laboratory, as well as computer equipment for the serologist. In addition, required continuing education for the serologist and existing analysts would be funded.

The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals and objectives:

1. Increase capacity, decrease the DNA backlog, and decrease the DNA case turnaround time by funding salary and benefits for a forensic biologist (serologist) to screen forensic samples for the presence of biological fluids prior to DNA analysis.
2. Increase capacity, decrease the DNA backlog, and decrease the DNA case turnaround time by providing validation services that would otherwise require the time of caseworking analysts.
3. Increase capacity, decrease the DNA backlog, and decrease the DNA case turnaround time by undergoing Lean Six Sigma-type studies to increase laboratory efficiency.
4. Increase capacity by equipping the grant-funded serologist with required computer and scanner hardware to appropriate perform the requirements of the position
5. Decrease the backlog and DNA case turnaround time by providing timely upgrades to CE data collection and real-time PCR instrument software, and to automated genotyping software, streamlining the processing of samples

6. Provide the required continuing education for analysts within the laboratory.

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FY14 Recipient Name: University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0089
Award Amount: $518,609

Abstract: The University of North Texas Center for Human Identification (UNTCHI) is a State of Texas criminal justice agency providing DNA analysis for both forensic cases as well as for the identification of missing persons and human remains. UNTCHI is accredited by ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board-FQS under the requirements of ISO 17025 and the FBI's Quality Assurance Standards. UNTCHI provides DNA analysis to law enforcement agencies throughout the State of Texas at no cost utilizing funds from the DNA Backlog Reduction awards. The DNA analysis is primarily for sexual assaults, homicides, aggravated assaults, and property crime cases. In addition, UNTCHI has served as a local crime laboratory for the City of Fort Worth and the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office, performing DNA testing and providing expert testimony. In addition, more than 50 other counties within the State of Texas have submitted cases for DNA analysis. UNTCHI functions as an adjunct laboratory to the Texas Department of Public Safety State Crime Laboratory (TXDPS). TXDPS and other agencies within the State routinely refer cases requiring: mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) analysis, sexual assaults involving products of conception, and those that require familial and/or kinship relatedness statistical analysis.

A variety of DNA technologies are utilized, including autosomal STRs, mini-autosomal STRs (MiniFiler™ System), Y chromosome STRs and mitochondrial DNA analysis. Cases involving degraded samples or samples with a low level male contributor, which typically cannot be detected with traditional autosomal STR systems, have benefited from these types of testing. UNTCHI continues to work closely with both law enforcement and prosecuting agencies to select only the most probative samples for DNA testing. This not only provides a form of education to our submitting agencies, but also helps to improve laboratory productivity and cost effectiveness.

The federal funding provided through this award will be used to achieve the following goals and objectives:

Goal 1: Continue to process and analyze UCR Part 1 Crime Cases submitted to UNTCHI.
- Objective A: Fund the salaries of 3 analysts, 1 forensic technologist, 50% salary of a Technical Leader and 50% salary for two evidence custodians.
- Objective B: Complete a minimum of 400 cases
- Objective C: Purchase supplies to work forensic backlog cases

Goal 2: Reduce the number of days from the time a sample is received to the time a report is sent to the submitting agency.
- Objective A: Complete a minimum of 9 cases per month per analyst.
- Objective B: Reduce the average turn-around time for a case which is currently 89 days, from receipt to reporting.

Goal 3: Reduce the number of backlogged DNA cases

Objective A: Reduce our current existing backlog and complete as many new submissions as possible under this FY 2014 award. The number of backlogged forensic cases found on October 1, 2014 will serve as the baseline for this award. At the end of the last reporting period, March 2014, the backlog was 123 cases > 30 days.

In collaboration with the TXDPS, UNTCHI is eligible for $518,608.00 of the available funding allotted to the State of Texas. UNTCHI does not receive any State funds for conducting DNA Forensic Casework testing. Funding provided through this program will allow UNTCHI to pay the salaries of three forensic analysts, 50% salary of a Technical Leader,one forensic technologist and 50% salary of two evidence custodians. Funding will also be utilized for the purchase of reagents and supplies required to analyze forensic cases submitted to UNTCHI.

With continued process improvements, these funds will allow UNTCHI to reduce the current DNA casework backlog as well as complete the DNA analysis on a minimum of 400 cases. By the end of the award period it is anticipated that each analyst will complete a minimum of 9 cases per month or approximately 18 samples per analyst per month with a turn-around time of less than 89 days per case. Turn-around time includes both mitochondrial and STR analysis. Approximately 3-5% of cases submitted to UNTCHI require mtDNA analysis which is more laborious and time consuming as compared with traditional STR testing. All eligible forensic DNA profiles will be entered into CODIS (SDIS) and uploaded into NDIS where applicable.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Utah Department of Public Safety
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0013
Award Amount: $342,222
Abstract: The mission of the Utah Department of Public Safety - Bureau of Forensic Services (UBFS) is to provide a safe and secure environment for the citizens of Utah through the application of forensic science. The goal of the forensic biology section is to use DNA technology to help agencies achieve case closure. The laboratory provides accurate and sound science during forensic biology and DNA analysis, while striving to maintain a rapid response to analysis requests.

UBFS maintains three laboratories throughout the State of Utah: Northern, Southern and Central laboratories. The forensic biology section is located in the Central laboratory and is responsible for analyzing and processing all forensic DNA samples as well as storing, processing, and maintaining all forensic DNA database samples. The UBFS continues to see an increase in case submissions for DNA analysis as well as an increase in the number of samples per case and a continual demand for timely results and reports. UBFS continues to strive to implement new and innovative ways to process cases to help eliminate our case backlog.

The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the forensic DNA case backlog and decrease case turnaround times by purchasing equipment to help streamline casework and maintain forensic scientist hired with previous grants.
2. Increase the capacity of the Utah Bureau of Forensic Services by purchasing automated extraction instruments.

3. Provide required continuing education by funding training opportunities for DNA analysts.
4. Decrease/maintain CODIS backlog through outsourcing of offender samples.

UBFS anticipates reducing our DNA case backlog by increasing throughput in the biology section. The laboratory expects to process at least 4,000 database samples using Federal funding. The goal of UBFS is to decrease and maintain a turnaround time to less than 45 days, while sample throughput for serology/DNA will increase by 10%.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Virginia Department of Forensic Science
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0044
Award Amount: $906,457
Abstract: The Virginia Department of Forensic Science (DFS), an Executive Branch agency, is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations upon request by any state or local law enforcement agency, Commonwealth's Attorney or medical examiner in the Commonwealth of Virginia. DFS maintains four regional laboratories - the Central Laboratory in Richmond, the Eastern Laboratory in Norfolk, the Western Laboratory in Roanoke, and the Northern Laboratory in Manassas. As required by statute, DFS is also responsible for receiving and analyzing DNA samples collected from Virginia's convicted felons and certain arrestees for inclusion, storage and maintenance in the Virginia DNA Data Bank. Since July 1, 2011, state law also requires DNA sample collection from individuals convicted of certain misdemeanor sex offenses.

DFS is requesting funding under this program to maintain the current capacity in the Forensic Biology Section, to increase capacity in the DNA Data Bank, and to provide continuing education for DFS Forensic Scientists.

The goals of this grant project are as follows:

1. To maintain the current capacity of the Forensic Biology Section by continuing to fund five fully-qualified forensic scientist positions and one full-time forensic laboratory specialist position and by replacing older instrumentation with new instrumentation and related software.

2. To increase capacity in the DNA Data Bank by adding automated equipment.

3. To provide the required continuing education for forensic scientists in the Forensic Biology Section.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Vermont Department of Public Safety
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0063
Award Amount: $200,000
Abstract: The Vermont Forensic Laboratory (VFL) is located in the Division of Criminal Justice Services in the Department of Public Safety. The VFL is responsible for providing DNA analysis of evidentiary material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies and medical examiners within the state of Vermont. The VFL is the only

forensic laboratory performing DNA analysis in Vermont. The Statutes of Vermont designates the VFL as the agency responsible for conducting DNA analysis on DNA samples collected from all convicted felons, some misdemeanor offenders as well as all felony arraignees in the state of Vermont; the VFL is responsible for storing and maintaining the resultant profiles in the Vermont DNA Data Bank, and uploading qualifying samples to CODIS.

The VFL is facing staffing and budgetary constraints. This has placed a burden on both the database and case working sections to maximize runs. The laboratory hopes to continue the employment of a grant funded DNA analyst position. At the present time there are no state funded positions available. The lab is struggling with vacancies, some positions have been eliminated. This results in significant backlogs especially in casework and to a lesser extent, the database section. The Federal funding from this award will help to alleviate the training burden and will assist in giving analysts more time and supplies to work forensic casework. This award will be specifically used for the following goals:

1. Reduce the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases through the use of overtime and with the grant funded analyst position.
2. Reduce the backlog of DNA database samples through overtime and supplies.
4. Increase and maintain the capacity and capabilities of the VFL casework unit through the use of automation through validation of the QiaCube instrument.
4. Maintain continuing education for all analysts in the lab.

The VFL expects to analyze at least 180 forensic DNA cases over the 24 months of the grant funding through the efforts of the DNA qualified grant funded analyst as well as 50 cases worked on an overtime basis with supplies purchased with grant funds.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Washington State Patrol
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0121
Award Amount: $1,187,293

Abstract: The Washington State Patrol through the Crime Laboratory Division is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies and medical examiners within the state. Under state law (RCW 43.43.756) the Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory Division (WSPCLD) is the established public provider of Forensic DNA services in Washington State . There are 5 casework DNA laboratories located throughout the state: Seattle, Tacoma, Marysville, Vancouver and Spokane. The CODIS database lab is also located in the same Seattle facility as the Crime Lab.

Staffing continues to be a challenge. The WSPCLD was allowed to fill 5 vacant DNA analyst positions in 2013 using state funds. These individuals are currently in-training. Unfortunately 4 casework analysts, the CODIS Technical Lead and the DNA Information Technologist left WSP employment. Consequently, when the 5 new staff are trained, the numbers of state funded DNA staff will nearly be back to 2013 levels. There are also 4 DNA analysts either on or will be on maternity leave in 2014, reducing staffing levels available for casework even further. Previous award funding was used to establish a DNA IT position, 3 Lab Tech positions, 1 CODIS Forensic Scientist position and 2 Casework Forensic Scientist positions. Due to delays in the WSP HRD staffing process only the CODIS Forensic Scientist position and one Lab Tech position has been filled. Unfortunately, the Lab Tech hired did not pass the probationary period. Funds are being requested to continue employment of all 6 established positions. The new focus this year will be to add outsourcing cases to help reduce the backlog.

This award will be specifically used for the following goals:

1) To minimize and reduce the backlog of DNA case requests.
2) To reduce the backlog of DNA convicted offender database samples.
3) To increase the number of lower priority cases completed to improve overall turn around times.
4) To maintain and increase the capacity of the WSPCLD casework laboratories.
5) To maintain continuing education for casework and database analysts through attendance to national and regional conferences.

The WSPCLD expects to keep the backlog of DNA case requests under 300 at the end of the award period despite continuing effects of state budgetary constraints on staffing levels. The mean turnaround time is expected to be reduced to 60 days or less, and the analyst throughput in the casework sections is expected to increase 5%. The WSPCLD expects to maintain the 76 day mean turnaround time from receipt of CODIS submissions.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Wisconsin Department of Justice
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0112
Award Amount: $935,577
Abstract: The WI DOJ-CLB is the agency that is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies within the State of Wisconsin. The WI DOJ-CLB maintains two regional DNA forensic science laboratories-located in Madison and Milwaukee. Wisconsin State Statute 973.047 designates the WI DOJ-CLB as the agency responsible for conducting analysis on DNA samples collected from all convicted offenders, violent felony arrestees and certain other offenses. The WI DOJ-CLB is responsible for storing and maintaining the resultant profiles in the WI DNA Data Bank. the Madison Laboratory maintains the DNA Databank Unit.

The WI DOJ-CLB is facing budgetary constraints, as well as expansion of the DNA database to include violent felony arrestees. This will exponentially increase the number of DNA database samples the agency will have to analyze. The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1. Maintain the backlog of forensic biology/DNA cases to under a 40 day turnaround
2. Reduce the backlog of DNA Database samples
3. Maintain current technologies in DNA and replace aging equipment
4. Provide required continuing education to DNA analysts.

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FY14 Recipient Name: West Virginia State Police
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0074
Award Amount: $341,814
Abstract: The West Virginia State Police Forensic Laboratory (WVSPFL) is the agency that is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local enforcement agencies within the state of West Virginia. The WVSPFL is a centrally located laboratory in South Charleston, WV. The Code of West Virginia designates the

WVSPFL as the agency responsible for maintaining DNA profiles from samples collected from individuals convicted of certain crimes in the state of West Virginia. The WVSPFL is the state designated CODIS Laboratory. The WVSPFL uses Marshall University Forensic Science Center for the analysis of DNA database samples.

The WVSP is facing budgetary constraints for funding continued education for its DNA analysts, funding additional full-time laboratory positions and funding external DNA audits. The Federal funding from this award will be used for the following goals:

1- Reduce the backlog of forensic/biology DNA cases.
2- Reduce the turnaround time for DNA database samples.
3- Maintain continuing education for analysts in the laboratory.
4- Increase and maintain the capabilities of the WVSP forensic laboratory.

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FY14 Recipient Name: Wyoming Office of the Attorney General
Award Number: 2014-DN-BX-0107
Award Amount: $200,000
Abstract: The Wyoming State Crime laboratory (WSCL) is the agency that is responsible for analyzing evidential material associated with criminal investigations for all state and local law enforcement agencies and medical examiners within the state of Wyoming. Wyoming State Statute designates the WSCL as the agency responsible for conducting DNA analysis on DNA samples collected from all convicted felony offenders and qualifying sex offenders in the State of Wyoming. The WSCL is responsible for storing and maintaining the resultant profiles in the Wyoming State DNA Database.

The WSCL is continuing to face mandatory state budget constraints in the face of an increasing case-load. The loss of one of our most productive DNA analysts in December 2012 has placed an increased burden on the laboratory. This analyst was also the Biology Supervisor, and the supervisor position was not filled due to budget cut backs. Instead, the supervisor duties were assigned to the quality assurance manager at existing pay, and the remaining analysts have been pressured to fill the increased workload with very little resources.

The analyst mentioned above was not the only position in the laboratory that was not re-filled. In December 2012, biology staff were left with additional document scanning duties after one of the administrative staff retired and her position was not filled.

The Federal funding from this award will help to alleviate burdens on the DNA unit as well as assist in giving analysts more time and supplies to work forensic and database casework.

The Federal funding from this award will be used for projects with the following goals:

1. Reducing or maintaining the current forensic DNA case backlog through analyst overtime and supply purchases.
2. Ensuring that the DNA database sample backlog will not increase through analyst overtime and supply purchases.

3. Increasing the capacity of the laboratory by funding supplies for training analysts and validation and by fully funding the employment of one part-time contract technician to assist analysts in both the casework and database laboratories.

The WSCL can expect to reduce or maintain the DNA case backlog by the end of the award period. The agency expects to work at least 1,196 Offender samples and 112 cases with monies from this solicitation.

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