

SAFE ACT UPDATE
Interim Joint Committee
BR Sub. on Justice & Judiciary
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Counting the Cases

- A single **case** may have multiple assignments
 - Homicide case with evidence that goes to Biology, Firearms, Trace for different tests
- The **assignments** may be for different sections or the same section. One report per assignment
 - Sexual assault case typically has two reports but sometimes four or more
 - Serology on Kit – report #1
 - DNA on Kit – report #2
 - Y-str on Kit– report #3
 - Reference STD Comparison – report #4
 - (Clothing/additional items- serology)
 - (Clothing/additional items- DNA)
 - (Clothing/additional items- Y-str)

Current Turnaround Time

The average amount of time to complete a sexual assault evidence kit is currently 262 days.

It will only get worse before it gets better. We lost one analyst in September to a research type job in Lexington that pays substantially more and we just lost two more trained Biologists to the Washington State Police Forensic Laboratories.

Current # of cases with pending kits: 1,138

Capacity – Historical View

Year	Assignments Made	Assignments Completed	# of Analysts	Avg Assign/Analyst
2010	2094	2141	21	102
2011	2170	2240	21	107
2012	2364	2358	22	107
2013	2234	2143	24	89
2014	2209	2122	23	92
2015	2227	2162	24	90
2016	2195	2073	27	77
2017	2700	2396	38	63
2018	3590	2683	34	79
2019 Jan – Oct 31	3995	2768	29	110

Current number of pending biology assignments: 2980

Cases & Carryover Are Increasing

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 (10/31)
"New" Cases Submitted for Biology Testing	987	1481	966	1229	1604
Total Cases (Includes Backlog and Cold Cases from previous years = Carryover)	1775 788 Carryover	2315 834 Carryover	2045 1079 Carryover	2542 1313 Carryover	3061 1457 Carryover

Turnover Hampers Improvement Efforts

Year	Staff	Avg Assign/Analyst	# Analysts that left
2010	21	102	0
2011	21	107	0
2012	22	107	0
2013	24	89	6
2014	23	92	3
2015	24	90	2
2016	27	77	4
2017	38	63	3
2018	34	79	4
2019	29	110	4

Seven forensic biologists working in 2010 were gone by January 2018. An additional 11 forensic biologists came and went during that same time period. In 2018 and 2019 we have lost another 8. That's 26 of 39 positions. **66.7% turnover since 2010.**

	0 years experience		0 years experience
Kentucky	\$32,042.00	Vermont	\$45,885.00
Mississippi	\$33,115.00	New York	\$46,162.00
Alabama	\$34,761.60	Maryland	\$46,477.00
South Carolina	\$38,760.00	Idaho	\$47,840.00
Louisiana	\$39,166.00	Utah	\$48,235.00
Florida	\$40,948.18	Wisconsin	\$48,630.40
Missouri	\$41,184.00	Maine	\$48,796.00
California	\$41,376.00	South Dakota	\$49,318.56
Michigan	\$41,512.00	Delaware	\$50,043.00
Alaska	\$41,868.00	New Hampshire	\$50,835.00
North Carolina	\$42,667.00	North Dakota	\$51,209.60
Minnesota	\$42,868.80	Oklahoma	\$51,401.94
Pennsylvania	\$43,012.00	Nebraska	\$51,834.00
Texas	\$43,388.28	Colorado	\$52,296.00
Georgia	\$44,000.00	Montana	\$53,000.00
Indiana	\$44,330.00	New Mexico	\$55,442.00
Virginia	\$44,472.00	Massachusetts	\$55,935.88
Wyoming	\$44,509.08	Ohio	\$56,472.00
Arizona	\$44,809.00	Iowa	\$58,801.60
Arkansas	\$45,010.00	Oregon	\$61,728.00
West Virginia	\$45,050.00	New Jersey	\$64,280.29
Washington	\$45,096.00	Nevada (LVMPD)	\$64,995.24
Tennessee*	\$45,324.00	Connecticut	\$68,692.07
Illinois	\$45,504.00	Hawaii	
Kansas	\$45,760.00	Rhode Island	

Something That CAN Help



The ANDE Rapid DNA instrument - FBI NDIS Approved

"In Kentucky, we believe in justice. Regardless of where you live, or work or play in the state, you should expect to be safe from crimes of sexual assault."

— Justice and Public Safety Cabinet Secretary John Tilley

Rapid DNA Success Stories:

1) January 1, 2019, a woman was sexually assaulted in the Louisville area. The survivor reported the crime and submitted to the sexual assault medical examination at the University of Louisville Hospital within the first 24 hours of the incident. The evidence was analyzed using the ANDE Rapid DNA technology. In less than three hours, KSP obtained a single source of male DNA from the survivor's vaginal swab and said DNA was searched against a copy of the State DNA database. The search generated a hit to an offender whose DNA was tested on robbery and manslaughter charges in 2003. The identification of the suspect was reported to law enforcement including a Rapid DNA report from KSP.

2) The survivor, in this case, was a homeless woman. She was staying with a friend in Louisville. While sitting on a porch, she was approached by a man asking if she wanted to party. She declined. Later on the same day, someone broke into the house while she was in bed, pulled her out of bed, wrapped a bed sheet around her head, and raped her. She reported to the police that she recalled his voice to be the same man that approached her earlier that day. Her vaginal swab was analyzed with ANDE Rapid DNA and a single source of male DNA was recovered. The suspect's DNA profile was searched and obtained a database hit with an offender that was previously charged on multiple counts of sex crimes. The DNA results were immediately reported to the police and the investigation was able to begin immediately thereafter. He has since been arrested and indicted.

3) The medical report submitted with this case indicated that the survivor was kept against her will for several weeks and repeatedly raped by a man. We were able to obtain a DNA profile of a single male source and generated a database hit. The identification of the suspect was reported to law enforcement within a few hours. The police stated that there was another recent case with a similar modus operandi from the same area where the survivor reported that she was held against her will for weeks, physically assaulted and raped by a man with a similar description. The first survivor did not have a sexual assault kit collected so there was no DNA available to help identify a suspect. Due to the real time DNA results in the second case, law enforcement quickly captured the suspect. The suspect claimed that the women agreed to sex in exchange for drugs and agreed to stay with him. The case is pending for prosecution.

Bottom Line?

If we had full staff who are completely trained and each working an average of 110 assignments per year....

That's 4,290 assignments per year

Add Rapid DNA to the mix and we could easily clear 5,000 per year

Questions?

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