**U.S. Department of Justice**
Office of Justice Programs
*National Institute of Justice*

SEPTEMBER 2016

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

# REPORT
# FORENSIC SCIENCE

## Fiscal Year 2015 Funding for

## DNA Analysis, Capacity Enhancement and Other Forensic Activities

By Gerald LaPorte, Heather Waltke and Charles Heurich

NIJ

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NCJ 249905

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# FISCAL YEAR 2015 FUNDING FOR DNA ANALYSIS, CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT AND OTHER FORENSIC ACTIVITIES

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## Overview

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) — the research, development, and evaluation arm of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) — is dedicated to improving the understanding of crime and justice issues through science. Annually, NIJ has received funds through the Department of Justice Appropriations Act. In 2015, this appropriation (Public Law 113–235[1]) included $125,000,000 for three purpose activities: i) DNA-related and forensic programs and activities, of which $117,000,000 is for a DNA analysis and capacity enhancement program and for other local, state, and federal forensic activities; ii) $4,000,000 for the purposes described in the Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing Program (Public Law 108–405, section 412); and iii) $4,000,000 for Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program grants, including as authorized by section 304 of Public Law 108–405. NIJ also received $12,000,000 for Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Grants under part BB of Title I of the 1968 Act. Finally, the forensic science programs received an additional $4,800,000 from other funding sources within NIJ to supplement projects directly related to research and development in forensic science. This report serves to highlight activities funded under NIJ's appropriation under the Department of Justice Appropriations Act of 2015, specifically the allocation of funds for DNA and other forensic activities, and the impact these efforts have had on the criminal justice system.

Since 2008, NIJ has received funding for similar purposes to include, but are not limited to, support for DNA analysis and laboratory capacity enhancement; technical support programs for state and local law enforcement; and the only dedicated program in the nation for forensic science research, development, and evaluation. All of these programs have been—and continue to be—a critical support mechanism for the forensic science community, and most critically, they directly support NIJ's strategy to improve the quality and practice of forensic science.

Each year, NIJ considers how to allocate these funds based on the needs of the forensic science community; the demand to increase capacity and reduce the backlog of DNA evidence awaiting testing in laboratories; NIJ Technology Working Group recommendations;[2] results from studies and new findings; and NIJ's strategic priorities.

The programs described in this report are overseen by NIJ's Office of Investigative and Forensic Sciences, the federal government's lead agency for forensic science research and development as well as the administration of capacity enhancement and technical assistance programs. The mission of this office is to improve the quality and practice of forensic science through innovative research and development, technology advancement, information exchange, and efforts to improve the capacity of our nation's forensic laboratories, leading to reductions of

evidence backlogs. Building on two previous reports from the National Research Council (NRC)—*Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward & Strengthening the National Institute of Justice*—NIJ commissioned the NRC to evaluate NIJ's role in bolstering the forensic sciences research infrastructure. In September 2015, NRC released *Support for Forensic Science Research: Improving the Scientific Role of the National Institute of Justice*.

The NRC Committee found that NIJ has made considerable progress in meeting the agency's scientific mission. They noted that "NIJ has a unique and critical role" among the diverse federal agencies working to positively impact the progress of forensic science because unlike other agencies, NIJ has a mission focused on forensic science research and development. They also concluded that NIJ should continue on with its current path, and provide a plan for how NIJ could build on its progress by taking strategic steps to improve its "capacity to support high-quality forensic science research." Finally, the NRC Committee found that the efforts of NIJ have: "(1) restored authority that is appropriate for a science agency and addressed some previous concerns about NIJ's independence; and (2) contributed to the building of a research infrastructure necessary to develop and sustain research that advances forensic science methods." The NRC Committee reports that NIJ has made progress in:

- Making its processes to identify the needs of forensic science practitioners more transparent;
- Increasing the level of autonomy and independence for its scientific peer review process;
- Obtaining final sign-off authority for its research awards;
- Expanding the size of its research and development portfolio across forensic science disciplines;
- Expanding outreach and dissemination to the practice and research communities;
- Attracting new investigators to forensic science research;
- Increasing the number of graduate student fellowships; and
- Formalizing partnerships with other federal agencies involved in forensic science research, including the National Institute of Standards and Technology; the FBI Laboratory; the Defense Forensic Science Center; and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

The report and its recommendations can be read in full at http://www.nap.edu/catalog/21772/support-for-forensic-science-research-improving-the-scientific-role-of.

NIJ recognizes that while many forensic science needs require a long-term strategy to be fully addressed, there are immediate needs that must also be addressed. The immediate needs are found primarily in state and local forensic laboratories, which face the dual challenges of satisfying increasing demand while keeping up with the latest advances. NIJ remains committed to a sustained effort that recognizes research and development as a long-term solution while providing continued support to forensic laboratories to address the immediate concerns of backlog reduction.

## The Fiscal Year 2015 Forensic Science Programs

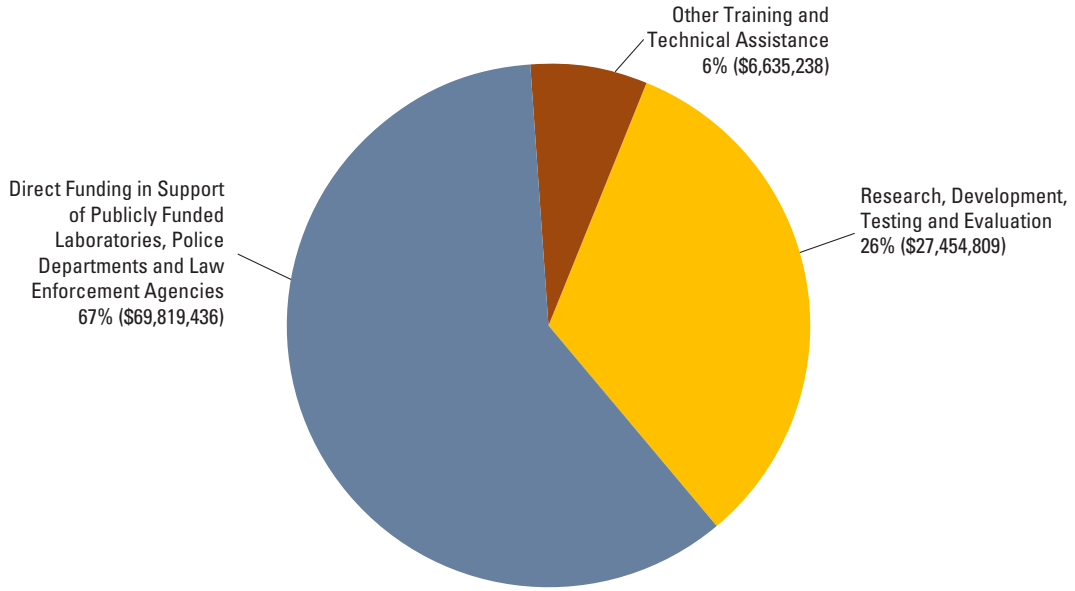
From the $117 million appropriation amount, $103.9 million was made available to NIJ to award grants, contracts, and interagency agreements in three broad categories:[3]

- Direct Funding for, or in support of, State and Local Police Departments and Crime Laboratories
  - DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program
  - DNA Arrestee Collection Process Implementation Grants Program
  - Using DNA Technology to Identify the Missing
  - Research and Development for Publicly Funded Laboratories to Assess the Testing and Processing of Physical Evidence
- Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation
  - Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal Justice Purposes

- Reimbursable Agreements with Federal Partners[4]
- Other Training and Technical Assistance
- National Missing and Unidentified Persons System
- Forensic Technology Center of Excellence
- Other Technical Assistance

Of the $103.9 million, approximately 67 percent went directly to crime laboratories, law enforcement agencies, and police departments to process, record, screen, and analyze forensic DNA and/or DNA database samples; increase the capacity of forensic laboratories; reduce the backlog of samples awaiting DNA analysis; and identify missing persons. Twenty-six percent of available funding was dedicated to developing highly discriminating, accurate, reliable, cost-effective, and rapid methods for the identification, analysis, and interpretation of physical evidence. Six percent of the available funding was allocated to technical assistance to enhance the use of DNA and other forensic sciences in the criminal justice system.[5]
(See Figure 1, Distribution of Funds).

**Figure 1. Distribution of Funds**




***Categories of support***

**67.2% Direct Funding in Support of Publicly Funded Laboratories, Police Departments and Law Enforcement Agencies**

- DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program
- DNA Arrestee Collection Process Implementation Grants Program
- Research and Development For Publicly Funded Forensic Laboratories to Assess the Testing and Processing of Physical Evidence
- Using DNA Technology to Identify the Missing

**6.4% Other Training and Technical Assistance[6]**

- National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs)
- Forensic Technology Center of Excellence
- Other Training and Technical Assistance

**26.4% Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation**

- Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal Justice Purposes
- Reimbursable Agreements with Federal Partners

## Background

NIJ's efforts to reduce laboratory backlogs have resulted in a significant improvement in the quantity and—importantly—also in a dramatic increase in the quality of DNA testing. The impact, however, has been tempered by a substantial increase in demand for DNA testing. Ironically, the increased demand is in part due to NIJ-supported improvements to DNA testing. As the technology becomes more helpful to law enforcement, the demand for DNA testing increases.

DNA evidence backlogs in laboratories arise from a combination of supply and demand. Assessing the impact of the increased DNA testing and analysis on criminal justice outcomes requires tracking supply (available equipment, personnel, and other resources) and demand (DNA evidence testing and analysis requests of the laboratory) separately. However, to gauge the practical impact of funds dispersed to process DNA evidence, NIJ collects information related to the number of DNA profiles obtained from crime scene evidence at accredited forensic laboratories, which are then uploaded to a central database known as the National DNA Index System (NDIS), a component of the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). Additionally, laboratories upload DNA profiles obtained from convicted offenders and arrestees to CODIS. Therefore, NIJ considers the size of the national database an important measure, as additional uploaded DNA samples will increase the likelihood of identifying offenders and potential offenders through DNA testing now and in the future. Using these metrics, it becomes clear that the DNA testing efforts supported by NIJ are having a sizeable impact.

As of August 2015, the FBI reported that nearly 280,000 investigations have been aided by CODIS.[7] Since 2009, the number of forensic profiles uploaded to CODIS increased 118 percent and the number of convicted offender profiles uploaded to CODIS increased 53 percent. Much of the increase in forensic profiles uploaded to CODIS can be attributed to many of NIJ's programs, including research and development.

As DNA technology has advanced and improved, there has been a change in the potential for how cases are investigated, how forensic evidence is interpreted, and the positive impacts of testing DNA evidence. NIJ's research and development efforts have made considerable contributions to these technological advancements—and as a consequence—resulting new methods and technologies have been adopted by labs. This has led to more and more cases being submitted for analysis, and uploads to CODIS have increased dramatically. For example, technologies that allow for increasing sensitivity of forensic DNA technologies enable a greater number of full DNA profiles to be developed and entered into CODIS from old, degraded, or otherwise unviable samples. Previously, either no DNA profile or only a partial profile would have been the result. Advanced technologies in forensic DNA analysis generated from research and development have shown time and again the value in testing ***all*** types of evidence from violent crimes, property crimes, unsolved homicides and sexual assaults, potential wrongful convictions, and unidentified human remains.

## DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program

The goals of NIJ's *DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction* program are to assist eligible states and units of local government in processing, recording, screening, and analyzing forensic DNA and/or DNA database samples; and to increase the capacity of public forensic DNA and DNA database laboratories to process more DNA samples thereby helping to reduce the number of forensic DNA and DNA database samples awaiting analysis.

Under this program, eligible applicants are given the opportunity, based on their individual needs, to determine what portion of their anticipated funding should be used for capacity-building purposes and what portion should be used for analysis of forensic DNA or DNA database samples. All recipients have the option to use the funding to conduct DNA testing on whatever evidence is submitted to the laboratories – including evidence related to sexual assaults, which often includes more than a sexual assault kit. Other important types of evidence can include firearms, fingerprints, trace evidence, condoms, bedding, clothing and the toxicological analysis of bodily fluids for drugs, poisons, and other controlled substances; however

laboratories cannot use funds from this program to perform non-DNA related testing and analysis.

As of July 2015, *DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction* grantees have reported working over 641,000 cases and uploading over 290,000 forensic profiles to NDIS since FY 2005. NIJ grantees also reported working over 2.79 million database samples and uploading over 2.84 million profiles. All of these efforts have resulted in over 149,000 CODIS "hits," which are queries that resulted in a match in the database. In FY 2015, NIJ made 118 awards totaling over $65,786,030.

- The FY 2015 solicitation for *DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction* can be found at: https://ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/SL001158.pdf (PDF, 31 pages)
- For more information about DNA backlogs, including a listing of all awards made under this program, go to www.NIJ.gov and search keywords "DNA Backlog Reduction Program"

## DNA Arrestee Collection Process Implementation Grants Program

The goal of the *DNA Arrestee Collection Process Implementation Grants* program is to make funds available to states to assist with the costs associated with the implementation of DNA arrestee collection processes. DNA arrestee laws authorize the collection and analysis of DNA samples from individuals arrested or charged, but not yet convicted, of certain crimes. As of January 1, 2016, 30 states and the federal government have such laws.[8] Eligible applicants are states who have recently enacted legislation to expand their DNA database sample collection program to include DNA samples from arrestees, or to expand their existing arrestee sample legislation to include more crimes for which samples from arrestees will be collected. Since the program's inception in 2014, over 1,800 arrestee samples have been collected and over 1,400 have been uploaded into CODIS, yielding two CODIS hits.[9] In FY 2015, NIJ made two awards under this program totaling $676,456.

- The FY 2015 solicitation for *DNA Arrestee Collection Process Implementation Grants* can be found at: https://ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/SL001156.pdf (PDF, 30 pages)
- For more information about DNA sample collection from arrestees, go to www.NIJ.gov and search keywords "DNA Sample Collection from Arrestees"

## Using DNA Technology to Identify the Missing

The goals of the *Using DNA Technology to Identify the Missing* program are threefold:

1. Assist eligible entities in performing DNA analysis on unidentified human remains and reference samples to support the efforts of states and units of local government to identify missing persons.
2. Enter the resulting DNA profiles into the NDIS using CODIS version 7.0.
3. Enter any relevant case information related to unidentified remains into the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs), as deemed appropriate by the submitting agency. (If a case is not entered, a justification will be required.)

DNA analysis of unidentified human remains and family reference samples must be the primary objective of all proposals, but using anthropological and odontological examinations to identify unidentified human remains is also allowable for pre- and post-DNA analysis. Since 2009, nearly 14,000 samples have been analyzed and over 20,000 profiles have been uploaded to CODIS with just over 4,700 hits being reported. NIJ grantees reported identifying over 1,200 unidentified human remains with over 800 of those cases being assisted by NamUs. In FY 2015, NIJ made five awards totaling $3,356,949.

- The FY 2015 solicitation for *Using DNA Technology to Identify the Missing* can be found at: https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/SL001154.pdf (PDF, 27 pages)
- For more information about funding to identify missing persons, including a listing of all awards made under this program, go to www.NIJ.gov and search keywords "Missing Persons Funding"

## Forensic Science Research and Development

In FY 2015, NIJ issued two solicitations to support forensic science research and development:

1. Research and Development for Publicly Funded Forensic Science Laboratories to Assess the Testing and Processing of Physical Evidence.
2. Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal Justice Purposes.

### *Research and Development for Publicly Funded Forensic Science Laboratories to Assess the Testing and Processing of Physical Evidence*

This program was implemented to support and encourage research, evaluation, and validation studies within publicly funded forensic science laboratories to improve laboratory efficiency and assist in making laboratory policy decisions. Many forensic science laboratories are struggling to address significant casework backlogs; as such, there is an increasing need for labs to research and evaluate accurate and efficient ways to process evidence in response to their own unique challenges, and then publicly transfer that knowledge to other forensic laboratories. Relieving the backlogs of evidence will require improvements in both methodology and management. Through this program, NIJ hopes to facilitate research, development, and evaluation projects in publicly funded forensic laboratories that are based on immediate and practical needs, and then to disseminate those findings so they can be used in other laboratories. The program provides direct support to forensic science laboratories to design more specific, tailored research and evaluation studies to investigate more accurate, efficient, reliable, and cost-effective methods to process physical evidence.

This program will address both immediate and specific needs in the funded laboratories and provide a lasting benefit for other forensic laboratories that may not have the resources, staff, or funding to perform such studies. NIJ expects that the program will have a direct and immediate impact on laboratory efficiency. In FY 2015, NIJ supported seven projects totaling $928,900.[10]

- The solicitation for the FY 2015 program for *Research and Development for Publicly Funded Forensic Science Laboratories to Assess the Testing and Processing of Physical Evidence* can be found at: https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/SL001113.pdf (PDF, 28 pages)[11]
- To see awards made under this program, go to www.NIJ.gov and search keywords “Forensic Funding History”

### *Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal Justice Purposes*

The goals of NIJ’s Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal Justice Purposes program are to:

1. Increase the body of knowledge to guide and inform forensic science policy and practice; or
2. Result in the production of useful materials, devices, systems, or methods that have the potential for forensic application.

The first goal reflects the view—born out through decades of research across scientific disciplines—that increasing basic understanding supports future innovation. The second goal reflects NIJ’s commitment to use research to improve practice. The program supports both basic and applied research and development projects focused on the development of highly discriminating, accurate, reliable, cost-effective, and rapid methods for the identification, analysis, and interpretation of physical evidence for criminal justice purposes.

The program allows for both basic and applied research in order to allow the greatest flexibility to fund the best possible proposals. To expand the engagement of the scientific community with the forensic sciences, the program gives special consideration to new investigators who are in the early years of their careers.

NIJ has also seized the opportunity to align its research and development activities with current national research initiatives. The strategic intent is to leverage investments in these research areas to develop better forensic technologies. NIJ selected the following three national research initiatives in the FY 2015 solicitation, because they present the best opportunities for innovation in the forensic sciences:

- **Nanotechnology:** The National Nanotechnology Initiative is a U.S. government research and development initiative to understand and control, which is intended to revolutionize technology and industry to benefit society. NIJ is interested in funding proposals that employ nanotechnology to advance the forensic science disciplines.
  - Information on the National Nanotechnology Initiative can be found at: www.nano.gov/.
- **Microbiome:** The National Institutes of Health Common Fund Human Microbiome Project (HMP) was established to study the human microbiome. NIJ is interested in funding proposals investigating the microbiome for forensic applications.
  - Information on the HMP can be found at: www.commonfund.nih.gov/hmp/index.
- **Fatal Head Trauma:** The White House Brain Research Through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative is a "research effort to revolutionize our understanding of the human mind…" NIJ is interested in funding proposals investigating the human brain for forensic applications. Such applications may include cause of death determination, pediatric head trauma assessment, or sudden and unexplained death in infants and adults.
  - Information on the BRAIN Initiative can be found at: www.whitehouse.gov/share/brain-initiative.

The *Research and Development in Forensic Science* program provides a significant benefit beyond advancing knowledge and technology relevant to the forensic sciences: it builds and maintains the forensic science research infrastructure. The National Research Council in its 2010 and 2015 reports on the National Institute of Justice cited building research infrastructure as central to the mission of NIJ. This infrastructure consists of the physical and intellectual capital that provides the foundation for research and development in the forensic sciences. Physical capital includes academic and forensic laboratories, as well as the instrumentation contained therein. Intellectual capital includes human capital (e.g., professors, post-doctoral research assistants, students, technicians, and industry researchers) and structural capital (e.g., the information structures, databases, and scientific literature). The *Research and Development in Forensic Science* program enhances the development of physical and intellectual capital by funding activities, such as acquiring and developing instrumentation, supporting research that is disseminated in professional journals and forensic laboratories, and helping to support laboratories that provide learning and training experiences for scientists at all stages.

Research and development also contributes to the training of students in multiple forensic science disciplines, which ultimately results in future forensic scientists with research experience and hands-on experience with relevant and state-of-the-art laboratory technologies, instruments, and analytical techniques. For example, 13 projects from the forensic biology/DNA portfolio alone will support some percentage of wages (ranging from 2 percent to 100 percent) for approximately 63 individuals. Of these 63 individuals, at least 9 will be student researchers at the Ph.D., master's, or undergraduate levels; and 5 will be at the post-doctoral level. Further, 42 individuals are employed at academic institutes; 14 in industry; 4 at not-for-profit research facilities; and 3 at public laboratories.

Through its funding of forensic science research and development, NIJ will continue to improve the speed, accuracy, and scope of crime lab evidence analysis, and ultimately bolster the administration of justice. NIJ affirms that scientific advancements and technological breakthroughs are essential to the continued growth and strengthening of the forensic sciences. Since 2009, NIJ has supported more than 360 research and development awards related to forensic science totaling over $150 million. In April 2015, NIJ published *The Impact of Forensic Science Research and Development*,[12] which highlights some of the recent successes of the program.

In FY 2015, NIJ made 61 awards totaling $29,748,420[13] with over $2.3 million to support five innovative research and development projects that have the potential to improve the analysis of sexual assault evidence. As examples, these projects include novel methods to

enhance the detection of biological evidence relevant to sexual assault crimes, improve the ability to separate cells and interpret mixtures of biological material from multiple individuals (e.g., perpetrator from victim), and improve methods for the collection of biological evidence. With the increased demand to process sexual assault evidence, it is not enough for forensic laboratories to simply expand existing procedures. The long-term solution will require innovation and new technologies that increase productivity. Through its R&D program, NIJ is making the investments today that will yield technological innovations in the future.

- The FY 2015 solicitation for *Research and Development in Forensic Sciences for Criminal Justice Purposes* can be found at: https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/SL001149.pdf (PDF, 38 pages)
- For more information about forensic science research and development, including a listing of all awards made under this program, go to www.NIJ.gov and search keywords "Forensic Science Research and Development Projects"

## Forensic Technology Center of Excellence

To improve and advance the practice of forensic science, it is not enough to research and develop new technologies and methodologies—these new technologies and methodologies must be adopted in the actual processing and testing of forensic evidence. One strategy NIJ has taken to address this need is through its support of the Forensic Technology Center of Excellence (FTCoE). The FTCoE is charged with facilitating the transfer of technology, methodology, and best practices into forensic laboratories in order to improve the practice of forensic science. NIJ's FTCoE manages the testing and evaluation of emerging technologies applicable to forensic science. By identifying and removing the potential barriers that often derail the implementation and acceptance of new and innovative technologies, the FTCoE places promising technical innovations in the hands of forward-thinking practitioners, stakeholders, and policymakers. NIJ's FTCoE is managed through RTI International and its collaborative academic partners: Duquesne University, Virginia Commonwealth University, and the University of North Texas Health Science Center.

In FY 2015, the FTCoE engaged in numerous multidisciplinary efforts that directly benefited the forensic research, practitioner, and criminal justice communities. These efforts have concrete positive impacts on the forensic science community. For example, in order to help address the issue of sexual assault response, especially with concern to victims and the collection of sexual assault evidence, NIJ's FTCoE led a comprehensive effort dedicated to compiling and transferring information for sexual assault nurse examiners (SANE), sexual assault forensic examiners (SAFE), and sexual assault response teams (SART). (See *Organizing and Transferring SANE/SAFE/SART Knowledge and Best Practices– Final Report*.[14]) The goal of this effort was to identify systemic challenges impeding the investigation of criminal sexual assaults in the United States and to provide strategies for tackling these challenges. This report presents recommendations and strategies derived from a three-phase process including a comprehensive literature review, a federal stakeholder meeting, and a sexual assault practitioner stakeholder meeting and presentation in a policy forum. The goal is to inform SANE/SAFE/SART and other practitioners who contribute to the nation's response to sexual assault with existing research, information, knowledge, and best practices to improve the outcomes of sexual assault investigations.

A comprehensive collection of reports, evaluations, workshops, databases, archived events, and other educational opportunities can be found at: www.forensiccoe.org

## National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs)

NamUs is a national centralized repository and resource center for locating and identifying missing persons and unidentified human remains and repatriating unclaimed persons. NamUs is an online system—provided free of charge—to medical examiners, coroners, law enforcement officials, allied forensic professionals, families of lost loved ones, and the general public who are trying to resolve cases. With users in all 50 states, NamUs is a collaborative system that bridges the communication

gap among stakeholder communities through fostering enhanced information sharing and case support. NamUs currently has records for 11,789 missing persons and 10,559 unidentified persons. NamUs also has 1,630 cases in the Unclaimed Persons database who are decedents that have been identified but have yet to be claimed as no next of kin have been located. Since its development in 2007, NamUs has helped to resolve nearly 400 unidentified person and 850 missing person cases.

- For more information about NamUs, please visit: http://namus.gov/

## Summary

This report demonstrates the profound impact NIJ's programs are having on the criminal justice community. In FY 2015, NIJ continued its commitment to a strategy that couples rigorous research and development with capacity enhancement and technical assistance in order to serve the law enforcement and forensic science communities.

The need for this assistance has never been greater as our forensic science laboratories continue to be overwhelmed with unprecedented demands to process and test evidence. Through research, development, evaluation, dissemination, technical assistance, and capacity building, NIJ is working to address the challenges being undertaken by forensic laboratories. Thanks to its efforts, forensic science laboratory capacity continues to increase; advancements in research and development are leading to more cost-efficient, accurate and reliable techniques; and innovative technologies are allowing our nation's law enforcement to solve violent crimes, investigate cold cases, reunite missing persons with their families, and help exonerate the innocent.

NIJ is dedicated to seeking out sustainable long-term solutions by strengthening the underpinnings of the forensic sciences through research, development and evaluation, while providing direct assistance to help reduce backlogs and solve cases. This strategy promotes long-term success, ultimately improving public safety.

## Endnotes

1. https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/4660/text.
2. Learn more about NIJ Technology Working Groups at NIJ.gov, keyword "Forensic Science Technology Working Groups."
3. The total amount available to NIJ for obligation for programs was reduced by assessments for management and administration, and for costs such as peer review of grant applications.
4. NIJ maintains reimbursable agreements with the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Defense Forensics & Biometrics Agency (DFBA) to fund research and development-related activities.
5. Approximately $1.64 million (2 percent) was used toward Direct Funding in support of Publicly Funded Laboratories, Police Departments, and Law Enforcement Agencies; Research, Development, Technology and Evaluation; and Technical Assistance in the form of activities such as the cost of printing and distributing forensic reports and handbooks, hosting and maintaining websites, supporting the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS), and providing technical assistance to ensure awardee compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), among others.
6. Research, Development, Technology and Evaluation programs received an additional $4.8 million from other funding sources within NIJ to supplement projects directly related to research and development in forensic science.
7. http://www.fbigov/about-us/lab/biometirc-analysis/codis/ndis-statistics.
8. http://www.ncsl.org/Documents/cj/ArresteeDNALaws.pdf.
9. Based on grantee-reported data up to the reporting period ending December 2015.
10. Total amount funded, with $728,919 from DNA and other Forensic Activities, and an additional $199,981 from other sources.
11. This solicitation was issued in FY 2014, closed in FY 2015, and was supported by FY 2015 funds.
12. https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/248572.pdf.
13. Funding for research and development was supplemented from other NIJ resources in addition to the appropriation for DNA and other forensics mentioned earlier in this report.
14. https://forensiccoe.org/docs/FTCOE_SANE-SAFE-SART_Final_Report_120114.pdf.

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