



GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

3121 Panthersville Road
P.O. Box 370808
Decatur, Georgia 30037-0808

D. Victor Reynolds
Director

GBI CRIME LAB OPERATIONS BULLETIN 2021-01 DNA SERVICE UPDATE July 1, 2021

This bulletin is intended to inform criminal justice agencies of current operational practices related to DNA analysis at the GBI Crime Laboratory. The information in this bulletin supersedes previously issued DNA operational bulletins.

For all DNA cases where a subject has been identified in the investigation, relevant DNA reference samples from subjects, victims and other potential donors must be submitted along with the questioned samples for comparison. Analysis will not begin without the reference samples.

Touch (contact) DNA will only be performed on those types of items that have been determined to have a high rate of yielding probative results (worn items and weapons). Contact items that are not worn items or weapons will not be tested unless an exception is granted by a member of the Forensic Biology management staff.

The following operational practices are now in effect:

Homicides and Non-Homicides (Simple or Aggravated Assaults, Battery or Kidnapping)

- o Single victim & single perpetrator homicides (limit of 8 samples for DNA analysis)
- o Multiple victims and/or multiple perpetrator homicides (limit of 15 samples for DNA analysis)
- o Single victim & single perpetrator non-homicides (limit of 5 samples for DNA analysis)
- o Multiple victims and/or multiple perpetrator non-homicides (limit of 10 samples for DNA analysis)
- o (All crimes) samples with identified biological fluid will be tested first; if probative/investigate information is obtained, no additional samples will be analyzed
- o (All crimes) contact DNA analysis will be performed on worn items and/or weapons only if no probative/investigative information was obtained from samples containing biological fluids

Sexual Offenses (Rape/Sodomy/Child Molestation)

- o DNA testing is limited to 2 stains per item and 4 items maximum (an item is underwear, shirt, pants, fitted sheet etc.) in cases where probative results were not obtained from the sexual assault kit
- o Contact DNA will be performed only in child molestation cases



GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

3121 Panthersville Road
P.O. Box 370808
Decatur, Georgia 30037-0808

D. Victor Reynolds
Director

Offenses Involving Theft or Property Damage/Arson/Armed Robbery/Robber/Burglary

- o Limit 2 samples with identified biological fluid
- o May increase to 4 samples depending upon number of perpetrators
- o TrueAllele analysis will not be conducted
- o Contact DNA will be performed only if an exception is granted by a member of the Forensic Biology management staff.

DNA analysis will not be conducted in felony possession of a firearm cases or in drug possession cases.

Please forward this bulletin to all individuals within your organization who may be impacted by these changes.

If you have any questions or concerns about this bulletin, please contact me at Cleveland.Miles@gbj.ga.gov or 404-270-8082.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cleveland L. Miles".

Cleveland L. Miles
Deputy Director
GBI Division of Forensic Sciences