GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION -

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

D. Victor Reynolds

Director

GBI CRIME LAB OPERATIONS BULLETIN 2022-01 Outsourcing of Firearms Cases January 13, 2022

The GBI Crime Laboratory is committed to providing quality and timely forensic services to the criminal justice system in Georgia. Due to the volume of backlogged requests for firearms examinations, the Crime Laboratory will use state funding to outsource these cases to a qualified private testing laboratory(ies). State funds were allocated for outsourcing of firearms cases to assist the Crime Laboratory in meeting the needs of our customers.

The reports generated by the outsource vendor will be posted on our secure report website under the applicable DOFS case number. We will work with our district attorneys as needed on outsourced cases that require testimony by reexamining any items in a case prior to trial and providing testimony. When testimony is needed, please contact the Firearms Section Manager or appropriate regional lab manager via the contact information below to subpoena GBI lab personnel. If the district attorney's office chooses to have the subcontracted laboratory personnel testify, the office should communicate directly with the subcontracted laboratory. The district attorney's office will be fiscally responsible for any incurred fees.

HQ (Decatur) Section Manager

Jennifer Murphy Jennifer. Murphy@gbi.ga.gov (404) 270-8279

HQ (Decatur) Assistant Manager

Julie Riley Julie.Riley@gbi.ga.gov (404) 270-8103

Western (Columbus) Lab Manager

Johann Claassens <u>Johann.Claassens@gbi.ga.gov</u> (706) 568-2112

Coastal (Pooler) Lab Manager

Ross Butler Ross.Butler@gbi.ga.gov (912) 921-5874

Those agencies that wish to retract approval for their cases to be outsourced should contact Crime Lab Assistant Deputy Director Lori Nix at Lori.Nix@gbi.ga.gov or at 404-270-8082 no later than 1/31/2022. A lack of response will be taken as approval to outsource. We appreciate your support as we continue to address the firearms case backlog.

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

Cleveland L. Miles

Division Director

GBI Division of Forensic Sciences

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