GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION -



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D. Victor Reynolds Director

## GBI CRIME LAB OPERATIONS BULLETIN 2020-05 FORENSIC SERVICES UPDATE November 23, 2020

The GBI Crime Laboratory is dedicated to providing quality forensic analysis for the state of Georgia. As part of this commitment to quality, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation – Division of Forensic Sciences (GBI-DOFS) has maintained accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 since 2001. To conform to accreditation requirements regarding confidentiality and recent Georgia statutory changes, this serves as notification that GBI-DOFS will release case information, as appropriate, in the following circumstances:

- 1. Open Records request fulfillment in accordance with the Georgia Open Records Act (O.C.G.A. §50-18-70). The Open Records section within the Legal Division at GBI routinely provides records and fulfills requests as required by law.
- 2. Subpoena commanding the production of documents. The Open Records section within the Legal Division at GBI routinely provides records as required by subpoena.
- 3. When required as part of an independent examination in accordance with the Rules of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Chapter 92-4, the GBI-DOFS will release the specified records.
- 4. Release of reports to attorneys in the Legal Division of the GBI pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 35-3-4(a)(16). If a representative of the GBI Legal Division is acting as described in the cited statute, the attorney will be provided access to the Official Report via the reporting website by adding the GBI Legal Division as a customer for the case. When necessary in this circumstance, access will be granted to reports involving other acts or intrinsic evidence from other jurisdictions in the same manner as above.

Outside of this Operations Bulletin, no further notification will be released by the GBI-DOFS when confidential case information is released in the circumstances described above. Any agency choosing to not grant access on related cases for the purpose of prosecution as described above in bullet four (4) shall contact Cleveland Miles at <u>Cleveland.miles@gbi.ga.gov</u> or 404-270-8082 no later than December 23, 2020.

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