



GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Vernon M. Keenan
Director

OPERATIONS BULLETIN 2017-02 April 7, 2017 Hair Examinations

The GBI Crime Laboratory has evaluated the results of **hair examinations** in different case scenarios. This evaluation determined hair examinations generated information that assisted the investigation in **less than 10%** of sexual assault kits or non-violent offenses. Based on this evaluation the laboratory will be implementing the following operational changes effective **June 1, 2017**.

- Hair examinations will not be performed on evidence collected in a sexual assault evidence collection kit. Hair examinations **may** be conducted on clothing or other evidence items in a sexual assault investigation when DNA testing does not generate results and the hair examination could provide further support to the investigation.
- Hair examinations will not be performed on evidence collected during investigation of non-violent offenses, e.g. burglary.

Please forward this bulletin to all individuals within your organization who submit evidence to the GBI Crime Laboratory.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Herrin, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

George Herrin, Jr., Ph.D.
Deputy Director
GBI Division of Forensic Sciences