



GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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D. Victor Reynolds
Director

GBI CRIME LAB OPERATIONS BULLETIN 2020-01 FORENSIC SERVICES UPDATE February 27, 2020

The GBI Crime Lab is dedicated to providing the criminal justice system all possible provisions and support. Because of limited resources and the volume of backlogged requests for analysis throughout the laboratory, the GBI Crime Lab will implement the following system for returning evidence not previously analyzed:

Phase I

With exception to homicide and sexual assault offenses, all incomplete requests for analysis that are more than 3 years old will be canceled and the return of associated evidence effective **immediately**. The submitting agency and prosecuting agency will be notified of this change in status via the GBI Crime Lab Report website (www.gbi-dofs.com). If the service becomes necessary at a later time, the evidence may be resubmitted to the laboratory for testing.

Phase II

With exception to homicide and sexual assault offenses, all incomplete requests for analysis that are 2 – 3 years old will be deactivated and placed into a pending status effective **April 1, 2020**. The submitting agency and prosecuting agency will see this change in status on the GBI Crime Lab Report website (www.gbi-dofs.com). The analysis request will remain at a pending status for 2 months to allow agencies time to review the case to determine if analysis is still needed. If the analysis is still necessary, the submitting agency or prosecuting agency should contact the crime lab by sending an email via the “ask a question about case” option on the GBI Crime Lab Report website. Evidence will remain in GBI custody during the 2-month review period. Service requests that have not been reactivated by contacting the crime lab within 2 months will be canceled and the associated evidence returned. If the service becomes necessary at a later time, the evidence may be resubmitted to the laboratory for testing.

We appreciate your cooperation in advance in helping us manage the crime lab backlog to ensure that critical service requests are completed. All active analysis requests in the laboratory will continue to be evaluated and prioritized to meet court testimony needs and provide critical investigative information.

If there are any questions or concerns about the information covered in this bulletin, please contact me at 404-270-8082 or Cleveland.miles@gbi.ga.gov.

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