DNA CLEARANCE PROJECT - UPDATE
PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING – JANUARY 28, 2014

• Assistant Chief M. D. Slinkard
  Houston Police Department, Forensic Services Command

• Assistant Chief D. R. McKinney
  Houston Police Department, Criminal Investigations Command

• Captain J. L. Evans
  Houston Police Department, Special Crimes Division
On February 27, 2013, City Council approved a plan to outsource all legacy backlog Sexual Assault Kits and active cases awaiting DNA testing to Bode and Sorensen Laboratories.

Outsource testing will be accomplished via 3 main funding sources totaling **$4.4 million**
- 2011 & 2012 NIJ DNA backlog grants totaling $2.2 million
- $2.2 million of General Fund monies allocated for this purpose when the Houston Forensic Science LGC, Inc. was created.
• Issue 1, March 26, 2013
  • 5,381 cases outsourced to Bode & Sorenson for testing

• Issue 2, September 23, 2013
  • 9,060 cumulative cases outsourced
  • 2,797 reports received

• Issue 3, December 19, 2013
  • 9,419 cumulative cases outsourced
  • 4,661 reports received
### DNA Outsource as of January 21, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases Outsourced</th>
<th>Forensic Reports Completed</th>
<th>Technical Reviews in Progress</th>
<th>Technical Reviews Complete</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9,565</td>
<td>6,170</td>
<td>2,410</td>
<td>3,760</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### No Investigative Benefit:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Negative Screening</td>
<td>1,415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No DNA Result</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No DNA found foreign to complainant</td>
<td>636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive number of contributors</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient data for CODIS entry</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sample type not CODIS eligible</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total to Date</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,492</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Possible Investigative Benefit:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CODIS entries to date</td>
<td>1,268*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* These cases represent those where a profile was developed meeting CODIS guidelines and a CODIS entry has been completed.

All completed forensic reports are forwarded for investigative follow-up.
An investigative team within the Special Crimes and Juvenile Divisions has been formed to conduct follow-up investigations pertaining to the DNA Clearance Project and new sexual assault cases.

Sexual Assault Investigation team consists of:
- 3 Lieutenants
- 8 Sergeants
- 33 Investigators

All of these resources have been dedicated to this project until the completion of the DNA Clearance cases.
Initial Screening of CODIS Hits

- Is someone incarcerated?

- Does the CODIS hit match the suspect?
  - Yes?
    - Arrest confirmation – assigned for follow up and / or case closure.
  - No?
    - If there is indication of a false arrest - assign immediately for follow-up investigation.
    - Determine if suspect is charged (incarcerated) on other evidence - assign for follow up investigation.
After Initial Investigative Screening, cases are prioritized for follow-up investigation based on the following criteria:

**Adult Cases:**
- Statute of Limitations on CODIS name hits
- Suspect incarcerated and possibly released soon

**Juvenile Cases**
- Stranger cases with no arrest
- Statute of Limitations (if the case was from 2007 or earlier)
- Juvenile Suspect

All cases are assessed individually on various factors.
The Houston Police Department has worked in partnership with numerous entities to improve sexual assault investigations. One of the outcomes of that collaboration is our new dedicated sexual assault information line and email address for victims to contact us on their own terms.

- Sexual Assault Information Line: 713-308-1400
- Sexual Assault Information email address: sainfo@houstonpolice.org

The Information Line is staffed by trained personnel in crisis counseling to ensure callers will be provided with counseling and additional resources should they need it.