



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
A Nationally Accredited Laboratory
dfs.virginia.gov

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DFS CUSTOMER NOTICE

To: All Agencies Served by DFS
From: Linda C. Jackson, Director *Linda Jackson*
Date: March 2, 2026
RE: Relocation of DFS Central Laboratory and Statewide Administrative Offices

On March 9, 2026, the Department of Forensic Science (DFS) will begin moving the Central Laboratory and statewide administrative offices to its new facility in Hanover County. The move will take place in seven, week-long phases and is expected to be completed by April 17, 2026. The Central District and statewide Offices of the Chief Medical Examiner will also relocate to this facility.

What to Expect During Relocation

Moving a forensic laboratory requires careful planning. Stored evidence, case files, computer systems, laboratory instruments, chemical reagents, and other sensitive equipment must be packed, transported, and reinstalled securely. DFS has contracted specialized vendors to ensure all materials remain secure and protected throughout the move.

- Each laboratory section will temporarily pause evidence examinations for packing, transport, and equipment set-up.
- After installation, instruments must complete validation and quality assurance checks before casework resumes.
- Turnaround times for the Central Laboratory cases will be impacted during the move and for several weeks afterward.
- Administrative response times may be slower as offices transition.

Evidence Submissions

The Central Laboratory Evidence Receiving Section (currently located at 700 North 5th Street) will:

- Stop accepting evidence submissions and returns at the close of business on April 3, 2026,
- Move on April 6, 2026, and
- Resume accepting evidence on April 13, 2026, at the new facility.

Do not mail or ship evidence to the Central Laboratory between April 3 and April 12, 2026.

Communications Effective April 13, 2026

Send all correspondence, shipments, and evidence submissions to:

Virginia Department of Forensic Science
8850 Times Dispatch Boulevard, Suite 100
Mechanicsville, VA 23116

DFS will be providing mailing labels with the new mailing address to law enforcement agencies for DUI/DUID kits and DNA Data Bank Samples.

DFS telephone numbers and email addresses will remain the same. DFS FAX numbers will change. The new FAX numbers will be:

Location	New FAX Number	Use After
Agency Director's Office & Legal	804-746-4465	March 9, 2026
Breath Alcohol	804-746-4467	March 9, 2026
Central Director's Office	804-746-4464	March 9, 2026
DNA Data Bank	804-746-4760	March 16, 2026
Evidence Receiving	804-746-4468	April 6, 2026
Technical Services/Finance/Procurement/IT/Facilities	804-746-4466	March 9, 2026

What This Means for You

- Submit evidence on or before April 3, 2026, or after April 13, 2026.
- Expect longer turnaround times during and shortly after the relocation.
- Use the new address beginning April 13, 2026.
- Court testimony and previously scheduled appearances will continue. However, staff may have limited availability to respond to phone calls or email during parts of the move.

The new Central Laboratory is a state-of-the-art facility designed to support high-quality forensic services for the Virginia criminal justice system for years to come.

DFS appreciates your partnership and patience during this transition.

For questions about the relocation, contact David Siecker, Communications and Executive Support Specialist, at 804-588-4033 or david.siecker@dfs.virginia.gov.