




COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
A Nationally Accredited Laboratory

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NOTICE REGARDING DNA WORKLOAD

To: Virginia Law Enforcement Agencies and Commonwealth's Attorneys
From: Linda C. Jackson, Director 
Date: May 18, 2022
RE: Statewide Forensic Biology (DNA) Case Redistribution

Currently, the DNA caseload and associated case turnaround times (TATs) are not equivalent between the Department's four regional laboratories. Although the average TAT for DNA cases completed in April was 122 days, both the Northern (Manassas) and Western (Roanoke) laboratories are currently experiencing longer TATs for their DNA casework than are the Central (Richmond) and Eastern (Norfolk) laboratories.

Lab	Average TAT for cases completed in April 2022 (in days)
Central	97
Eastern	47
Northern	158
Western	220

In order to normalize the DNA TATs so that all of DFS's submitting agencies experience the same level of service and timeliness, DFS will be redistributing portions of its DNA case backlog so parity among the four labs can be achieved. It is anticipated that these transfers will occur for the remainder of the calendar year.

No action is needed on the part of any agency. This notification is intended to inform you of this ongoing process and bring to your attention that the examiner assigned to a case may not work in the laboratory typically associated with your region. For law enforcement agencies, please continue to

submit evidence and reference samples to your assigned Laboratory. For court appearances, attorneys should note that the scientist may be traveling from another laboratory which will require longer travel times.

For general questions about the DNA case backlog and TATs, please contact Biology Program Manager Brad Jenkins at (804) 588-4025. For information about specific cases, please contact the Forensic Biology Supervisor at the DFS Laboratory that provides service to your agency:

Central (Richmond)	Theresa Francis	(804) 588-4072
Eastern (Norfolk)	Anne Pollard	(757) 355-5983
Northern (Manassas)	Karen Ambrozy	(703) 334-9743
Western (Roanoke)	Nicole Harold	(540) 283-5945