Department of Forensic Science

Regulatory Requirement Reduction Action for 6 VAC 40-60

6VAC40-60-10. Definitions.

The following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"CODIS" means the Combined DNA Index System.

"Department" means the Virginia Department of Forensic Science.

"DNA" means deoxyribonucleic acid.

"DNA data bank" means the Virginia State DNA Index System (SDIS) maintained by the department, which is a database of DNA profiles associated with the corresponding personally identifying information.

"DNA profile" means the results of DNA analysis of a sample of human biological evidence.

"Law-enforcement agency" means any federal, state, or local government law-enforcement organization.

"Subject" means the individual from whom a sample of human biological evidence has been obtained.

6VAC40-60-20. Request for information from a law-enforcement officer regarding whether an individual's DNA profile is in the DNA data bank.

A. A request for information regarding whether an individual's DNA profile is in the DNA data bank shall be in writing, addressed submitted to the department's DNA data bank administrator, and signed by the requesting law-enforcement officer. Such requests shall be submitted via the online form available on the department's website.

1. The request shall contain as much of the following information as is available to the requestor at the time of the request: the individual's full name, known aliases, assigned or claimed social security number, date of birth, race, gender, and state identification number.

2. The request requesting law enforcement officer shall state confirm that the information is being obtained in furtherance of an official investigation of a specified criminal offense that occurred within the jurisdiction of the requesting law-enforcement agency.

B. The written request shall be on the official letterhead of the requesting officer's law enforcement agency and sent to the department's central laboratory at 700 North Fifth Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, via United States mail or commercial mail delivery service, electronic transmission, or by facsimile.

C. B. In the alternative, the request may be made in person at the department's central laboratory at 700 North Fifth Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. If not presented on the official letterhead of the requesting officer's law enforcement agency, the requesting officer shall reduce the request to writing consistent with subsection A of this section and certify his authority to request such information. Thereupon, the identity of the requestor shall be verified by department personnel by inspection of the requestor's identifying information and badge number. Department personnel shall (i) affirm in writing, below the signature of the requesting officer, that the officer's identification was verified; (ii) record the officer's badge number; and (iii) sign and date such verification maintain a record of the request and the verification of the requestor's identity pursuant to the department's record retention guidelines.

6VAC40-60-30. Request for DNA data bank <u>analysis</u> information relating to specific Virginia forensic laboratory examinations involving the analysis and comparison of two or more samples.

A. A duly authorized member of a law enforcement agency or private police department designated as a criminal justice agency by the Department of Criminal Justice Services as defined in § 9.1-101 of the Code of Virginia, attorneys for the Commonwealth, attorneys for the United States Department of Justice, or a duly authorized member of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner may obtain information from the DNA data bank in connection with the submission of physical evidence for forensic laboratory examination. A request for such laboratory examination shall be submitted in writing on a form supplied by the department.

B. A request from an accused or his attorney shall be governed by the provisions of § 9.1-1104 of the Code of Virginia.

C. A request for information from the DNA data bank concerning the results of an analysis and comparison of the identification characteristics of human biological evidence shall be in writing, addressed to the department's DNA data bank administrator, and signed by the requestor.

1. The request shall contain as much of the following information as is available to the requestor at the time of the request: the subject's full name, known aliases, assigned or claimed social security number, date of birth, race, gender, and state identification number.

2. The request shall state that the information is being obtained in furtherance of an official investigation of a specified criminal offense that occurred within the jurisdiction of the requesting law enforcement agency.

3. The written request shall be on the official letterhead of the requestor's agency and sent to the department's central laboratory at 700 North Fifth Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, via United States mail or commercial mail delivery service, or by facsimile.

4. In the alternative, the request may be made in person at the department's central laboratory at 700 North Fifth Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. If not presented on the official letterhead of the requestor's agency, the requestor shall reduce the request to writing consistent with subsection A of this section and certify his authority to request such information. Thereupon, the identity of the requestor shall be verified by department personnel by inspection of the requestor's agency identification card. Department personnel shall (i) affirm in writing, below the signature of the requestor, that the requestor's identification was verified; (ii) record the requestor's agency identification number if applicable; and (iii) sign and date such verification.

6VAC40-60-60. Department employee access to the DNA data bank.

The department shall maintain a list of employee positions that require regular access to the DNA data bank and samples submitted as a necessary function of the job. This list shall be available online at the department's website upon request.