

# LAB REPORT

*Nebraska State Patrol  
Crime Laboratory*



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### EVIDENCE RECEIPT HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY  
9AM - 4PM

### CONTACT

3977 AIR PARK RD. LINCOLN, NE 68524  
PHONE: (402) 471-8950  
FAX: (402) 471-8954

The Mission of the Crime Laboratory Division is to provide quality and timely forensic science services to the State of Nebraska. To fulfill the mission of the laboratory, the following core values are supported and understood by the staff of the NSP Crime Laboratory:

TRUTH  
ABOVE ALL

SCIENCE  
FIRST

ALWAYS  
IMPROVING

CUSTOMER  
FOCUSED

# ABOUT US

# LAB EXPANSION

## Update

The facility expansion project is on the downhill slide! The Latent Prints, DNA Databasing, and DNA Casework sections have moved into their new lab space. The old latent print lab space will be remodeled to allow the Firearms/Toolmarks section to expand into the vacated space. Minor remodeling of the existing DNA lab space will allow for the space to function more smoothly with the expanded space. Finishing touches will be made to the renovation of the original evidence receiving space and former administrative offices which will become a training room. Just a few more months to go and we should be settled in and establishing the new normal! Thank you again to each of you for your patience and flexibility over the last two years of construction.



# STATISTICS

In addition to casework, analysts are often involved in activities such as testimony, attending or providing training, community outreach, instrument maintenance, method validations, and other quality assurance practices.

## TURN-AROUND TIMES

|    |                                                |     |                                      |
|----|------------------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|
| 14 | CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES<br>NUMBER OF DAYS        | 200 | FIREARMS/TOOLMARKS<br>NUMBER OF DAYS |
| 54 | BIOLOGY - VIOLENT CRIMES<br>NUMBER OF DAYS     | 164 | LATENT PRINTS<br>NUMBER OF DAYS      |
| 61 | BIOLOGY - NON-VIOLENT CRIMES<br>NUMBER OF DAYS | 18  | TOXICOLOGY<br>NUMBER OF DAYS         |
| 10 | BIOLOGY - DATABANK<br>NUMBER OF DAYS           |     |                                      |

Turn-around times may be impacted by requests for examinations that need to be completed by other sections first.

## EMAILS

You may have noticed that email addresses have been added below the signature line on our laboratory reports and letters.

If you have a question about the report or letter, you are welcome to email the forensic scientist listed, or you can call the Crime Lab and ask to speak with that forensic scientist.



Jane Doe

Forensic Scientist

**Jane.Doe@nebraska.gov**



TURN AROUND TIMES ARE BASED ON A 3-MONTH AVERAGE AND ARE ACCURATE AS OF 9/1/2026

# CODIS CORNER

The NSP Crime Laboratory (NSPCL) is the only laboratory in the state of Nebraska that has access to the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). All evidence submitted to the NSPCL for DNA analysis will ***automatically*** be evaluated for CODIS eligibility and submitted to CODIS if the DNA profile is eligible.

In order for a laboratory to participate in the National DNA Index System (NDIS) (i.e., the National Level of CODIS), they must follow the requirements specified by the DNA Identification Information Act (42 U.S.C. §14132(b)).

- Must comply with the Quality Assurance Standards issued by the FBI Director
- Must be accredited by a non-profit professional association of persons actively engaged in forensic science that is nationally recognized within the forensic science community
- Must undergo an external audit every two years to demonstrate compliance with the FBI Director's Quality Assurance Standards
- Must be a federal, state, or local criminal justice agency ("or the Secretary of Defense in accordance with section 1565 of title 10, United States Code")
- Must limit access to the DNA samples & records in accordance with federal law

The NSPCL has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the FBI Laboratory documenting our agreement to abide by the DNA Identification Act requirements as well as record-keeping and other operational procedures. Failure to abide by these requirements would result in the termination of access to CODIS for the state of Nebraska.

Private laboratories, or non-CODIS participating laboratories, are not allowed to enter DNA profiles into CODIS directly. There are policies and procedures that allow NDIS participating laboratories to take ownership of the data and enter a DNA profile developed by a private laboratory into CODIS. Since the University of Nebraska Medical Center Human DNA Identification (UNMC HDI) Laboratory is a non-CODIS participating laboratory, the DNA profiles they develop from evidence are not automatically put into CODIS. The NSPCL recognizes that Nebraska law enforcement agencies do submit evidence to the UNMC HDI Laboratory and therefore, they have a signed MOU that allows the NSPCL to enter eligible DNA profiles developed by the UNMC HDI Laboratory into CODIS. In order to put a DNA profile obtained by the UNMC HDI Laboratory into CODIS, the NSPCL must perform an annual site-visit and review the UNMC HDI Laboratory's audits, procedures, staff qualifications, facility, corrective actions, etc.

## NOTICE OF FEE INCREASE

Effective July 1, 2026, the DNA sample collection fee for Convicted Offenders as prescribed in Revised State Statute §29-4106 is set at **\$150.00**. Remit payments to:

Nebraska State Patrol  
Attn: Accounting  
State DNA Sample & Database Fund  
PO Box 94907  
Lincoln, NE 68509

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# CODIS CORNER

If a Nebraska law enforcement agency submits evidence to the UNMC HDI Laboratory and a DNA profile is developed that they would like to be put into CODIS, the law enforcement agency must fill out a CODIS search request form (NSP 751) in its **ENTIRETY**. The NSP 751 can be found on the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory's website under "Crime Lab Forms/Documents." The completed NSP 751 must be submitted by the law enforcement agency to the NSPCL via email (nsp.codis@nebraska.gov). Once the NSP 751 is received by the NSPCL it will be evaluated for eligibility. Please be as specific as you can when describing where the item was located, who the item belonged to, and how the item is related to the crime. In order for the DNA profile to be entered into CODIS, the NSPCL must take ownership of the data. After the NSPCL receives the NSP 751 from the law enforcement agency, the NSPCL will request a copy of the UNMC HDI Laboratory case file in order for the NSPCL to perform a full technical review and determine CODIS eligibility. The NSPCL will issue a Laboratory Letter informing the law enforcement agency if the DNA profile was entered into CODIS or not.

It is important to note that the UNMC HDI Laboratory is the **ONLY** private laboratory that the NSPCL will accept data from. If you would like to submit a DNA profile to CODIS that was obtained from a private laboratory other than the UNMC HDI Laboratory, arrangements must be made with the NSPCL **PRIOR to the analysis** of that evidence at that private laboratory.

## KEY POINTS

- DNA profiles obtained from the UNMC HDI Laboratory are **NOT automatically** entered into CODIS.
- If a Nebraska law enforcement agency submits evidence to the UNMC HDI Laboratory and a DNA profile is developed that they would like put into CODIS, the law enforcement agency can complete a NSP 751 form and submit it to the NSPCL for review.
- The NSP 751 can be found on the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory's website under "Crime Lab Forms/Documents."
- The UNMC HDI Laboratory is the **ONLY** private laboratory that the NSPCL will accept data from without prior approval from the NSPCL.
- If a Nebraska law enforcement agency submits evidence to the NSPCL for DNA analysis, they do **NOT** need to fill out any additional paperwork (e.g., NSP 751) because all DNA profiles obtained by the NSPCL are **automatically** evaluated for CODIS eligibility and submitted to CODIS if the DNA profile is eligible.

# OUTREACH COMMITTEE

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Members of the Outreach Committee are involved in the organization and implementation of several projects and events including:

- Presentations for law enforcement as well as for students
- Attendance at science fairs and job fairs
- Involvement with universities and colleges
- Tour requests (currently on hold due to construction)
- Quarterly newsletter

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**OUR GOAL IS TO REACH ALL OF OUR STAKEHOLDERS! IF YOU WANT TO GET ADDED OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED TO THE DISTRIBUTION LIST, PLEASE EMAIL US. IF YOU STOP BY THE CRIME LAB, THERE ARE FLYERS IN OUR EVIDENCE RECEIVING AREA THAT YOU CAN READ OR TAKE BACK TO YOUR WORKPLACE TO SHARE WITH YOUR COWORKERS. THE FLYERS HAVE QR CODES YOU CAN SCAN TO EASILY GAIN ACCESS TO BOTH OUR CURRENT NEWSLETTER AS WELL AS OUR WEBSITE WITH PAST NEWSLETTER ISSUES.**

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# ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

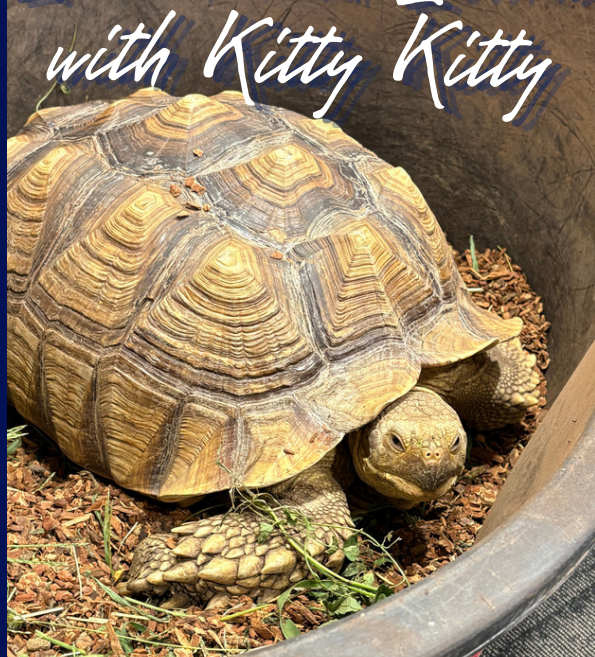
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Members of the Activities Committee have organized and hosted events for laboratory staff including:

- Craft and Yap session to learn how to make pipe cleaner flowers
- BBQ hosted on the weekend for staff and families with a Kids vs. Adults kickball game
- Lunch and Learn to hear about one of our staff's pets: Kitty Kitty, the tortoise



**CHECK OUT THE PHOTOS BELOW TO SEE WHAT THE COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN UP TO**



## **Director**

**Jason Linder**     [jason.linder@nebraska.gov](mailto:jason.linder@nebraska.gov)

## **Quality Assurance**

**Manager: Vicki Hopkins**     [vicki.hopkins@nebraska.gov](mailto:vicki.hopkins@nebraska.gov)  
Case Management Supervisor: Tiffanie Leffler

## **Biology & Physical Sciences**

**Manager: Jeff Bracht**     [jeff.bracht@nebraska.gov](mailto:jeff.bracht@nebraska.gov)  
Biology-Databank Supervisor: Katherine Rector (Technical Leader/State CODIS Admin)  
Biology-Casework Supervisor: Heidi Ellingson (Technical Leader)  
Biology-Casework Supervisor: Brandy Porter  
Firearms/Toolmarks Supervisor: Kent Weber (Technical Leader)  
Latent Print Section Supervisor: Elizabeth Herink (Technical Leader)

## **Chemistry**

**Manager: Celeste Laird**     [celeste.laird@nebraska.gov](mailto:celeste.laird@nebraska.gov)  
Controlled Substances Supervisor: Jerry D. Smith (Technical Leader)  
Controlled Substances Supervisor: Spencer Effle  
Toxicology Supervisor: Christine Reisen (Technical Leader)

## **Questions?**

### **GENERAL QUESTIONS:**

CALL: (402) 471-8950

EMAIL: [NSP.CRIMELAB@NEBRASKA.GOV](mailto:NSP.CRIMELAB@NEBRASKA.GOV)

### **EVIDENCE SUBMISSION QUESTIONS:**

EMAIL: [NSP.CRIMELABEVIDENCE@NEBRASKA.GOV](mailto:NSP.CRIMELABEVIDENCE@NEBRASKA.GOV)

### **CODIS QUESTIONS:**

EMAIL: [NSP.CODISHELPDESK@NEBRASKA.GOV](mailto:NSP.CODISHELPDESK@NEBRASKA.GOV)

### **RAPID DNA QUESTIONS:**

EMAIL: [NSP.RAPID-DNA@NEBRASKA.GOV](mailto:NSP.RAPID-DNA@NEBRASKA.GOV)

**Want more information on a topic in a future newsletter?**

EMAIL THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR: [NSP.CRIMELAB@NEBRASKA.GOV](mailto:NSP.CRIMELAB@NEBRASKA.GOV)

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# CONTACT US