

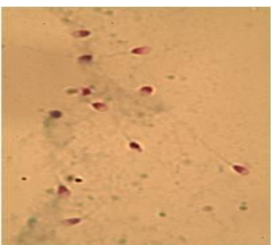
DNA Training Programs for Law Officers

BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE COLLECTION



Students in this course will learn how biological fluids, including blood, semen, and saliva are identified both at the scene and in the forensic laboratory. The student will learn the importance of avoiding contamination of the evidence during the collection and packaging phases of biological evidence. Instruction will be given on the proper collection and packaging of biological evidence items and DNA reference samples. The importance of appropriate evidence transport and storage procedures will be impressed upon the student. In addition, students in this course will be given examples of the types of materials commonly found at various crime scenes that can be considered good sources of DNA evidence.

FORENSIC SEROLOGY AND DNA: AN OVERVIEW



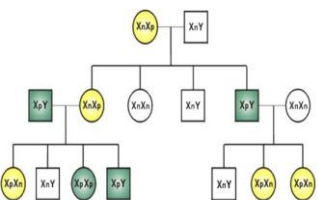
This course is designed for the officer who needs to know the basics of forensic serology and DNA analysis. The student will learn what forensic serology is, why it is important, and what information can be obtained from the various testing methods available at the laboratory. Testing and analysis of body fluids such as: blood, semen, saliva, urine, feces, and vomit are discussed as well as a brief discussion of the forensic examination of hairs. An overview of the steps involved in forensic DNA analysis will be presented including a brief refresher on what DNA is and where it can be found. The limitations of DNA testing will also be discussed.

CODIS – AN IN-DEPTH EXPLANATION OF THE NATIONAL DNA DATABASE



Students in this course will gain a deeper understanding of what the CODIS system is and the purpose of the national DNA database. At the end of this training, the student will be able to describe the various levels of the CODIS system, including the local, state and national level. In addition, the student will be able to explain the various indexes that make up the database. Students will gain a clearer understanding of what DNA profiles are eligible for upload into the National Database, and what profiles are not. They will be introduced to various scenarios and will learn to recognize that the specifics of the case can dictate whether a particular DNA profile can be uploaded or not. The student will learn how a DNA profile is searched in the CODIS system and what happens if a “hit” occurs at the local, state, or national level.

FAMILIAL DNA SEARCHES AND ARIZONA-STYLE SEARCHES



Students in this course will be introduced to two controversial uses of the National DNA Database - Familial DNA Searches and so-called "Arizona-Style" Searches. In addition, a brief refresher on the National DNA Database will be given. At the end of this training, the student will be able to describe what familial DNA searches are, how they are performed, and who currently performs them. The student will also be able to describe how familial DNA searches can be useful as investigative leads. Students in this class will be instructed on what an “Arizona-style” search is and they will learn what the implications of Arizona-style searches are in the forensic DNA field.