



North Carolina State Crime Laboratory

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LESLIE DISMUKES
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February 1, 2024

Senator Danny Britt
Representative Ted Davis, Jr.
Representative Carson Smith
Co-Chairs, Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety
North Carolina General Assembly
Raleigh, North Carolina, 27601-1096

Re: State Crime Lab STIMS Report

Dear Representatives Britt, Davis and Smith,

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute § 114-65 (f), please find the attached report from the North Carolina Department of Justice (DOJ) on the State Crime Laboratory's FY 22-23 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit Tracking and Inventory Management System (STIMS).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information. We would be happy to respond to any questions you may have regarding this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leslie C. Dismukes".

Leslie Cooley Dismukes
Interim Director
North Carolina State Crime Laboratory

cc: Mark White, Fiscal Research Division
Morgan Weiss, Fiscal Research Division
Seth Dearmin, DOJ Chief of Staff



Creation of the NC Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit Tracking and Inventory Management System (STIMS):

The timely testing of sexual assault evidence collection kits (SAECKs or kits) is vital to solving cases, punishing offenders, bringing justice to survivors, and preventing future crimes.

In 2017, the General Assembly passed SL 2017-57, which required all law enforcement agencies to report to the State Crime Laboratory the number of untested kits in their possession. The 2017 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit Law Enforcement Inventory Report, released March 1, 2018, concluded that 15,160 untested kits were in local law enforcement custody and made recommendations on how to handle these untested kits as well as all future kits.

One of the report's recommendations was to establish a statewide tracking system. As a result, the General Assembly passed SL 2018-70 (now NCGS § 114-65), which created the Statewide Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit Tracking and Inventory Management System (STIMS) which went live on October 1, 2018. With this tracking system, all new kits are trackable throughout the testing process. Previously untested kits have been barcoded and uploaded into the tracking system as well.

The certified inventory in all agencies across the State of North Carolina totals 16,209 previously untested SAECKs, which includes 1,164 Anonymous or Unreported Kits that are housed at the Department of Public Safety Law Enforcement Support Services for storage and will not be tested at this time per the Survivor Act. This inventory was accomplished by temporary employees who served in the capacity of inventory technicians and were hired using grant funding from USDOJ's Bureau of Justice Assistance. They travelled to each law enforcement agency housing kits to explain STIMS, how to upload the kits they have in their possession into the system, and how to submit the case information to the State Crime Laboratory for review and approval for outsourcing.

STIMS Capability and Use:

STIMS is a web-based application. No specialized software is needed by a user of the system. The system can be used on any computer or mobile device with Internet access.

The information maintained in STIMS is confidential and not a public record. It is also not intended to be a chain of custody. All medical facilities, law enforcement agencies, forensic labs, or others having custody or use of any sexual assault kit shall participate and comply with STIMS. This means they will enter data in the tracking system every time they take action with a kit (i.e. use it for an exam; transfer to law enforcement; receive it into evidence, transfer it to the crime lab; and test the kit).

A District Attorney's user group was added so that District Attorneys and their staff have visibility of all sexual assault kits within their jurisdiction, both newly submitted and previously untested, and can view them by county or agency of origin. They can monitor the flow of kits through the legislatively mandated workflow as set out in the Survivor Act. This increases the transparency and accountability of the system.

The STIMS system is accessible to survivors, law enforcement, District Attorneys, medical facilities and forensic laboratories at the following website:

<https://www.sexualassaultkittracking.ncdoj.gov/SexualAssaultKitTracking/>

Screenshot of STIMS Web Portal:

Sexual Assault Kit Tracking Login

Web Portal

North Carolina Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit Tracking and Information Management System (STIMS)



This website enables tracking of sexual assault evidence collection kits in the State of North Carolina in compliance with [N.C. Gen. Stat. § 114-65](#), which was enacted into law through Session Law 2018-70 (HB 945).

"Sexual assault evidence collection kit" means a set of materials, such as swabs and tools for collecting blood samples, used to gather forensic evidence from a victim of reported sexual assault and the evidence obtained with such materials.



[Resources for Survivors and System Users](#)

Instructions

Victims of sexual assault can view the history and current status of their sexual assault evidence collection kit by entering the sexual assault evidence kit tracking # in the "serial number" box above and clicking the adjacent search button with the magnifying glass icon (Q).

Authorized medical providers, law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and lab personnel should select "Login" and enter their unique Username and Password to manage the status of sexual assault evidence kits under the jurisdiction of their agency.

A survivor's kit serial number is provided to them at a medical facility, which can then be tracked as shown in the example below at www.sexualassaultkittracking.ncdoj.gov.

Example Kit Tracked through STIMS:

Sexual Assault Kit Tracking Login

Status: **Analyzed by lab**

Created 10/15/2018 Sirchle	Sent 11/20/18 →	Received 11/29/2018 Cone Health	Sent 01/15/19 →	Received 01/16/2019 ★ Greensboro Police Department	Sent 02/21/19 →	Received 02/21/2019 NC State Crime Laboratory	Sent 07/11/19 →	Received 07/11/2019 ★ Greensboro Police Department
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Created 10/15/2018
Sirchle created the kit.

Sent 11/20/2018
Sirchle sent the kit to Cone Health.

Received 11/29/2018
Cone Health received the kit from Sirchle.

Sent 01/15/2019
Cone Health sent the kit to Greensboro Police Department.

Received 01/16/2019
Greensboro Police Department received the kit from Cone Health.

Sent 02/21/2019
Greensboro Police Department sent the kit to NC State Crime Laboratory.

Received 02/21/2019
NC State Crime Laboratory received the kit from Greensboro Police Department.

Sent 07/11/2019
NC State Crime Laboratory sent the kit to Greensboro Police Department.

Received 07/11/2019
Greensboro Police Department received the kit from NC State Crime Laboratory.

Number of SAECKS in STIMS:

N.C G.S § 114-65 requires the State Crime Lab to report on an annual basis the following information:

- (1) The number of tracking-enabled kits shipped to medical facilities or medical providers.
- (2) The number of tracking-enabled kits used by medical facilities or medical providers to conduct forensic medical examinations of sexual assault or attempted sexual assault victims.
- (3) Of the tracking-enabled kits used by medical facilities or medical providers to conduct forensic medical examinations, the number of kits for which a sexual assault has been reported to law enforcement, sorted by law enforcement agency.
- (4) Of the tracking-enabled kits generated for reported cases, the number of kits submitted to a laboratory for forensic testing.
- (5) Of the tracking-enabled kits submitted for forensic testing, the number of kits for which forensic testing has been completed.
- (6) The number of tracking-enabled kits for which a sexual assault has not been reported, including the total submitted to local law enforcement and the total submitted to Department of Public Safety Law Enforcement Support Services.
- (7) Information regarding efforts to track and test previously untested kits described in subsection (e) of this section. (2018-70, s. 1.)

During FY 22-23, the below requested information was captured via the North Carolina State Crime Laboratory Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit Inventory and Tracking System (STIMS):

	NC State Crime Laboratory STIMS Data	FY 22-23
1	The number of tracking-enabled kits shipped to medical facilities or medical providers.	2,780
2	The number of tracking-enabled kits used by medical facilities or medical providers to conduct forensic medical examinations of sexual assault or attempted sexual assault victims.	2,314
3	Of the tracking-enabled kits used by medical facilities or medical providers to conduct forensic medical examinations, the number of kits for which a sexual assault has been reported to law enforcement, sorted by law enforcement agency.	1,962
4	Of the tracking-enabled kits generated for reported cases, the number of kits submitted to a laboratory for forensic testing. ¹	2,037
5	Of the tracking-enabled kits submitted for forensic testing, the number of kits for which forensic testing has been completed.	1,788
6	The number of tracking-enabled kits for which a sexual assault has not been reported, including the total submitted to local law enforcement and the total submitted to Department of Public Safety Law Enforcement Support Services.	278
7	Information regarding efforts to track and test previously untested kits described in subsection (e) of this section.	59

¹ The number of kits submitted to the lab in 4 above may be higher due to fiscal year crossover.

As requested in N.C G.S § 114-65 (3), the kits reported to law enforcement are sorted by law enforcement agency below. **(Attachment 1)**

As requested in N.C G.S § 114-65 (7), 59 untested kits have been inventoried and entered into STIMS in FY 2022-2023. **16,219** untested kits have been inventoried to date.

Attachment 1

FY 22-23 tracking-enabled kits used by medical facilities for which a sexual assault has been reported to law enforcement – sorted by agency:

Agency	Number of Kits
Out of State/Military	46
Aberdeen Police Department	1
Alamance County Sheriff's Office	16
Albemarle Police Department	8
Alexander County Sheriff's Office	4
Andrews Police Department	1
Angier Police Department	1
Anson County Sheriff's Office	3
Apex Police Department	5
Appalachian Regional Healthcare System Police Department	1
Appalachian State University Police	3
Archdale Police Department	1
Ashe County Sheriff's Office	3
Asheboro Police Department	8
Asheville Police Department	30
Atrium Health Special Police Department	1
Avery County Sheriff's Office	1
Bailey Police Department	1
Beaufort County Sheriff's Office	7
Belmont Police Department	2
Benson Police Department	2
Bertie County Sheriff's Office	2
Bessemer City Police Department	1
Black Mountain Police Department	1
Bladen County Sheriff's Office	4
Boone Police Department	9
Brevard Police Department	6
Brookford Police Department	1
Brunswick County Sheriff's Office	15
Buncombe County Sheriff's Department	18
Burgaw Police Department	1
Burke County Sheriff's Office	4
Burlington Police Department	16
Butner Public Safety Department	4
Cabarrus County Sheriff's Office	6

Agency	Number of Kits
Caldwell County Sheriff's Office	9
Canton Police Department	1
Carolina Beach Police Department	1
Carrboro Police Department	4
Carteret County Sheriff's Office	4
Cary Police Department	9
Caswell County Sheriff's Office	1
Catawba County Sheriff's Office	5
Chapel Hill Police Department	15
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department	291
Chatham County Sheriff's Office	3
Cherokee County Sheriff's Office	4
Cherokee Police Department	4
Cherry-O'Berry Hospital Police	1
Cherryville Police Department	2
China Grove Police Department	1
Cleveland County Sheriff's Office	6
Clinton Police Department	2
Coats Police Department	1
Columbus County Sheriff's Office	5
Concord Police Department	18
Cornelius Police Department	2
Cramerton Police Department	2
Craven County Sheriff's Office	1
Cumberland County Sheriff's Department	18
Currituck County Sheriff's Office	2
Dallas Police Department	2
Dare County Sheriff's Office	5
Davidson County Sheriff's Office	9
Davie County Sheriff's Office	4
Denton Police Department	1
Duke University Police Department	10
Dunn Police Department	4
Duplin County Sheriff's Office	2
Durham County Sheriff's Office	5
Durham Police Department	54
East Carolina University Police Department	3
East Spencer Police Department	1
Eden Police Department	2
Edenton Police Department	1

Agency	Number of Kits
Edgecombe County Sheriff's Office	2
Elizabeth City Police Department	1
Elizabeth City State University Police	1
Elizabethtown Police Department	3
Elon University Campus Safety and Police Department	1
Fairmont Police Department	1
Fayetteville Police Department	71
Federal Bureau of Prisons	2
Fletcher Police Department	2
Forsyth County Sheriff's Office	13
Four Oaks Police Department	2
Franklin County Sheriff's Office	7
Franklin Police Department	1
Fuquay-Varina Police Department	2
Garner Police Department	13
Garysburg Police Department	1
Gaston County Police Department	12
Gaston County Sheriff's Office	1
Gaston Police Department	1
Gastonia Police Department	22
Gibsonville Police Department	1
Goldsboro Police Department	16
Graham County Sheriff's Office	7
Graham Police Department	4
Granville County Sheriff's Office	2
Greene County Sheriff's Office	6
Greensboro Police Department	61
Greenville Police Department	32
Grifton Police Department	1
Guilford County Sheriff's Office	16
Halifax County Sheriff's Office	3
Hamlet Police Department	3
Harnett County Sheriff's Department	10
Haw River Police Department	1
Haywood County Sheriff's Office	5
Henderson County Sheriff's Office	2
Henderson Police Department	2
Hendersonville Police Department	5
Hertford County Sheriff's Office	1
Hickory Police Department	10

Agency	Number of Kits
High Point Police Department	15
Hillsborough Police Department	1
Hoke County Sheriff's Office	4
Holly Springs Police Department	2
Hope Mills Police Department	1
Huntersville Police Department	7
Iredell County Sheriff's Office	11
Jackson County Sheriff's Office	8
Jacksonville Police Department	14
Johnston County Sheriff's Office	6
Jones County Sheriff's Office	2
Kannapolis Police Department	5
Kernersville Police Department	1
Kill Devil Hills Police Department	2
Kings Mountain Police Department	1
Kinston Police Department	3
Knightdale Police Department	3
L.E.S.S.	6
Laurinburg Police Department	5
Lee County Sheriff's Office	3
Leland Police Department	2
Lenoir County Sheriff's Office	3
Lenoir Police Department	2
Lexington Police Department	2
Liberty Police Department	2
Lillington Police Department	1
Lincoln County Sheriff's Office	9
Lincolnton Police Department	7
Longview Police Department	2
Lumberton Police Department	5
Macon County Sheriff's Office	1
Madison County Sheriff's Office	1
Maggie Valley Police Department	1
Marion Police Department	1
Marshville Police Department	2
Martin County Sheriff's Office	1
Matthews Police Department	6
Maxton Police Department	1
McDowell County Sheriff's Office	6
Mebane Police Department	6

Agency	Number of Kits
Mint Hill Police Department	1
Mitchell County Sheriff's Office	1
Monroe Police Department	22
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office	4
Moore County Sheriff's Office	12
Mooresville Police Department	7
Morehead City Police Department	2
Morganton Department of Public Safety	2
Morrisville Police Department	2
Mount Holly Police Department	3
Mount Olive Police Department	1
Murphy Police Department	1
N.C. Central University	1
N.C. State University Police	1
Nash County Sheriff's Office	7
Navassa Police Department	1
New Bern Police Department	5
New Hanover County Sheriff's Office	17
Newport Police Department	2
Newton Police Department	2
North Wilkesboro Police Department	2
Northhampton County Sheriff's Office	1
Northwest Police Department	1
Norwood Police Department	1
Ocean Isle Police Department	2
Onslow County Sheriff's Office	19
Orange County Sheriff's Office	10
Oxford Police Department	2
Pamlico County Sheriff's Office	1
Pasquotank County Sheriff's Office	3
Pender County Sheriff's Office	7
Perquimans County Sheriff's Office	1
Person County Sheriff's Office	5
Pinebluff Police Department	1
Pinehurst Police Department	2
Pineville Police Department	5
Pitt County Sheriff's Office	8
Raeford Police Department	1
Raleigh Police Department	110

Agency	Number of Kits
Raleigh-Durham Airport Police	1
Randleman Police Department	1
Randolph County Sheriff's Office	10
Ranlo Police Department	2
Red Springs Police Department	1
Richmond County Sheriff's Office	6
Roanoke Rapids Police Department	3
Robbins Police Department	1
Robeson County Sheriff's Office	13
Rockingham County Sheriff's Office	9
Rockingham Police Department	3
Rocky Mount Police Department	13
Rolesville Police Department	1
Rowan County Sheriff's Office	6
Rowland Police Department	1
Rutherford County Sheriff's Office	3
Rutherfordton Police Department	1
Salisbury Police Department	18
Sampson County Sheriff's Office	10
Sanford Police Department	4
Scotland County Sheriff's Office	2
Selma Police Department	1
Shelby Police Department	11
Smithfield Police Department	8
Snow Hill Police Department	1
Southern Pines Police Department	3
Spencer Police Department	1
Spring Lake Police Department	3
Spruce Pine Police Department	1
Stallings Police Department	2
Stanly County Sheriff's Office	4
State Capitol Police	1
Statesville Police Department	8
Stokes County Sheriff's Office	3
Sugar Mountain Police Department	2
Sunset Beach Police Department	1
Surf City Police Department	1
Surry County Sheriff's Office	9
Swain County Sheriff's Office	4
Sylva Police Department	2

Agency	Number of Kits
Tarboro Police Department	1
Taylorsville Police Department	2
Taylortown Police Department	1
Thomasville Police Department	5
Transylvania County Sheriff's Office	5
Troy Police Department	1
Tyrrell County Sheriff's Office	1
UNC Charlotte Police & Public Safety	3
UNC Greensboro Police Department	4
UNC Hospitals Police	36
UNC Police Department at Chapel Hill	3
UNC Wilmington Police Department	2
UNC- Asheville Public Safety	1
UNC-Pembroke Police	1
Union County Sheriff's Office	13
Vance County Sheriff's Office	3
Vidant Medical Center Company Police	3
Wadesboro Police Department	1
Wake County Sheriff's Office	14
Wake Forest Police Department	1
Wallace Police Department	4
Warren County Sheriff's Office	2
Warsaw Police Department	2
Watauga County Sheriff's Office	5
Waxhaw Police Department	2
Wayne County Sheriff's Office	8
Waynesville Police Department	4
Weaverville Police Department	1
Wendell Police Department	1
West Jefferson Police Department	1
Western Carolina University	6
Whispering Pines Police Department	1
Whiteville Police Department	2
Wilkes County Sheriff's Office	6
Wilkesboro Police Department	1
Williamston Police Department	2
Wilmington Police Department	33
Wilson County Sheriff's Office	1
Wilson Police Department	9
Wingate Police Department	2

Agency	Number of Kits
Winston-Salem Police Department	51
Winterville Police Department	2
Woodfin Police Department	4
Yadkin County Sheriff's Office	1
Yancey County Sheriff's Department	3