



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
CRIME LABORATORY

Familial Search #: _____
(For DPS use only)

Familial Search Request Form

LAB-CO-63 Rev.00 (06/2025) p.2 Issued by: SQM

The following request is for the Texas Department of Public Safety's CODIS Laboratory (DPS) to conduct a familial search of its State DNA Index System (SDIS) from the following agencies:

_____ (Investigating Agency) and

_____ (Prosecuting Agency)

This familial search, and any appropriate additional testing and inquiry, will be performed by DPS to potentially identify a relative(s) of the alleged perpetrator in the Investigating Agency's case number _____. The relevant forensic unknown DNA profile was derived from evidence associated with this case and uploaded to SDIS under the CODIS Specimen Identification Number _____ by the _____ laboratory, ORI _____.

This request is a prerequisite to pursuing the development of an investigative lead by means of a familial search.

By signing this request, the **Investigating** and **Prosecuting Agencies agree** to each of the following statements:

1. The offense of the case with the evidentiary profile should be from an unsolved homicide, sexual assault, or other violent crime that has significant public safety concerns. If the crime is solved while DPS is engaged in its familial searching protocols, the Investigating Agency will immediately notify DPS and the familial search process will terminate.
2. All other reasonable and viable investigative strategies, including but not limited to DNA profile comparison(s) to suspect reference samples, and Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (if applicable) inquiries have been pursued with negative results.
3. The Investigating Agency has consulted with the Prosecuting Agency and agrees to further investigate the case if the State CODIS Laboratory releases investigative information.
4. The evidentiary profile should be from an item of evidence having unambiguous connection to the crime in question and a satisfactory level of confidence that the crime scene profile is relevant to the perpetrator (example: sperm cell fraction from vaginal swab of a sexual assault victim). Evidence that is ambiguous to the crime in question will be cause for denial for executing a familial search (example: cigarette butt found near but not at the crime scene)
5. The forensic unknown DNA profile from the case evidence sample is a single-source, or a deduced single source from a mixture. The profile contains, at a minimum, 13 CODIS Core Loci with no allelic drop-out. Loci that contain ambiguous alleles will not be searched. Y-STR testing has been performed.
6. The laboratory reports and electropherograms regarding the DNA testing of the case evidence will be provided to DPS. If requested, the associated bench notes or other relevant documentation will also be provided.
7. The forensic unknown DNA profile resides at NDIS. No hit to an offender has resulted from routine searches.
8. The Investigating Agency will provide DPS with a written summary of all available case information.
9. Prior to releasing an individual's identifying information, the State CODIS Laboratory shall verbally discuss the limitations and meaning of the results with the requesting agencies. This discussion should include all representatives involved in the request and may take place in person or via conference call.



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By signing this request, and upon receipt of all required information, **DPS agrees** to each of the following statements:

1. DPS will conduct a familial search of its DNA Database using statistical formulae designed to evaluate the likelihood of kinship between the source of the case evidence sample and convicted offenders or arrestees in the database.
2. Based on these statistical evaluations, DPS will conduct additional STR typing of a prioritized and manageable group of candidate convicted offenders or arrestees most likely to be related to the source of the case evidence sample. If no statistically significant candidate profiles suggest kinship with an offender, no name will be released.
3. For any statistically significant candidate profile, the DPS Familial Search Committee will review all available data, including kinship index calculations and information contained in other government databases, in order to identify additional evidence bearing on kinship.
4. After reviewing all available information, the DPS Familial Search Committee may release the name of the convicted offender or arrestee to the Investigating and Prosecuting Agencies.
5. This request and the described procedures are valid only as long as DPS maintains its familial search program.

INVESTIGATING AGENCY:

Date: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Agency: _____

Signature

PROSECUTING AGENCY:

Date: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Agency: _____

Signature