



MIKE DEWINE

★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★



Ohio Bureau of Criminal
Investigation
Office 740-845-2100
Fax 740-845-2020

1560 St. Rt. 56 SW, P.O. Box 365
London, OH 43140
www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov

March 16, 2016

Dear Law Enforcement Colleague,

I am writing to give you an update on Senate Bill 316, which became effective on March 23, 2015. As of that date, law enforcement agencies have been required to submit violent crime evidence for laboratory DNA analysis within a specified time period.

The law says that all law enforcement agencies are to review their records and reports of specified homicide and sex offenses and determine if a sexual assault kit (SAK) was collected as part of the investigation. If that case existed on March 23, 2015, the SAK must be submitted to BCI or to another crime laboratory as soon as possible or at the latest by March 23, 2016 -- one year after the law's effective date. That leaves just one week in which the statutory obligation to submit these older SAKs can be met.

Senate Bill 316 also addresses new cases. Any investigation started after March 23, 2015 that involves a specified homicide or sex offense and includes a SAK must be submitted to BCI or to another crime laboratory for DNA analysis within 30 days. Timely submission of new cases will help ensure that this valuable DNA evidence does not linger in evidence rooms or hospital collection sites.

Since the effective date of SB 316, BCI has collected over 3,100 rape kits. As of March 1, 2016, the combined efforts of our SAK Testing Initiative have led to the full analysis of 10,133 kits. Of the rape kits our lab has tested so far, 3,664 have resulted in an investigative lead through the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS).

If you have questions about the submission or analysis of SAKs please contact DNA Technical Leader, Lewis Maddox, at 234-400-3636 or Lewis.Maddox@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

Very respectfully yours,

Mike DeWine
Ohio Attorney General