

RAPID DNA INTEGRATION IN BOOKING STATIONS ADDS SIGNIFICANT BENEFIT TO PUBLIC SAFETY

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Today, in states where DNA collection is allowed at the time of arrest, DNA samples are collected and sent to a laboratory for testing. Once testing is complete, the results are uploaded to the FBI Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) for enrollment in the Arrestee Index and searching against the Forensic Indexes. Each step takes time, particularly transport of the samples and the DNA testing. As a result, the arrestee in many cases is no longer detained in the booking environment when an association/hit is made between the arrestee and a forensicsample from an unsolved crime. The agency must then spend valuable time and resources to locate the individual, allowing for the possibility that the individual has committed additional crimes between the time of arrest/sample collection and their apprehension related to the CODIS Hit.

In 2010 the FBI initiated the Rapid DNA Program with the goal of increasing public safety and, in 2017, the Rapid DNA Act was signed, providing congressional authorization to the FBI for issuance of standards and procedures for the use of Rapid DNA outside of the laboratory. The goal of placing Rapid DNA in the booking environment is to significantly reduce the standard “DNA collection to CODIS response timeframe.” Integration of Rapid DNA into booking stations allows DNA collection and processing and transmission to CODIS to happen in approximately 2 hours - while the arrestee is still at the booking station.

This poster will highlight the public safety benefits of the implementation of Rapid DNA in booking stations and explain what the booking process looks like with the integration of Rapid DNA into the existing Live Scan workflow. Implementation of any new technology involves many stakeholders, and all are critical to the success of Rapid DNA, including the State CODIS laboratory. The stakeholders will be identified and the key requirements for a successful Rapid DNA program, as outlined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, will be discussed.