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June 7, 2011

BPC #11-0175

The Honorable City Council
City of Los Angeles
c/o City Clerk's Office

Dear Honorable Members:

RE: DNA QUARTERLY REPORT – 1ST QUARTER 2011

At the regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held Tuesday, May 3, 2011, the Board APPROVED the Department's report relative to the above matter.

This matter is being forwarded to you for approval.

Respectfully,

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria Silva".

MARIA SILVA
Commission Executive Assistant

Attachment

c: Chief of Police

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

RECEIVED

APR 25 2011

April 20, 2011
8.6

REVIEWED POLICE COMMISSION

TO: Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Chief of Police


RICHARD M. TEFANK
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
4/25/11
DATE

SUBJECT: DNA QUARTERLY REPORT – 1ST QUARTER 2011

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

1. That the Board of Police Commissioners (Board) REVIEW and APPROVE this report.
2. That the Board TRANSMIT the attached DNA Quarterly Report, 1st Quarter 2011, to the Los Angeles City Council.

DISCUSSION

At the request of the Los Angeles City Council and the Public Safety Committee, this is the 1st Quarterly Report as it relates to the reduction of the backlog of the DNA Evidence Kits.

Should have any questions, please contact Captain Clay Farrell, Commanding Officer, Robbery-Homicide Division, at (213) 486-6850.

Respectfully,



CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police

Attachments

BOARD OF
POLICE COMMISSIONERS
Approved *May 3, 2011*
Secretary *Maria Silva*

Detective Bureau
DNA Quarterly Report. 1st Quarter
April 14, 2011

PURPOSE

Robbery-Homicide Division (RHD) has been asked to provide a written report and remain available to provide a monthly verbal report to the Los Angeles City Council and the Public Safety Committee, as it relates to the reduction of the backlog of the DNA Evidence Kits. This is the first quarterly report for 2011. The progress report is posted and updated on a monthly basis on the Department's website.

BACKGROUND

In September of 2008, the City Controller's Office published a report regarding the status of all Sexual Assault Evidence Kits (SAEK) booked into evidence at the Los Angeles Police Department's (LAPD) Property Division. The report revealed 7,495 SAEKs had not yet been analyzed. As a result, the LAPD conducted a physical audit of all SAEKs booked at Property Division. The LAPD's audit revealed that there were 11,077 SAEKs in evidence, and 6,132 SAEKs had not been analyzed. The 6,132 SAEKs became the "Historical Backlog."

A monthly DNA report has been developed with the collaboration of the Controller's Office, the City Attorney's Office, Councilmember Eric Garcetti's office, and a multitude of victim advocate groups. The monthly report documents efforts to reduce the Historical Backlog and provides month to month progress.

PROGRESS

As of March 31, 2011, all the SAEKs suitable for testing from the Historical Backlog have been processed with only 60 technical reviews remaining to be completed. Of the 6,132 SAEKs analyzed from the Historical backlog, the LAPD has uploaded 2,126 forensic unknown profiles into the Combined Offender DNA Index System (CODIS). Additionally, from the 6,132 SAEKs analyzed, there have been 676 named offender hits and 36 case to case hits. Of the case to case hits, some include forensic unknowns, while others include named offenders identifying possible sexual assault serial offenders. These results do not include the remaining technical review information from the Historical Backlog, nor the analysis efforts of the SAEKs booked post December 8, 2008.

From July 1, 2009, to March 31, 2011, total funds spent for outsourced SAEKs analysis has accumulated to \$8,115,992.00.

Previously allocated grant funds totaling approximately \$3.5 million has been anticipated as sufficient to address the needs of the Department to complete the "Historical Backlog" technical reviews.

**Detective Bureau
DNA Quarterly Report. 1st Quarter
April 14, 2011**

Twenty-three new positions have already been filled at the Scientific Investigation Division's (SID) Serology/DNA Unit; 19 criminalists and four laboratory technicians. The new SID personnel are at various stages in their training depending on their background and the Department's needs. During February and March 2011, nine additional criminalists were hired. One candidate withdrew from consideration; two did not pass background, but were replaced with alternatives. No other acceptable candidates remained. The 10th position will be hired in the next round in a few months.

The LAPD Information Technology Division (ITD) has developed an interim web-based, interconnected database application that is in use by Department personnel. Currently, "RHD Incident Tracking System" (ITS) allows for data entry by personnel to submit the LAPD Form 12.56, "Request for Serology/DNA Analysis," (RSDA) electronically on a website based system. The RSDA can then be viewed, prioritized and edited. The form is accessible by investigators, criminalists, and supervising personnel. The system imports limited case information from the Automated Property Index Management System (APIMS), Crime Analysis Mapping System (CAMS), Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), and an information link to the Detective Case Tracking System (DCTS) is pending. The import feature from APIMS ensures all SAEKs are accounted for. RSDA forms are submitted more efficiently and accurately. The database allows for monitoring of analysis requests and can ensure time requirements are met for Penal Codes 680 and 803 with built-in email alerts.

On February 15, 2011, representatives from the City of Los Angeles met with staff of the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) DNA Laboratory at the OCME Laboratory in New York.

The visit included:

- A tour of their laboratory facility.
- An overview of the interface between NYPD and the DNA Lab including evidence collection protocols, evidence submission protocols and liaison activities between the two agencies.
- An overview of the DNA Lab caseload, productivity and staffing levels.
- A description of the DNA Lab analytical practices including work flow and analyst assignments.
- A meeting with two New York Deputy District Attorneys describing the SAEK backlog elimination program they participated in from 2001 through 2003.

It was determined that from 2001 through 2007, the New York OCME DNA Laboratory experienced much of the same backlog elimination issues and rapid growth as is currently being experienced by the LAPD Serology/DNA Unit (SDU). During the last four years the OCME DNA Lab has had an opportunity to stabilize its operation and create a system which provides for high productivity and seamless integration of requests for rush analysis. It was determined that this is being accomplished through a large staff, small span of control and staff dedicated to quality assurance, training and technology validation.

**Detective Bureau
DNA Quarterly Report. 1st Quarter
April 14, 2011**

The LAPD, SDU is currently analyzing how the processes used by the OCME can be used or adapted to the SDU to improve productivity and reduce training times. Challenges faced by the SDU in considering the OCME as a model are greater span of control issues, fewer staff to dedicate to specialized support functions (Quality assurance, training and validation) and completing the transition from a laboratory focused on a rapid outsourcing process to completing all cases in-house.

CONCLUSION

The Historical Backlog of 6,132 SAEKs has been eliminated. The technical reviews of approximately 60 Historical Backlog SAEKs are expected to be completed during the 2nd Quarter 2011. We continue to monitor and analyze our new incoming cases in a timely manner and review prior cases that can produce possible evidence based on current DNA technology. The LAPD will continue to efficiently respond to crimes involving DNA evidence, outsource SAEKs as funding permits, and with our increased staffing at SID, train personnel for increased "In-House" DNA analysis.

Attached are the monthly DNA Progress Reports for January, February, and March 2011.

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Sexual Assault Evidence Kits (SAEK)
Progress Report for January 31, 2011.

| Category | Historical Backlog Pre 12/8/08 | Subsequent Post 12/8/08 | January 2011 Activity (All cases) |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Total Kits Booked | *6132 | 2861 | 94 |
| Rape Kits (LAPD) | 6012 | 2826 | 93 |
| Sex Kits (Coroner) | 120 | 35 | 1 |
| Outsourced to Private Laboratory | 4658 | 1874 | 110 |
| Analyzed SAEK's | 4658 | 1275 | 150 |
| Submitted to Laboratory/pending return to LAPD | 0 | 599 | 171 |
| DNA profiles found | 2496 | 598 | 64 |
| Completed Technical Review | 2149 | 323 | 297 |
| Pending Technical Review | 347 | 275 | N/A |
| Uploaded to CODIS | 1969 | 161 | 108 |
| Total CODIS Hits | 563 | 75 | 7 |
| Named offender only | 503 | 61 | 7 |
| Case-to-case only | 38 | 7 | **-1 |
| Named offender and case-to-case | 22 | 7 | 1 |
| LAPD Laboratory Analyzed SAEK's | 249 | 297 | 2 |
| DNA Profiles Found | 47 | 167 | 0 |
| Uploaded to CODIS | 29 | 213 | 7 |
| Total CODIS Hits | 22 | 135 | 0 |
| Named offender only | 18 | 116 | 0 |
| Case-to-case only | 3 | 6 | 0 |
| Named offender and case-to-case | 1 | 13 | 0 |
| Unsuitable for Testing | 1225 | 464 | 33 |
| Remaining Untested Kits | 0 | 825 | N/A |

* Initially recorded as 7,495 SAEKs by the Controller's report. After a physical audit by the LAPD in October 2008, the figure was revised to 6,132.

**Negative change due to one "Case to Case" reclassified to "Named Offender and Case to Case."

Compiled By,
Elizabeth Nation Scientific Investigation Division
James Blocker Robbery-Homicide Division

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Sexual Assault Evidence Kits (SAEK)
Progress Report for February 28, 2011.

| Category | Historical Backlog Pre 12/8/08 | Subsequent Post 12/8/08 | February 2011 Activity (All cases) |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Total Kits Booked | 6132* | 2951 | 90 |
| Rape Kits (LAPD) | 6012 | 2916 | 90 |
| Sex Kits (Coroner) | 120 | 35 | 0 |
| Outsourced to Private Laboratory | 4658 | 1980 | 106 |
| Analyzed SAEK's | 4658 | 1542 | 267 |
| Submitted to Laboratory/pending return to LAPD | 0 | 438 | 106 |
| DNA profiles found | 2496 | 788 | 190 |
| Completed Technical Review | 2278 | 517 | 297 |
| Pending Technical Review | 218 | 271 | N/A |
| Uploaded to CODIS | 2006 | 203 | 79 |
| Total CODIS Hits | 713 | 156 | 231 |
| Named offender only | 644 | 135 | 215 |
| Case-to-case only | 34 | 7 | -4** |
| Named offender and case-to-case | 35 | 14 | 20 |
| LAPD Laboratory Analyzed SAEK's | 249 | 298 | 1 |
| DNA Profiles Found | 47 | 167 | 0 |
| Uploaded to CODIS | 29 | 213 | 0 |
| Total CODIS Hits | 23 | 137 | 3 |
| Named offender only | 19 | 115 | 0 |
| Case-to-case only | 3 | 8 | 2 |
| Named offender and case-to-case | 1 | 14 | 1 |
| Unsuitable for Testing | 1225 | 468 | 4 |
| Remaining Untested Kits | 0 | 643 | N/A |

* Initially recorded as 7,495 SAEKs by the Controller's report. After a physical audit by the LAPD in October 2008, the figure was revised to 6,132.

** Four cases in the Historic Backlog have resulted in a CODIS hit to a named offender, resulting on a drop in the "case-to-case only" and an increase in the "Named offender and case-to-case" categories.

Compiled By,
Elizabeth Nation Scientific Investigation Division
James Blocker Robbery-Homicide Division