



North Carolina State Crime Laboratory

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Senator Warren Daniel
Senator Danny Britt
Representative James Boles, Jr.
Representative Ted Davis, Jr.
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 Chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety,

Pursuant to N.C. 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 19-20 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,

Vanessa Martinucci
Director

cc: William Childs, NCGA 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 16,179 previously untested SAECKs, which includes 1,296 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 work flow 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

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

Sexual Assault Kit #L000282 Status: Analyzed by lab

Created
10/15/2018
▲
Sirchie

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

Created 10/15/2018 Sirchie created the kit.
Sent 11/20/2018 Sirchie sent the kit to Cone Health.
Received 11/29/2018 Cone Health received the kit from Sirchie.
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 19-20, 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 19-20
1	The number of tracking-enabled kits shipped to medical facilities or medical providers.	2,851
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.	2,367
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.	2,092
4	Of the tracking-enabled kits generated for reported cases, the number of kits submitted to a laboratory for forensic testing.	1,815
5	Of the tracking-enabled kits submitted for forensic testing, the number of kits for which forensic testing has been completed.	874
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.	266
7	Information regarding efforts to track and test previously untested kits described in subsection (e) of this section.	10,198

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), 10,198 untested kits have been inventoried and entered into STIMS in FY 2019-2020. 16,114 untested kits have been inventoried to date.

Attachment 1

FY 19-20 tracking-enabled kits used by medical facilities for which a sexual assault has been reported to law enforcement – sorted by agency:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Number of Kits</u>
Out of State/Military	41
Aberdeen Police Department	1
Ahoskie Police Department	1
Alamance County Sheriff's Office	7
Albemarle Police Department	12
Alexander County Sheriff's Office	5
Alleghany County Sheriff's Office	1
Andrews Police Department	1
Anson County Sheriff's Office	3
Apex Police Department	4
Appalachian State University Police	3
Archdale Police Department	3
Ashe County Sheriff's Office	4
Asheboro Police Department	3
Asheville Police Department	47
Atlantic Beach Police Department	1
Avery County Sheriff's Office	1
Ayden Police Department	3
Beaufort County Sheriff's Office	4
Belmont Police Department	1
Bertie County Sheriff's Office	4
Bessemer City Police Department	2
Biscoe Police Department	1
Bladen County Sheriff's Office	3
Bladenboro Police Department	1
Boiling Spring Lakes Police Department	1
Boiling Springs Police Department	2
Boone Police Department	2
Brevard Police Department	2
Brunswick County Sheriff's Office	19
Buncombe County Sheriff's Department	10
Burgaw Police Department	1
Burke County Sheriff's Office	8
Burlington Police Department	17
Cabarrus County Sheriff's Office	9

Caldwell County Sheriff's Office	6
Carolina Beach Police Department	3
Carteret County Sheriff's Office	7
Cary Police Department	8
Caswell County Sheriff's Office	4
Catawba County Sheriff's Office	16
Chapel Hill Police Department	6
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department	275
Chatham County Sheriff's Office	5
Cherokee County Sheriff's Office	4
Cherokee Police Department	5
Cherryville Police Department	3
Chowan County Sheriff's Office	1
Clay County Sheriff's Office	1
Clayton Police Department	2
Cleveland County Sheriff's Office	5
Clinton Police Department	2
Columbus County Sheriff's Office	6
Concord Police Department	17
Cornelius Police Department	3
Cramerton Police Department	1
Craven County Sheriff's Office	7
Creedmoor Police Department	1
Cumberland County Sheriff's Department	25
Currituck County Sheriff's Office	3
Dallas Police Department	2
Dare County Sheriff's Office	1
Davidson County Sheriff's Office	7
Davie County Sheriff's Office	6
Duke University Police	14
Dunn Police Department	1
Duplin County Sheriff's Office	6
Durham County Sheriff's Office	4
Durham Police Department	55
East Carolina University Campus Police	2
Eden Police Department	2
Edenton Police Department	1
Edgecombe County Sheriff's Office	1
Elizabeth City Police Department	6
Elon University Police	2

Erwin Police Department	1
Fairmont Police Department	1
Fayetteville Police Department	67
Fletcher Police Department	2
Forest City Police Department	1
Forsyth County Sheriff's Office	15
Franklin County Sheriff's Office	4
Fremont Police Department	1
Fuquay-Varina Police Department	3
Garner Police Department	8
Gaston County Police Department	19
Gaston County Sheriff's Office	1
Gastonia Police Department	25
Gates County Sheriff's Office	1
Gibsonville Police Department	1
Goldsboro Police Department	10
Graham County Sheriff's Office	2
Graham Police Department	5
Granite Quarry Police Department	1
Granville County Sheriff's Office	2
Greene County Sheriff's Office	9
Greensboro Police Department	74
Greenville Police Department	26
Grifton Police Department	1
Guilford County Sheriff's Office	16
Guilford Technical Community College	1
Halifax County Sheriff's Office	2
Hamlet Police Department	1
Harnett County Sheriff's Department	15
Havelock Police Department	5
Haywood County Sheriff's Office	7
Henderson County Sheriff's Office	18
Henderson Police Department	2
Hendersonville Police Department	5
Hertford County Sheriff's Office	2
Hickory Police Department	14
High Point Police Department	30
Hillsborough Police Department	1
Hoke County Sheriff's Office	8
Holly Springs Police Department	4

Hope Mills Police Department	2
Huntersville Police Department	1
Iredell County Sheriff's Office	5
Jackson County Sheriff's Office	3
Jacksonville Police Department	15
Johnston County Sheriff's Office	14
Jonesville Police Department	1
Kannapolis Police Department	10
Kernersville Police Department	8
Kill Devil Hills Police Department	3
King Police Department	5
Kings Mountain Police Department	1
Kinston Police Department	7
Kitty Hawk Police Department	1
Knightdale Police Department	1
L.E.S.S	3
Lake Waccamaw Police Department	1
Laurinburg Police Department	4
Lee County Sheriff's Office	4
Leland Police Department	1
Lenoir County Sheriff's Office	9
Lenoir Police Department	2
Lexington Police Department	6
Lillington Police Department	5
Lincoln County Sheriff's Office	12
Lincolnton Police Department	3
Locust Police Department	2
Longview Police Department	1
Lumberton Police Department	4
Madison County Sheriff's Office	5
Madison Police Department	1
Marion Police Department	1
Marshall Police Department	1
Marshville Police Department	4
Martin County Sheriff's Office	1
Matthews Police Department	2
McDowell County Sheriff's Office	8
Mebane Police Department	2
Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office	2
Mint Hill Police Department	3

Mitchell County Sheriff's Office	1
Mocksville Police Department	3
Monroe Police Department	17
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office	1
Moore County Sheriff's Office	4
Mooresville Police Department	7
Morehead City Police Department	4
Morganton Department of Public Safety	2
Mount Airy Police Department	3
Mount Gilead Police Department	1
Mount Holly Police Department	2
Mount Olive Police Department	1
Murphy Police Department	1
N.C. Department of Correction	2
N.C. State University Police	1
Nags Head Police Department	2
Nash County Sheriff's Office	2
Navassa Police Department	1
NC State Bureau of Investigation	2
New Bern Police Department	8
New Hanover County Sheriff's Office	17
Newland Police Department	1
Newport Police Department	1
Newton Police Department	3
North Wilkesboro Police Department	1
Northampton County Sheriff's Office	4
Oakboro Police Department	2
Ocean Isle Police Department	1
Onslow County Sheriff's Office	26
Orange County Sheriff's Office	6
Oxford Police Department	3
Pamlico County Sheriff's Office	1
Pasquotank County Sheriff's Office	1
Pender County Sheriff's Office	5
Perquimans County Sheriff's Office	2
Person County Sheriff's Office	1
Pinehurst Police Department	2
Pineville Police Department	6
Pink Hill Police Department	1
Pitt County Sheriff's Office	9

Plymouth Police Department	3
Polk County Sheriff's Office	1
Raleigh Police Department	113
Randleman Police Department	1
Randolph County Sheriff's Office	9
Ranlo Police Department	1
Red Springs Police Department	1
Reidsville Police Department	1
Richlands Police Department	1
Richmond County Sheriff's Office	6
Roanoke Rapids Police Department	2
Robbins Police Department	1
Robeson County Sheriff's Office	19
Rockingham County Sheriff's Office	3
Rockingham Police Department	1
Rocky Mount Police Department	9
Rowan County Sheriff's Office	7
Rowland Police Department	2
Rutherford County Sheriff's Office	7
Salisbury Police Department	5
Sampson County Sheriff's Office	5
Sanford Police Department	5
Scotland County Sheriff's Office	2
Scotland Neck Police Department	1
Selma Police Department	2
Shalotte Police Department	1
Shelby Police Department	2
Siler City Police Department	3
Smithfield Police Department	3
Southern Pines Police Department	3
Southern Shores Police Department	1
Southport Police Department	1
Spindale Police Department	2
Spring Lake Police Department	3
Stallings Police Department	3
Stanly County Sheriff's Office	4
Star Police Department	1
Statesville Police Department	7
Stokes County Sheriff's Office	7
Sunset Beach Police Department	1

Surf City Police Department	1
Surry County Sheriff's Office	9
Swain County Sheriff's Office	3
Sylva Police Department	3
Tabor City Police Department	1
Tarboro Police Department	2
Taylortown Police Department	1
Thomasville Police Department	6
Transylvania County Sheriff's Office	5
Tryon Police Department	1
UNC Hospital Police	29
UNC-CH Public Safety	1
UNC-Charlotte Public Safety	1
UNC-Greensboro Public Safety	1
Union County Sheriff's Office	20
Vance County Sheriff's Office	4
Vidant Medical Center Company Police	1
Wadesboro Police Department	4
Wake County Sheriff's Office	27
Wake Forest Police Department	1
WakeMed Campus Police	4
Wallace Police Department	2
Warren County Sheriff's Office	1
Warsaw Police Department	1
Washington County Sheriff's Office	1
Washington Police Department	4
Watauga County Sheriff's Office	5
Waxhaw Police Department	4
Wayne County Sheriff's Office	8
Waynesville Police Department	2
Weaverville Police Department	1
Weldon Police Department	1
Wendell Police Department	1
West Jefferson Police Department	2
Western Carolina University	1
Whiteville Police Department	1
Wilkes County Sheriff's Office	11
Wilkesboro Police Department	2
Williamston Police Department	1
Wilmington Police Department	46

Wilson County Sheriff's Office	2
Wilson Police Department	21
Wingate Police Department	4
Winston-Salem Police Department	98
Woodfin Police Department	1
Wrightsville Beach Police Department	1
Yadkin County Sheriff's Office	3
Yadkinville Police Department	3
Yancey County Sheriff's Department	1
Youngsville Police Department	1