



**MIKE DEWINE**  
★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★



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September 23, 2015

Dear Law Enforcement Colleague,

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

The new 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 six months in which the statutory obligation to submit these older SAKs can be met.

Senate Bill 316 also addressed 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 in March, BCI has collected over 1,400 rape kits. As of September 1, 2015, the combined efforts of our SAK Testing Initiative which began in 2011, and kits submitted as a result of SB 316 have led to the full analysis of 8,416 kits. Of the rape kits our lab has tested so far, 3,121 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](mailto:Lewis.Maddox@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov).

Very respectfully yours,

Mike DeWine  
Ohio Attorney General