



BCI Laboratory Database Searches CODIS

Ohio BCI's participation in the DNA database, the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), is governed by the laboratory's compliance to the FBI's National DNA Index System Procedures.

I. Database Entry Considerations

In order to consider a DNA profile from the crime scene for CODIS entry:

- The evidence must link the suspect to the crime
- The DNA profile must be suitable for comparison purposes

In order to consider a known DNA profile from an Ohio offender for CODIS entry:

- The adults are collected pursuant Ohio Revised Code (ORC) § 2901.07
- Adjudicated delinquents are collected pursuant to ORC § 2152.74
- An Ohio DNA collection kit must be submitted to BCI CODIS laboratory
- Contact CODIS@ Ohio AttorneyGeneral.gov to order kits.
- Ohio Supreme Court in *State v. Emerson* (2012), 134 Ohio St.3d 191, concluded that a lawfully collected suspect standard is the product of forensic casework and could properly be retained in the state's DNA information system

In order to consider a known DNA profile from an Ohio unidentified human remain or relative of missing person for CODIS entry:

- The remain(s) should have a coroner's report indicating that the remain is human
- The relative of a Missing Person must have a consent form
- Contact CODIS@ Ohio AttorneyGeneral.gov for the consent form

II. Database Entry Notification Practices

BCI laboratory reports notify law enforcement agencies if DNA profiles from crime scene evidence were entered into CODIS.

The Computerized Criminal History (CCH) records located in OHLEG are equipped with a DNA flag to notify law enforcement agencies whether a DNA sample has been collected from an individual for the database pursuant to ORC § 109.573.

III. Database Search Scope and Frequency

Local CODIS searches are conducted at a minimum of once a week and compare new DNA profile entries from crime scenes to known DNA profiles and other crime scene DNA profiles stored in the local database.

Statewide searches are conducted daily and compare Ohio offender DNA profiles to DNA profiles from crime scenes. Crime scene profiles from local Ohio laboratories are searched and compared against one another.

National searches are conducted daily by the FBI and compare all offenders who meet each state's qualifying offenses to DNA profiles from crime scenes submitted by each State CODIS laboratory. Crime scene profiles from each state are searched and compared against one another.

IV. Database Entry Retention

DNA profile entries from crime scenes are retained in the database indefinitely and are automatically searched against new entries in subsequent searches.

A crime scene profile that is later determined to be from a victim, sexual consent partner, or an elimination standard is removed by the local laboratory upon notification by law enforcement or submission of a known sample.

Ohio offender DNA profiles are removed pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 2953.52 at the state laboratory.