



The CODIS Newsletter

COMBINED DNA INDEX SYSTEM



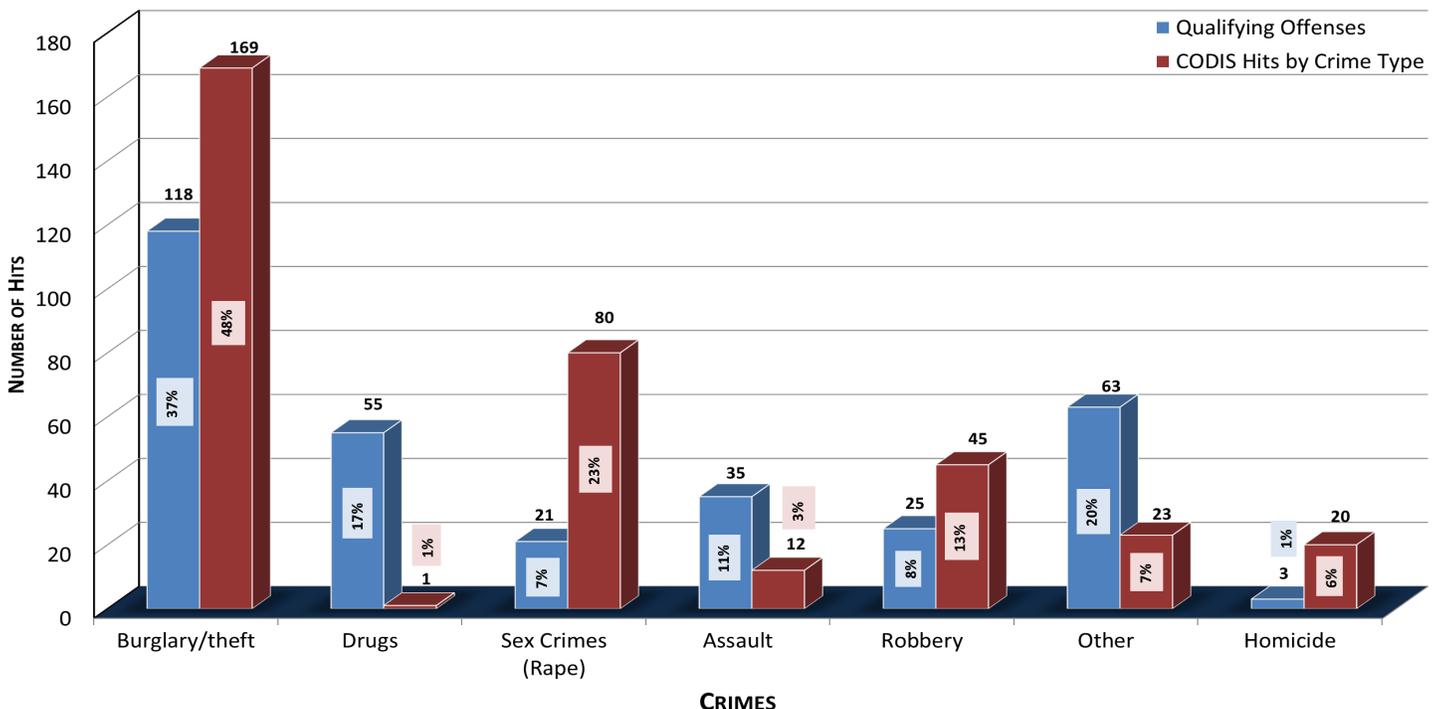
2014 IN REVIEW

In 2014, there were **350** CODIS hits providing investigative leads to police agencies across the country. Each of these hits resulted from a DNA match between an offender and a crime scene sample or a match between two crime scene samples. These hits are what make the CODIS Program so important to the community and its citizens.

Inside this Issue:

A CODIS Success Story	2
Ordering Kits	2
Convicted Offender Hits by County	3
How to get Access to WATCH	3
Collection Tips	4
Training Opportunities	4
Meet the CODIS Staff	4

The chart shown below summarizes the hits by crime category and by the offender's qualifying offense. Approximately 45% of the cases in 2014 producing a hit were categorized as a violent crime, which includes crimes such as homicide, rape, robbery, and assault. DNA samples collected from offenders with a qualifying offense of a less violent crime, such as drug possession or burglary/theft, produced approximately 74% of the CODIS hits in 2014.





A CODIS Success Story

Two separate cases... two victims...

Two young females went missing in 1995. The first victim, 22-year old Tracey Brazzel, was last seen in the Everett vicinity. Tracey's car was recovered near her apartment complex shortly after her disappearance became known, with the driver's side window broken out and a small spot of blood on the car door. Her body has yet to be found.

The second victim, Patti Berry, was 26 years old at the time of her disappearance near Lynnwood. Patti's car was found a few days after her disappearance behind an Everett convenience store, again with the driver's side window broken out. This time there was a great deal of blood found inside and outside the car. Patti's body was found in a wooded area near the Everett Mall complex just a week after her disappearance. The autopsy revealed she had been stabbed multiple times.



In 2004, the Washington State Patrol Seattle Crime Laboratory developed a mixed DNA profile from the steering wheel of Patti's car. The mixture consisted of the victim and an unknown male. The foreign portion of the profile was entered and searched against the CODIS database, but no matches resulted.

It wasn't until 2008 that a match to the male profile was developed. The match belonged to a registered sex offender, Danny Giles, who was living in the Lynnwood area at the time of Patti's death and Tracey's disappearance.

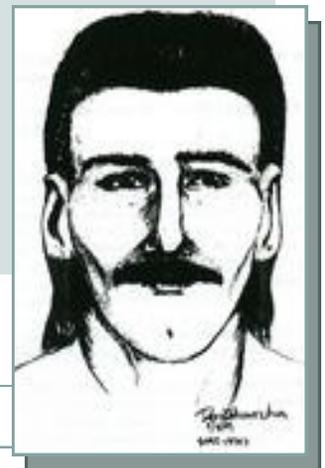
In 2010, the crime laboratory developed a profile from the blood sample found in Tracey Brazzel's car. It too, matched to Giles.

Giles was found guilty in 2014 of first-degree murder in Patti Berry's case. He was sentenced to 47.5 years in prison.

He is currently waiting trial for the presumed murder of Tracey Brazzel.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.heraldnet.com/article/20121116/NEWS01/711169864>

A 1999 police sketch of the suspect in the murder of Patti Berry.



Ordering Kits

Convicted Offender DNA Collection kits are provided by the CODIS Laboratory to all of our collecting agencies free of charge. Let us know if you would like the kits customized (with or without gloves, and with or without towelettes), how many kits you need, and the address where they should be sent.

To allow sufficient time for the preparation and delivery of the kits, place your order at least two weeks in advance.

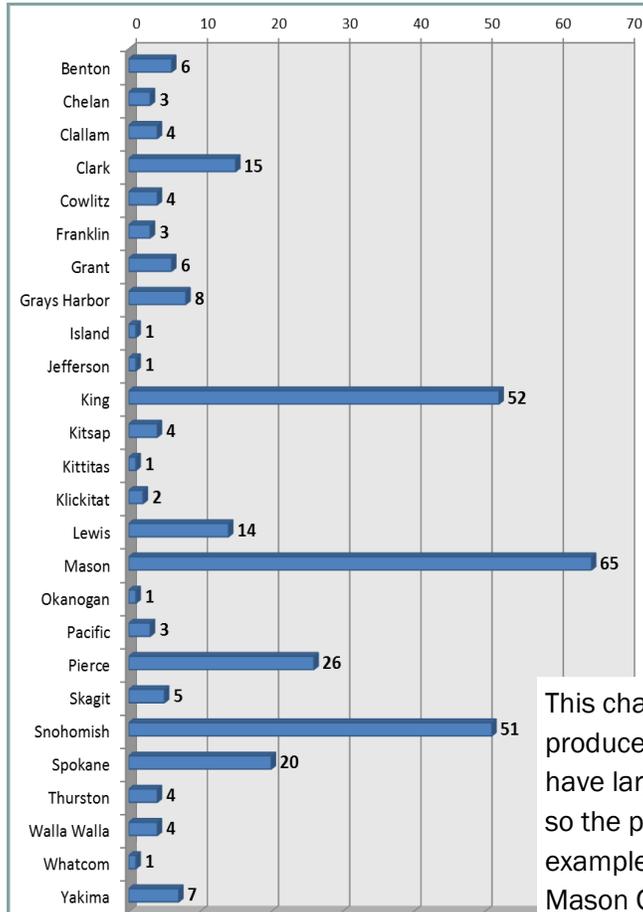
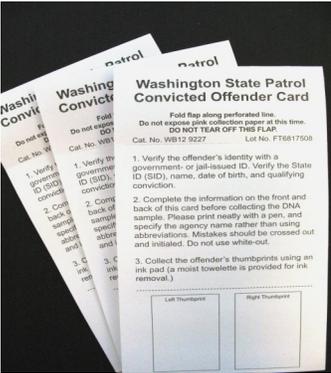
To order, please call (206) 262-6152 or email confel@wsp.wa.gov.

Each standard kit contains: A DNA submission card, a foam swab, an addressed return envelope, a security seal, one pair of nitrile gloves (optional), and a moist towelette (optional).



Making a Difference, sample by sample

Every convicted offender submission is important to our laboratory, the criminal justice system, and the community. Because of your dedication in collecting these samples, we are able to generate DNA profiles from offenders, which are uploaded to the state and national levels of CODIS, yielding hits in-state and across the country.



Each hit is important. One hit can result in the investigative lead that exonerates or identifies a suspect, or it can connect two seemingly unrelated crimes. Every convicted offender sample submitted to the laboratory is a possible CODIS hit, and has the potential to provide an investigative lead on an unsolved case.

Thanks to your efforts in collecting quality convicted offender samples, the CODIS program continues to be highly successful!

This chart shows the number of hits produced in 2014 by county. Some counties have larger collecting agencies than others, so the potential for hits is greater (for example, Washington Corrections Center in Mason County).

WATCH

WASHINGTON ACCESS TO CRIMINAL HISTORY

To request access to WATCH:

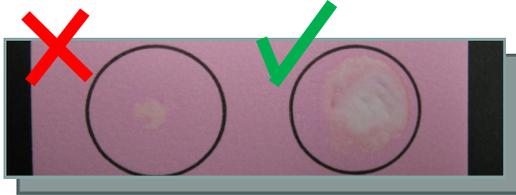
- ◆ Go to <http://watchcj.wsp.wa.gov>
- ◆ Click on "Forms" in the top banner.
- ◆ Click on "WATCH-CJ Account Application Packet" and follow the instructions included.
- ◆ FAX the complete application to (360) 534-2073.



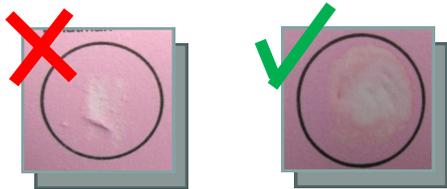
The CODIS Laboratory urges collecting agencies to check an offender's criminal history record in WATCH prior to collecting a DNA sample.

If the "DNA Taken" field on the criminal history is set to "Y", you **DO NOT** need to submit another sample. Only one DNA sample is required per person [not per qualifying offense; see RCW 43.43.754 (2)].

If you are a juvenile agency, check WATCH before collecting any samples. Many juvenile offenders already have SID numbers—put this information on the submission card. If the individual does not have a SID number, place the Juvenile/Juvis number on the SID number line of the submission card.



To ensure DNA has transferred properly to the sample card, most of the pink paper will turn white. If only a small amount turns white, a full DNA profile may not be obtained, requiring the sample to be recollected.



Do not rub the foam swab onto the pink paper—this just makes the paper crumble. Rocking the foam swab back and forth on the pink circles produces the best sample.

Collection Tips

- ◆ Samples should be collected upon conviction/intake in case sample recollection is needed.
- ◆ When filling out the submission card, PRINT clearly and legibly.
- ◆ Be sure to fill out both sides of the submission card; the sample cannot be accepted unless the offender and collector information are complete. This includes the collector’s signature.
- ◆ Do not use white-out anywhere on the submission card or samples. If an error is made, use a single line strike-out and initial.
- ◆ On the “Offense” line of the submission card, list the conviction (not what the individual was arrested for).
- ◆ When sealing the Convicted Offender DNA sample in the return envelope, utilize the red seal provided with the kit. The collector’s initials should be placed on the seal, not the offender’s initials.

Training Opportunities Available

The CODIS Laboratory offers collector training to our agencies interested in learning more about the basics of CODIS, the CODIS laboratory, and sample collection. This hour long training is a great opportunity not only for new employees, but also as a refresher course.

Please contact us for more information:
confel@wsp.wa.gov or call (206) 262-6054

Meet the CODIS staff, from left to right:
Robert Dorion, Forensic Scientist
Jean Johnston, Washington State CODIS Administrator
Tara Roy, Forensic Scientist
Marianne Patton, Office Assistant
Monica Price, Forensic Scientist
Jamie MacFarland, Forensic Scientist



Washington State Patrol CODIS Lab
 2203 Airport Way S., Suite 250
 Seattle, WA 98134
 Phone: (206)262-6020
 Fax: (206)262-6091
 E-mail: confel@wsp.wa.gov



Service with Humility

