Missouri State Highway Patrol - Crime Laboratory Division
General Guidelines for Submission of DNA Evidence

To provide more timely analysis of DNA evidence and to more efficiently manage laboratory resources, the following policies will be implemented effective October 1, 2020.

1) Evidence submitted from property crimes requires biological fluid stains (blood, semen, saliva). Touch DNA evidence will not be accepted on items from property crimes.

2) The number of evidence items the laboratory will accept on property crimes will be limited to **two (2)** items. Reference standards are not counted as an evidence item. Each round of exams must be completed prior to additional submissions being accepted. Multiple items in a container will not be allowed for the purpose of circumventing this policy.

3) The following will not be routinely accepted for DNA analysis:
• cases resulting in misdemeanor level charges
• cases where a crime has not been identified
• shooting investigation cases involving only expended cartridge casings
• cases involving criminal paternity.

4) Possession cases (drug and weapon) will not be processed for touch DNA. If a biological fluid is present the case may be accepted. However, due to CODIS eligibility requirements, evidence with biological fluid from possession cases WILL NOT be accepted for DNA analysis without associated reference DNA standards.

5) All available reference DNA standards must be submitted with the evidence before the evidence will be examined. This includes suspect, victim, and elimination standards.

6) All associated submission forms (Laboratory Analysis Request form or equivalent) must be filled out completely, giving a detailed scenario of the case. To meet CODIS eligibility, information must be provided as to why it is reasonable to assume that the profile developed from this item can only belong to the person that committed the crime.

It must be noted that touch evidence may contain fingerprints and will be accepted for examinations by the Latent Print Evidence Section.

Any case not meeting these guidelines will not be subjected to DNA analysis at the MSHP Crime Laboratory unless specifically authorized by the laboratory management. Additional information may be found in the Forensic Evidence Handbook available on the MSHP website.