

LOCAL DNA DATABASE REVIEW – STATUS UPDATE (SEPTEMBER 2020)

In February 2020, the New York City Police Department, in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME), adopted a procedure where DNA profiles developed from suspects in NYPD investigations would be removed from the OCME’s Local Suspect Profile DNA Index. As part of this procedure, NYPD will conduct regular reviews of suspect profiles that have been collected and make recommendations to the OCME for removal where warranted.

The NYPD is currently in the process of reviewing profiles identified by the OCME that have existed in the local suspect database for at least 2 years. As this review is ongoing, in a continued effort to promote transparency and enhance trust, the NYPD will publicly report data on these reviews. Below, is the result of the first level of review which began in the Summer of 2020. The Department projects that all identified profiles will be reviewed by the end of year, and subsequent public reports will be submitted on its website.

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| Total Number of Suspect Profiles in the Local DNA Database (as of Sept. 10, 2020) | 33,727 ** |
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| Total Number of Suspect Profiles Reviewed by NYPD | 4,005 |
| Total Number of Suspect Profiles Recommended by NYPD for Removal to OCME | 1,845 |
| Total Number of Suspect Profiles Not Recommended by NYPD for Removal | 2,160 |

| Reasons for Reviewed Profiles to Remain in Suspect Database | |
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| Designated Offender under N.Y. Exec. Law 995(17) | 2,080 |
| <i>N.Y. Exec. Law Sec. 995(7) defines a “designated offender” as a person convicted of any felony under NYS law or any misdemeanor under the penal law (except for convictions under previous Penal Law Sec. 221.10). Such persons are required to provide a DNA sample for inclusion in the NYS DNA Identification Index.</i> | |
| Profile is associated with a suspect in a current police investigation or ongoing prosecution. | 74 |
| No judicial conclusion related to profile. | 6 |
| <i>The profile is of a person whose DNA was collected but no judicial conclusion was reached on the person’s guilt in their subsequent criminal case. Examples include cases dismissed due to victim/witness intimidation and/or lack of cooperation.</i> | |

*** The number of suspect profiles currently contained in the Local Suspect DNA database is provided by the OCME. This number is accurate as of the date provided above. This number fluctuates daily based upon suspect samples provided by the NYPD, testing conducted, and removals performed by the OCME. The number of profiles that are actually available for matching is lower than this number because as soon as a profile is designated for removal, it is no longer eligible to be matched. The actual removal process is labor intensive and hence the number lags.*