

Sexual Assault Kit Initiative: Capital Appropriation Project

Executive Summary

For the last several years, public attention has increased across the country regarding the large numbers of unsubmitted, untested sexual assault kits (SAKs) in law enforcement agencies property rooms.¹ Reform efforts and actions regarding the processing of SAKs have been occurring across the nation. In 2015, the Alaska Office of the Governor began an inquiry into the status of untested SAKs in the state. The Department of Public Safety (DPS) was asked to coordinate an effort with all state departments and law enforcement agencies charged with the maintenance, storage, collection, and preservation of SAKs to inventory all unsubmitted SAKs currently in their possession. DPS coordinated two large scale projects to address untested SAKs for all law enforcement agencies across the state. Over 3,000 previously unsubmitted, untested kits were identified across nearly 50 law enforcement agencies in Alaska.

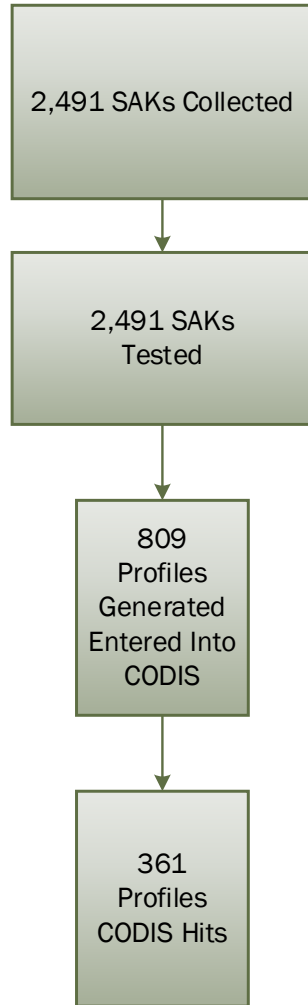
In 2015, DPS was awarded a total of \$1.5 million in Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) funds from the Bureau of Justice Assistance. This initiative supported the testing and investigation of SAKs collected by the Alaska State Troopers'. A total of 568 sexual assault kits were inventoried, collected and all have been tested. In 2018, the Alaska State Legislature appropriated \$2.75 million in capital funds for the Department of Public Safety to focus on the remaining previously unsubmitted, untested SAKs for *ALL* other law enforcement agencies across the state. A total of 2,491 sexual assault kits were inventoried, collected, tested, reviewed and entry into CODIS has been completed.

While the SAKI funds focused on SAKs belonging to the Alaska State Troopers, the \$2.75 million capital funds were provided to the Alaska State Crime Detection Laboratory (ASCDL) to analyze the remaining untested victim SAKs across the state. The testing, review, and all entries into CODIS is now complete. The testing occurred at an accredited private testing facility that was vetted by ASCDL, the inventory, data review, liaison with submitting agencies, CODIS interface, and report distribution occurred at the ASCDL. All SAKs will now be stored at the ASCDL facility.

Results of Analysis

Analysis on all 2,491 SAKs was completed in June 2022. Out of those tested SAKs, 809 profiles were generated and entered into CODIS, out of the 809 profiles generated, 361 profiles led to CODIS hits.

¹ [National Problem of Untested Sexual Assault Kits \(SAKs\): Scope, Causes, and Future Directions for Research, Policy, and Practice | Office of Justice Programs \(ojp.gov\)](#)



Below is a breakdown submitted per agency:

Agency	Kits Submitted	Kits Completed	# Profiles entered into CODIS	# CODIS hits
Anchorage Airport	1	1	0	0
APD	1526	1526	531	236
AST	123	123	37	14
Bethel	55	55	9	4
Cordova	1	1	0	0
Craig	4	4	0	0
Dillingham	7	7	2	1
Fairbanks	164	164	51	29
Haines	3	3	1	0
Homer	17	17	4	1
Juneau	186	186	57	31

Kenai	34	34	13	3
Ketchikan	67	67	14	1
Klawock	1	1	0	0
Kotzebue	24	24	9	5
Kodiak	4	4	1	1
Nome	116	116	35	20
North Pole	9	9	0	0
North Slope Borough	32	32	9	3
Palmer	26	26	3	2
Petersburg	8	8	3	1
Sand Point	1	1	0	0
Seward	3	3	3	0
Sitka	18	18	6	1
Soldotna	23	23	5	2
Unalaska	3	3	1	0
UAA	2	2	1	0
UAF	3	3	0	0
Valdez	8	8	3	0
Wasilla	19	19	9	5
Yakutat	3	3	2	1
Total	2491	2491	809	361