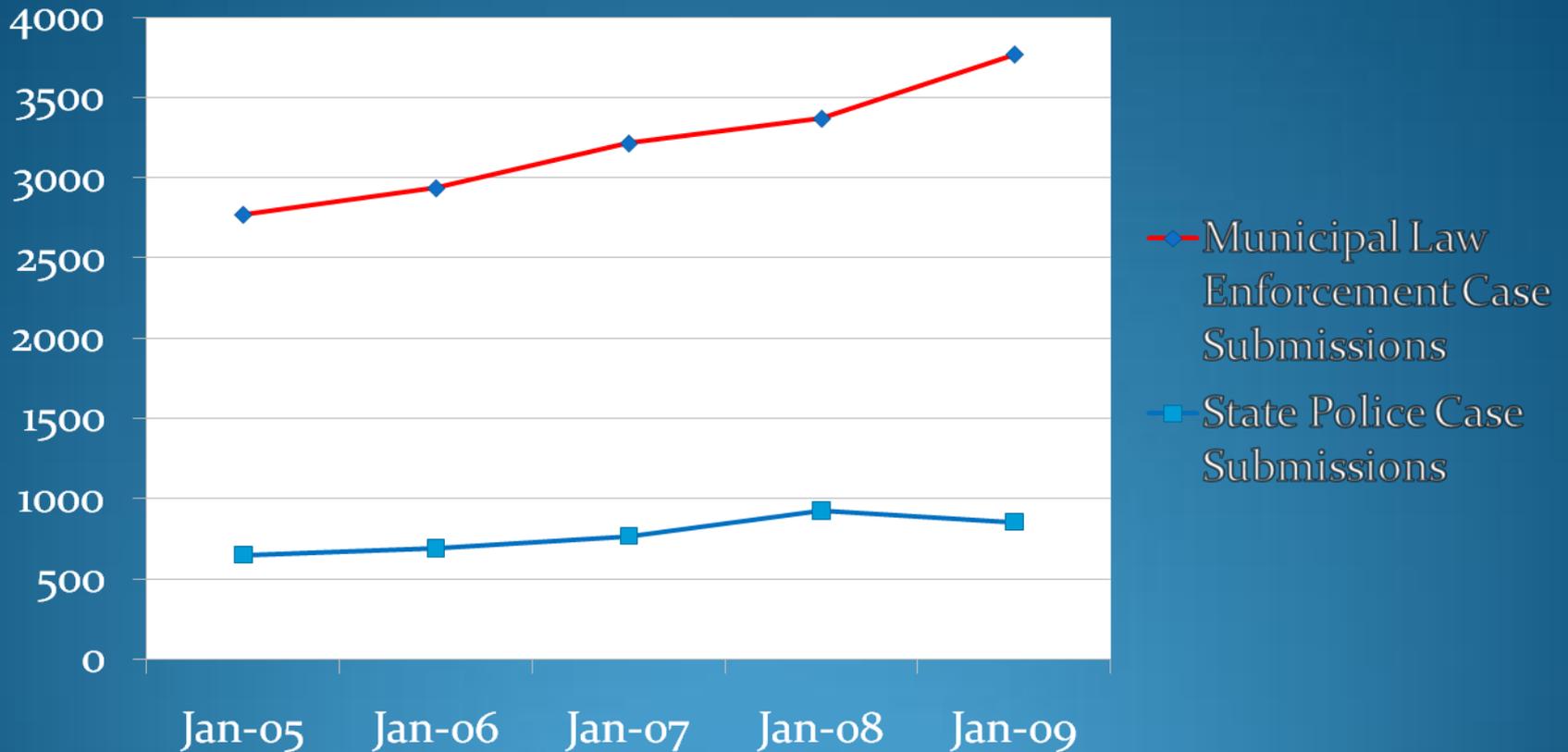


Department of Public Safety Division of Scientific Services



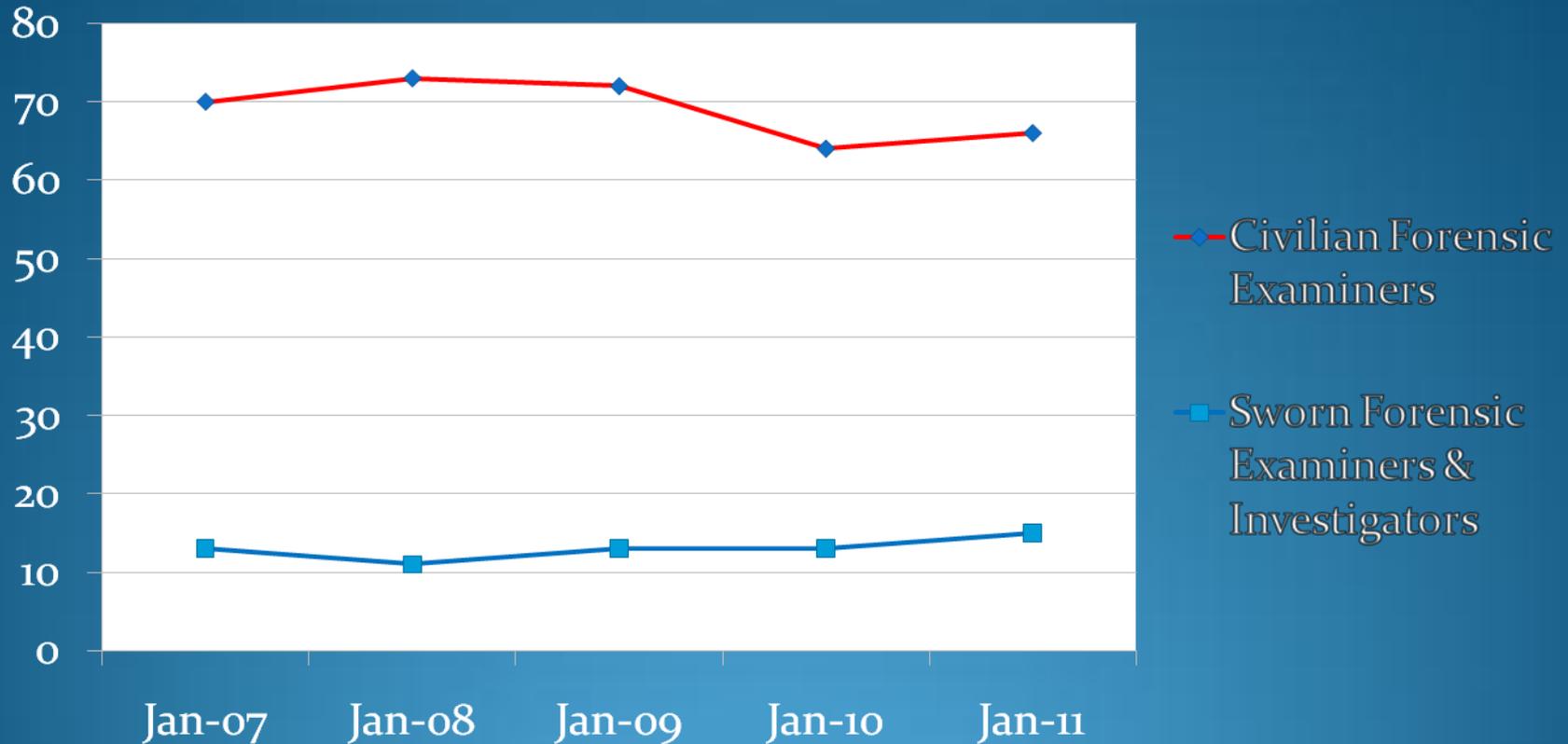
*Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission- CJPAC
Forensic Backlogs & Personnel Shortages
March 24, 2011*

Annual Forensic & Toxicology Case Submissions



This represents a 26.02% increase in forensic case submissions since 2005.

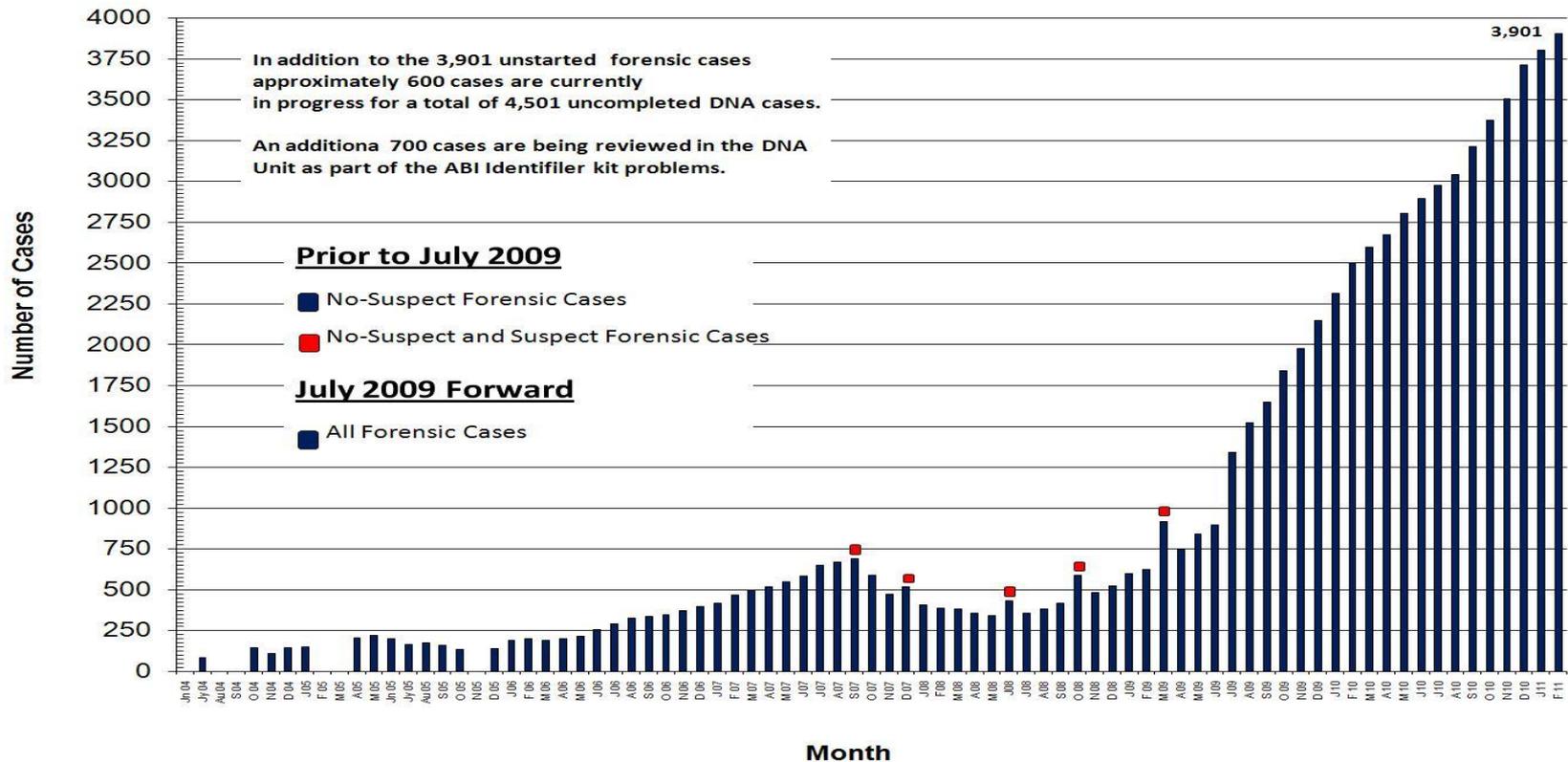
Forensic Examiner & Troopers Positions at the Laboratory



The laboratory has suffered a net loss of 2 positions since 2007. 15 forensic examiner positions are reliant on durational federal and state grant funding, (18.5%). In DNA 11 of the 21 positions are durational.

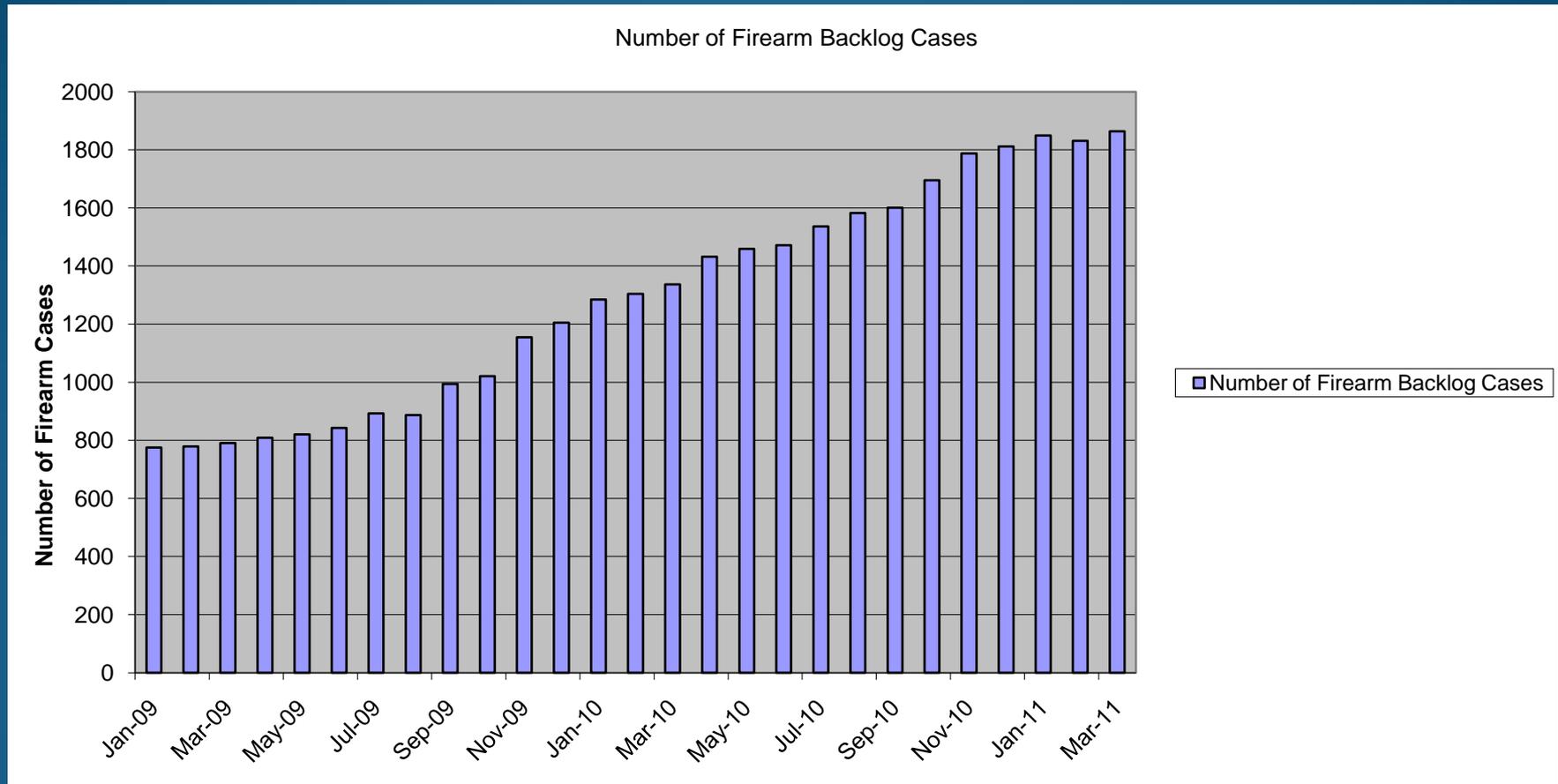
DNA Criminal Case Backlogs

Unstarted Backlogged Forensic Cases



As the graph illustrates, the DNA Unit is unable to keep up with case work demand even with the redeployment of the 9 durational positions to criminal DNA forensic cases.

Backlogs in Forensic Firearm Examination



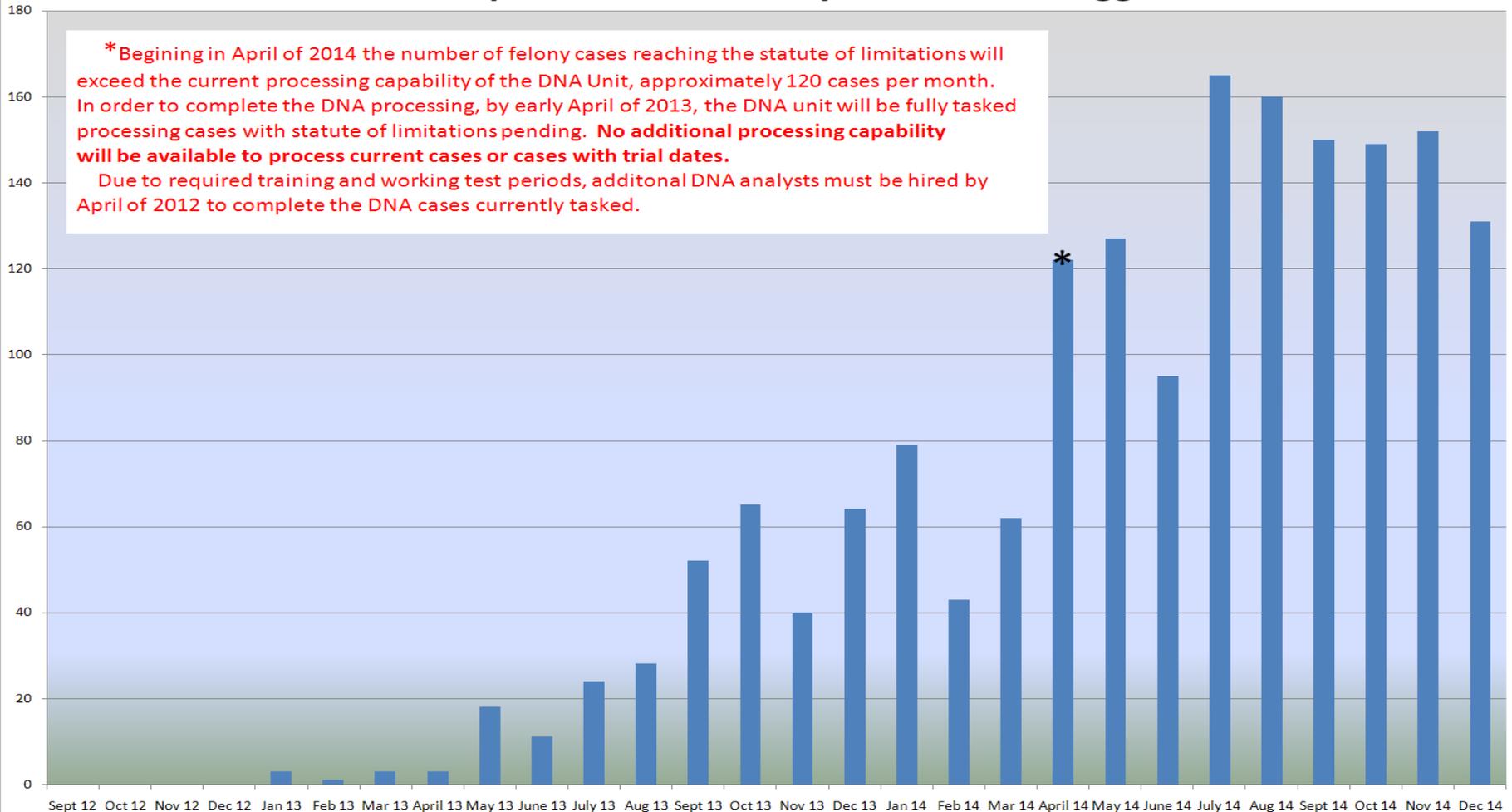
Each forensic analysis of a firearms require two examiners to review and counter-sign. The laboratory only has two certified examiners, creating a single point of failure. (In 2005, we had 5 examiners through attrition/retirements we have never refilled these positions).

Statute of Limitations

Statute of Limitations Expiration - All Felony Crimes Backlogged in the DNA Unit

*Beginning in April of 2014 the number of felony cases reaching the statute of limitations will exceed the current processing capability of the DNA Unit, approximately 120 cases per month. In order to complete the DNA processing, by early April of 2013, the DNA unit will be fully tasked processing cases with statute of limitations pending. **No additional processing capability will be available to process current cases or cases with trial dates.**

Due to required training and working test periods, additional DNA analysts must be hired by April of 2012 to complete the DNA cases currently tasked.



Forensic laboratory staff needs to stay current with current forensic caseload

DIVISION OF SCIENTIFIC SERVICES -PERSONNEL SHORTAGES/CASE BACKLOGS

SECTION	BACKLOG CASES	PERSONNEL SHORTAGES	DURATION OF BACKLOG	ESTIMATED ANNUAL COSTS-NEW PERSONNEL
DNA	3,812	13	3 years, 3 months	\$1,392,196.00
Forensic Biology	210	1	9 months	\$105,588.08
Latent Prints	1,377	2	1 year	\$211,176.16
Firearms	1,695	3	4 years	\$316,764.24
Photo/Imaging	28	1	1 year, 5 months	\$105,588.08
Computer Crime/Forensic	162	4	2 years, 6 months	\$422,352.32
Computer Crime/Investigation	75	2	9 months	\$211,176.16
Toxicology	220	3	9 months	\$316,764.24
Questioned Documents	21	1	9 months	\$105,588.08
Footwear/Prints	51	1	1 year	\$105,588.08
Evidence Receiving	N/A	2	N/A	\$211,176.16
Trace & Fibers	115	1	1 year, 6 months	\$105,588.08
Controlled Substances	25	1	N/A	\$105,588.08
		35	TOTAL ANNUAL COST \$3,715,133.76	

* FSE 1 and FSE II Salary Rate for FY 10/11 with fringe

The laboratory needs approximately 3.7 million dollars in additional funding to appropriately staff the various sections and eliminate forensic backlogs

Critical Issues Facing Forensic Laboratory

- *The laboratory has funding for the ARRA DNA positions through the fall of 2011. We need \$719,821.00 to sustain positions for the remainder FY 2011/2012, or face programmatic cuts in DNA and Forensic Firearm Section because of layoff/bumping rights.*
- *Without additional DNA positions, and assuming the ARRA positions are funded, the DNA section will be entirely devoted to processing forensic DNA in which the statute of limitations for prosecution is a factor by the Spring of 2013. (On going cases will be suspended)*
- *Although the laboratory receives approximately 3.5 million in annual federal and state grants, for durational positions, capital equipment purchases, and laboratory supplies, increasingly more of the grant funding is being devoted to personnel costs, (salary/fringe), forcing the laboratory to become more reliant on state funds to sustain operations.*

Man suspected in East Coast rapes to appear in court

The Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — A man suspected of sexually assaulting women throughout the East Coast from Virginia to Rhode Island over 12 years is scheduled to appear in court here today.

Police say they've identified through DNA Aaron Thomas, an unemployed truck driver, as the "East Coast Rapist," who is suspected in attacks on at least 17 women in four states.

Thomas, 39, tried to hang himself Saturday in his cell and was returned to jail after a brief hospital stay, New Haven police spokesman Joe Avery said. Avery said Sunday that Thomas was still scheduled to appear at today's hearing.

The East Coast Rapist is wanted for attacks in Connecticut, Maryland, Rhode Island and Virginia that began in 1997.

New Haven Police Lt. Julie Johnson said DNA was collected and subsequently matched by the state police forensic lab confirming Thomas was the East Coast Rapist. Investigators got Thomas' DNA of a discarded cigarette.

Police have a warrant charging Thomas with first-degree sexual assault and risk of injury to a minor, and he was being held in lieu of \$1 million bond, Johnson said.

In Prince William County, Va., he is charged with being a fugitive, as well as rape and abduc-

tion charges and use of a firearm while committing a felony.

Electronic billboards were recently put up in the states where the attacks occurred and in neighboring states. U.S. Marshal Joe Faughnan said a tip from Prince William County directed them to Thomas.

"Although the information and investigation of Thomas developed quickly over the last week or so, we should point out that investigators worked tirelessly for years pursuing this case," Johnson said.

Thomas was not unknown to law enforcement: He was arrested in September in Woodbridge, Conn., on a larceny charge and was released on \$1,000 bond, according to public records.

He had lived previously at addresses in Maryland and Virginia, according to public records.

The assailant eluded police even though the crimes were often committed outdoors. In some instances, the attacker wore a mask or hooded sweat shirt to conceal his face. He usually approached women outdoors on foot and threatened them with a knife, screwdriver or a handgun, according to the investigation.

The only attack in New Haven came on Jan. 10, 2007. Police said the suspect entered a 27-year-old woman's bedroom through an open window and threatened to kill her sleeping infant son before assaulting her.



Fairfax County (Va.) Police Department via AP

Wanted: Sketches of the suspect wanted in sex crimes in four states.

POLICE BRIEF

CTNOW

COLD CASE

Imprisoned Killer Faces Charges In California

DNA Provides Break In 1978 Killing

By **CHRISTINE DEMPSEY**
cdempsey@courant.com

DNA from a Connecticut killer helped solve a California cold case from more than 30 years ago, police said Wednesday.

A DNA sample from inmate Walter Dalie — in prison for killing his girlfriend in Newington in 1985 — matches DNA found at a 1978 murder scene in upscale Laguna Beach, Calif., city Lt. Jason Kravetz said.

"Had they not taken a sample, we still would have been wondering who did this," Kravetz said.

An early suspect in the California killing was ruled out, and the case went cold.

Seven years later, on Feb. 28, 1985, Dalie was charged with murder and felony murder in the bludgeoning death of his live-in girlfriend, Mary E. Carrington, the manager of a Mr. Steak restaurant.

Dalie was sentenced to 50 years in prison for murder in March 1986.

In 2003, Connecticut legislators

passed a law requiring convicted felons to submit DNA samples. The Dalie sample wasn't taken until years later, when 2009 grant money became available to collect samples from some 18,000 prisoners, said Brian Garnett, spokesman for the state Department of Correction.

Laguna Beach police were notified last year of the DNA match, and detectives visited Connecticut to wrap up their investigation.

It wasn't clear Wednesday how Dalie's arrest on the California charge would affect the sentence he is serving in Connecticut.

"What was clear is that without science, the case would remain cold."

"When the criminal justice community works together, and you get a DNA sample from Connecticut that solves a crime in California, it really speaks to the benefits of modern technology," Garnett said.

► *Courant Senior Information Specialist Cristina Bachetti contributed to this story.*

Police Name Suspect In West Hartford Rape



WEST HARTFORD —

Police are searching for a 31-year-old man who they believe raped a jogger on Fern Street last month.

Eddie Monroig-Rosario was linked to the crime by forensic evidence.

Police have a warrant charging him with first-degree sexual assault, strangulation and unlawful restraint, police chief James Strillacci said.

He was seen in Hartford within the last week, but his current whereabouts are unknown.

He is described as a Hispanic male, about 5-foot-10 and 165 pounds. He has several tattoos, one in the abdomen area that reads "Saqel Oneill," rosary beads in the neck area, a marijuana plant on the right breast, a scorpion on the left breast and "Daniela Romero" on the shoulder, police said.

Anyone who sees Monroig-Rosario is asked to call West Hartford police at 860-523-5203.

The victim told police she was jogging on Fern Street Oct. 27, a busy, well-traveled area, when she was attacked by a man who dragged her into the bushes in the front yard of 311 Fern St.

When the assault ended, she sought help from the residents, who called police.

Police checked DNA evidence against federal databases, Strillacci said.

West Hartford police are unsure of Monroig-Rosario's connection to West Hartford, but they did say he is a suspect in three or four robberies in Hartford and West Hartford.

Hartford police have a warrant charging him in a burglary Oct. 28 at a home on Brookfield Avenue. Police say Play Station video games and a video camera were taken during the burglary.

Detectives lifted fingerprints from the home and did forensic testing, police said.

Monroig-Rosario is also wanted by New York police for disorderly conduct. He is not a suspect in any other sexual assaults, Strillacci said.

Police said he lived in Springfield in 2007, when he was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana and motor vehicle violations.

THE HARTFORD COURANT SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2010 B3

CTNOW

STORRS CAMPUS

UConn Rapist Sentenced To 41 Years

Former FedEx Driver Insists He's Innocent

By **DAVID OWENS**
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VERNON — Despite the DNA evidence that links him to a rape and attempted rape on the University of Connecticut campus, Robert O. Morgan continued to proclaim his innocence at his sentencing Friday at Superior Court in Rockville.

A jury found Morgan, a former delivery driver for FedEx, guilty Sept. 29 of raping a UConn senior in September 2008 and of

trying to rape a woman who was sitting in a field off Horsebarn Hill Road in June 2009.

"Anything you'd like to say?" Judge Edward J. Mullarkey asked Morgan.

"No," the 26-year-old Vernon man said. "Any remorse or apology you'd like to express?" the judge asked.

"I maintain my innocence and I have no remorse or anything," Morgan said.

Mullarkey then sentenced Morgan to 41 years in prison, to be followed by five years of special parole and lifetime sex offender registration.

Morgan was linked to the assaults by his DNA, which was found on the shirt of the woman who was raped and on a T-shirt near the site of the other attack.

The rape occurred Sept. 6, 2008. The victim was attacked as she walked on a path between Alumni Drive and the Hilltop apartments. Morgan ran up on her, said, "Give me your money," then shoved what he said was a gun into the woman's back and the back of her head. He forced her into nearby woods and raped her. He then fled over a fence and across a soccer field.

The attempted rape occurred June 2, 2009. A woman working on her laptop in a field off Horsebarn Hill Road was attacked by Morgan, who tried to force her into nearby woods. She managed to fight him off, and he fled.

UConn police tracked the attacker with a dog and found the T-shirt. Less than 20

minutes after the attack, a state trooper pulled over Morgan's FedEx truck a short distance from the crime scene.

Prosecutor Elizabeth Leaming described Morgan as a predator and said his "deviant, selfish criminal conduct" affected the entire UConn community.

Morgan's FedEx route had him on and around the UConn campus each day.

The jury found Morgan guilty of aggravated first-degree sexual assault, first-degree kidnapping with a firearm and second-degree threatening for the rape. He was convicted of attempted aggravated first-degree sexual assault, attempted first-degree kidnapping with a firearm, third-degree assault and third-degree criminal mischief for the attempted rape.