

Information for Requesting Forensic Testing

- The Crime Laboratory will accept evidence from all local (county, city, town, village, etc.) law enforcement agencies within Monroe County.
- The Crime Laboratory will accept evidence from all local (county, city, town, village, etc.) law enforcement agencies from counties which the Laboratory has a contract with for forensic services.
- The Crime Laboratory will accept evidence from Federal and State law enforcement agencies that are working in conjunction with one or more local law enforcement agencies on a task force or investigation if that local agency is from Monroe County or one of the counties which the Laboratory has a contract with for forensic services.
- Federal, State and other law enforcement agencies that don't have an agreement with the Monroe County Crime Laboratory for forensic testing should contact the Laboratory Administrator at (585)-753-3523 to request testing.
- Government agencies other than law enforcement agencies that wish to request forensic testing should contact the Laboratory Administrator at (585)-753-3523.
- The Crime Laboratory *does not* provide forensic testing for private citizens or for civil litigation.
- Evidence can be submitted to the Crime Laboratory at 85 W. Broad Street Rochester, N.Y. 14614. Evidence will be accepted Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM. Drive through the parking lot at the South end of the building, pull up to the gated area and activate the intercom system for service.
- All evidence submissions to the Crime Laboratory must be accompanied by an "Evidence Intake" form.
- By signing the Evidence Intake form the customer(s) agrees to allow the Crime Laboratory to determine the appropriate test methods to be used.
- The Crime Laboratory reserves the right to approve deviations from the test methods used when appropriate.

Methods of Testing

The following is a list of general forensic testing methods used in each section of the Monroe County Crime Laboratory:

Biology/DNA – Chemical, immunological and microscopic analysis for the detection of body fluids including blood, semen and saliva; Nuclear DNA testing using Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) and capillary electrophoresis; Entry of appropriate DNA profiles into CODIS (Combined DNA Index System).

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Drug Chemistry – Microscopic, chemical and instrumental chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS) examination for suspected marijuana; Chemical and instrumental analysis (GC/MS or infrared spectrophotometry) for suspected drugs and controlled substances; Cocaine quantitation; Instrumental analysis (GC/MS) and Literature Identification for controlled pharmaceuticals; Literature Identification for non-controlled pharmaceuticals.

Fire Debris – Items including fire debris, clothing, liquids, etc. are examined to determine whether or not ignitable liquids could be identified using GC/MS (gas chromatography/mass spectrometry).

Firearms and Toolmarks – Operability testing on firearms; Serial number restoration using chemical and magnetic methods; Microscopic comparison of fired ammunition components and test fired ammunition components. Entry and search into the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN) Database; Gunshot residue analysis for distance determination; Examination and microscopic comparison of toolmarks and tools.

Trace Evidence – Analysis, identification and comparison of various materials including hairs, fibers, glass, paint, physical fracture matches, footwear and tire track impressions, explosives, trace particulate materials, bank dyes, tape, building materials, vehicle lamps for on/off determinations, general physical comparisons, and unknown solids and liquids. Depending on the material, examinations are performed using visual, microscopic, chemical, physical, photographic, and/or instrumental techniques. Instruments utilized include compound microscope, stereomicroscope, PLM (polarized light microscope), FTIR (Fourier transform infrared spectrometer), GC/MS (gas chromatograph/mass spectrometer), PGC/MS (pyrolysis- gas chromatograph/mass spectrometer), UV-visible MSP (microspectrophotometer), GRIM (automated glass refractive index measurement system). Search of tire tread design database.

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