



# Idaho State Police

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**To:** Idaho Law Enforcement, Idaho Legislature, ISAKI Members, and County Prosecutors  
**From:** Matthew Gamette, ISP Forensic Services Laboratory System Director  
**Subject:** **Completion of Eligible Sexual Assault Kit Submissions to Forensic Lab**  
**Date:** November 5, 2018

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The Idaho State Police Forensic Services (ISPFS) laboratory system has been working for several years to identify all sexual assault kits in Idaho that need to be submitted to a forensic laboratory for scientific testing. **As of November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 all of the existing sexual assault kits that had previously never been submitted by law enforcement to a forensic laboratory for testing, and that meet the current legislative requirements, have now been submitted to either the ISPFS or FBI laboratory for testing.** This is a monumental accomplishment for Idaho!

I want to thank all of our law enforcement partners that have worked diligently with us to identify existing kits, get the information into the Idaho sexual assault kit tracking system (IKTS), and to submit the physical kits to the ISP or FBI laboratory according to the timelines put forward by the labs. This has been a remarkable effort and collaboration by all partners in this process. We are pleased that we have addressed the intake of these previously unsubmitted kits while bringing in all the eligible kits from new cases happening in Idaho. The new IKTS system helps ensure that all kits meeting state statute are submitted to ISPFS in a timely manner. Public transparency and accountability is critical in maintaining the public trust on this issue.

The laboratory goal, and promise to the Idaho Legislature, was to have all of these kits submitted to a forensic laboratory by the end of calendar year 2018. We accomplished this goal two months ahead of schedule. We recognize that this is not the end of the journey. We currently have 320 sexual assault kits in the ISPFS laboratory that have been in the lab over 30 days. Our scientists are diligently working on these previously unsubmitted kits along with any contemporary cases coming into the lab. As more attention is placed on addressing this issue, the number of reports and collection of kits has increased. Our goal at ISPFS is to work not only all sexual assault cases, but all DNA related cases in the laboratory within 30 days of submission. We have completed several efficiency related projects and are working on several more. We are thankful to the Idaho Legislature and Governor's office for their support in providing the staffing and funding needed to accomplish this processing goal.

We have worked diligently with Idaho law enforcement on kit identification and submission. We ask law enforcement to contact us if we are unaware of other kits meeting state statute that have not been submitted at this point. We will also be working with law enforcement to submit any sexual assault kits where biological screening was performed by ISPFS previously with positive results; however, DNA testing was not completed at the time either due to a lack of reference samples or the testing not being required at the time for investigation/prosecution of the case.

We look forward to providing the annual ISPFS report to the legislature in January of other significant progress addressing sexual assault kit collection this year. Idaho has clearly made addressing this issue a critical priority. Again, we thank all of our partners in this important effort. For any questions on this issue please contact Matthew Gamette at [matthew.gamette@isp.idaho.gov](mailto:matthew.gamette@isp.idaho.gov) or 208-884-7217.