Convicted Offender/CODIS Program

Standard Operating Procedures

October 2019
Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION.......................................................................................................................... 4

CODIS PROGRAM.......................................................................................................................... 6
  Organization and Management .................................................................................................... 6
  Receipt and Processing of Convicted Offender Samples .......................................................... 8
  DNA Typing of Convicted Offender Samples .......................................................................... 8
  Casework Profiles .................................................................................................................... 9

SEARCHES................................................................................................................................. 12
  Types of Searches .................................................................................................................... 13

ENTRY AND UPLOAD OF STR PROFILES INTO CODIS.......................................................... 16
  Convicted Offender Index and Multi-Allelic Offender Index (Convicted Offender and Multi-Allelic Specimen Categories) ............................................................................................................. 17
  Forensic Index (specimen category Forensic, Unknown) .......................................................... 17
  Forensic Partial Index (specimen category Forensic Partial) and SDIS Forensic Partial Index (specimen category SDIS Forensic Partial) ........................................................................................................ 17
  Forensic Mixture Index (specimen category Forensic Mixture) and SDIS Forensic Mixture Index (specimen category SDIS Forensic Mixture) ....................................................................................................... 18
  Forensic Targeted Index (Specimen Category Forensic Targeted) ........................................... 19
  Unidentified Human (Remains) Index (specimen category Unidentified Persons) and Missing Person Index (specimen categories Missing Person and Deduced Missing Person) .................................................. 20
  Relative of Missing Person Index ............................................................................................ 20
  Employee Index (specimen categories “Elimination, Known” and “Staff”) .............................. 20

MATCHES...................................................................................................................................... 22
  Washington State case sample matches a Washington State convicted offender sample .......... 22
  Washington State case sample matches a convicted offender (or arrestee, legal, or detainee) sample from another state .......................................................................................................................... 23
  Washington State case sample matches another Washington State case sample or a case sample from another state .............................................................................................................................. 23
  Washington State convicted offender sample matches a case sample from another state ........ 24
  Conviction Matches ................................................................................................................ 24
  Duplicates and Duplicate Matches .......................................................................................... 25
  Investigative Information Matches ........................................................................................... 25
  Partial Matches ......................................................................................................................... 25

RELEASE OF CONVICTED OFFENDER RELATED INFORMATION................................. 27

RELEASE OF CONVICTED OFFENDER DNA ......................................................................... 28

QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL ............................................................................ 29
  Proficiency Testing .................................................................................................................. 29
  Audits ....................................................................................................................................... 29
  Corrective Action Related to Audits, Nonconforming Work or Proficiency Testing ............... 29

SYSTEMS OPERATIONS ............................................................................................................ 30
Antivirus 31
Security 31

REMOVAL OF DATA FROM CODIS ........................................................................................................... 32
  Administrative Removal 32
  Expungement 32

APPENDIX A ................................................................................................................................................. 33
  Sample Letters for Missing Persons/Unidentified Human Remains Cases 33

APPENDIX B ................................................................................................................................................. 36
  Administrative Review of the Match Response Packet 36

APPENDIX C ................................................................................................................................................. 37
  CODIS Administrator’s Training Guide 37
INTRODUCTION

The Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory Division (WSPCLD) program for the typing of DNA in biological materials has three related, but distinct aspects:

1. The DNA typing of biological evidence recovered from a crime scene with the results potentially being introduced in court as part of a criminal proceeding.

2. The DNA typing of biological samples received from the following individuals:
   - Anyone convicted of a felony.
   - Anyone convicted of any of the following misdemeanor offenses: stalking, harassment, communicating with a minor for immoral purposes, assault 4 with sexual motivation, assault 4 where domestic violence has been pleaded and proven, failure to register as a sex or kidnapping offender, custodial sexual misconduct 2, patronizing a prostitute, sexual misconduct with a minor 2, and violation of a sexual assault protection order granted under chapter 7.90 RCW.
   - Anyone required to register as a sex/kidnapping offender.

The above listed samples will hereafter be referred to as convicted offender samples.

3. DNA typing to aid in the identification of human remains and missing persons.

The authority for this work is provided by Washington RCW 43.43.752, 43.43.753, 43.43.7532, 43.43.754, 43.43.7541, 43.43.756, 43.43.758, and 43.43.759. Both adult and juvenile offenders are covered under this RCW. The Washington Administrative Code establishing the rules of operation for this program are contained in Chapter 446-75.

The primary source of information for the guidelines related to the CODIS Program is the FBI’s “NDIS Operational Procedures Manual” along with guidance provided by NDIS (National DNA Index System).

The DNA typing results from both evidentiary samples and convicted offender samples are entered into a computer data bank which is referred to as CODIS (Combined DNA Index System). This data bank can then be searched when DNA typing results are obtained from crime scene evidence of unknown origin. This aspect of the DNA program is used as an investigative tool to assist law enforcement agencies in developing potential suspects in criminal cases and/or linking cases with matching DNA profiles where no link was previously known. STR profiles developed from human remains, missing persons and relatives of missing persons can also be entered into the CODIS data bank and searched to aid in the investigation of unidentified human (remains) and missing persons.

The Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) is a collection of DNA databases from forensic laboratories around the United States. CODIS consists of various levels of indexes. The Local DNA Index System (LDIS) contains the DNA records for searching for DNA matches and for inserting into higher levels of CODIS. The State DNA Index System (SDIS) contains the state-level DNA records for searching by local DNA laboratories within the state. SDIS is the state’s repository of DNA identification records including convicted offender DNA profiles, forensic profiles, unidentified human (remains) profiles, missing person profiles, and DNA profiles from relatives of missing persons. SDIS is the responsibility of the CODIS Manager. All searches done within Washington State are done through SDIS on peer reviewed profiles. SDIS also serves as the central point of contact for access to NDIS. The National DNA Index System (NDIS) is the FBI-
administered centralized system of DNA identification records contributed by all state and local participating laboratories. NDIS receives records from every lower level index and supports the searching function of CODIS.

The five CODIS local Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratories in Marysville, Seattle (casework), Spokane, Tacoma and Vancouver conduct DNA typing on evidentiary samples and enter those profiles into LDIS in their respective laboratories. These profiles can be compared to other profiles within their own laboratory and are submitted to the state CODIS laboratory in Seattle where they will be searched against all other case profiles developed within the state as well as the state convicted offender database. They are also forwarded to NDIS for interstate searching if the profile meets NDIS eligibility criteria.
CODIS PROGRAM

All biological samples collected from convicted offenders in Washington State are submitted to the Washington State Patrol CODIS Laboratory in Seattle for DNA typing. DNA typing of these samples is either done by CODIS Laboratory staff or sent out to an accredited private contract laboratory. All DNA typing results from convicted offender samples are either reviewed by a qualified DNA analyst employed by the WSPCLD or passed by the CODIS Laboratory’s Expert System prior to entry into CODIS.

ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

CODIS DNA Analyst (Forensic Scientist)

The CODIS forensic scientists generate and interpret DNA typing profiles from convicted offender samples and provide peer review on convicted offender samples that have been contracted out to a private laboratory. As necessary, CODIS DNA Analysts will also assist with administrative tasks.

CODIS Office Assistant

The CODIS Office Assistant performs a variety of routine duties in support of CODIS Laboratory operations. Their primary duties are administrative processing of incoming convicted offender samples and preparing and sending out any samples that are to be typed by a contract laboratory.

Casework DNA Analyst (Forensic Scientist)

The casework DNA analyst generates DNA profiles from evidentiary samples and has the responsibility to determine whether or not there is a DNA profile that is appropriate for entry into CODIS in his/her case. It is the responsibility of the DNA analyst to alert the CODIS Administrator within the local laboratories or the CODIS Manager to any CODIS related actions on their casework. Such actions would include subsequent determination that an unknown profile belongs to an elimination source (e.g. husband/boyfriend) and therefore must be removed from CODIS.

CODIS Manager

The CODIS Manager manages and operates the CODIS Laboratory and serves as the State Administrator for the CODIS program.

The CODIS Manager is responsible for ensuring that the DNA sections in each laboratory within the division are in compliance with the terms and conditions for participation in the National DNA Index System.

The CODIS Manager is responsible for all operations of the CODIS system and has ultimate authority over the state’s security and quality of data stored in CODIS. The security and quality of data in CODIS shall be maintained in accordance with state and/or federal law and NDIS operational procedures. Responsibilities of the CODIS Manager include, but are not limited to: software updates, user maintenance, executing searches, setting match dispositions in accordance with NDIS operational procedures, sending uploads to NDIS, and communicating with other agencies as needed.

The CODIS Manager has the authority over all CODIS laboratories in the WSPCLD to terminate an analyst’s or laboratory’s participation in CODIS until the reliability and security of the computer data can be assured in the event an issue with the data is identified. Any such action shall require immediate notification to the DNA Technical Leader and the Quality Assurance Manager.

The CODIS Manager supervises the CODIS Laboratory supervisor and office assistant and ensures that CODIS DNA Analysts have completed the necessary CODIS computer training.
The CODIS Manager is responsible for the maintenance and filing of all documentation required for NDIS participation.

The CODIS Manager is responsible for ensuring that data related to hits is sent to the NDIS Custodian by the 10th of each month (or as otherwise specified by the NDIS Custodian).

The CODIS Manager is responsible for ensuring that the NDIS Batch Target File downloaded via the CJIS SEN (Criminal Justice Information Services Shared Enterprises Network) website is searched periodically.

The CODIS Manager may designate another individual to perform CODIS-related duties as needed. The alternate will receive appropriate training to perform the tasks.

The CODIS Manager is responsible for the Convicted Offender/CODIS Program Standard Operating Procedures Manual which provides general guidelines. Allowances to adapt a CODIS-related policy may be necessary and will be determined on a case by case basis by the CODIS Manager in consultation with the DNA Technical Leader.

Qualifications, training requirements and general responsibilities of CODIS Administrators and alternates are further described in the NDIS Procedure “NDIS Laboratories”.

Local CODIS Administrator (LDIS Administrator/Casework CODIS Administrator)

A local CODIS Administrator (LDIS Administrator/Casework CODIS Administrator) will be designated in the Marysville, Seattle (casework), Spokane, Tacoma and Vancouver laboratories by the DNA supervisor with approval from the CODIS Manager and Laboratory Manager. The LDIS Administrator is responsible for the operations of the CODIS system within their laboratory and also administers the local laboratory’s CODIS network. Their responsibilities include, but are not limited to: software updates, user maintenance, supervision of outgoing search requests and resulting State Match Detail Reports, sending uploads to SDIS, deletion of profiles when necessary, scheduling and documenting the CODIS computer training of Casework DNA Analysts, and setting match dispositions in accordance with NDIS operational procedures. In addition, the LDIS Administrator shall ensure the security and quality of the data stored in CODIS and that it is in accordance with state and/or federal law and NDIS operational procedures. Support for these functions is provided by the CODIS Manager and by the CODIS Help Desk.

The LDIS Administrator has the authority to terminate an analyst’s or their laboratory’s participation in CODIS until the reliability and security of the computer data can be assured in the event an issue with the data is identified. Any such action shall require immediate notification to the CODIS Manager, DNA Technical Leader and Quality Assurance Manager.

The LDIS Administrator is responsible for providing the needed documentation on audits and new or existing CODIS users in their laboratory to the CODIS Manager.

The DNA supervisor may designate, with the CODIS Manager and Laboratory Manager’s approval, another scientist to perform CODIS-related duties as needed. The alternate LDIS Administrator will receive appropriate training to perform the tasks.

Qualifications, training requirements and general responsibilities of CODIS Administrators and alternates are further described in the NDIS Procedure “NDIS Laboratories”.

RECEIPT AND PROCESSING OF CONVICTED OFFENDER SAMPLES

Receipt and Storage

As of July 1, 2002, the Washington State Convicted Felon Law allows for the collection of a “biological sample” as opposed to the previous law which specifically required the collection of a whole blood sample. The Crime Laboratory Division changed the preferred method of collection of a sample from whole blood to buccal swabs rolled onto FTA paper. While the vast majority of samples received are now buccal swabs we do occasionally receive and will accept a whole blood sample. Both types of samples are received via the U.S. Postal Service, United Parcel Service, hand delivery or other means of transport. Whole blood samples are stored in a laboratory refrigerator while buccal samples on FTA paper are stored at room temperature.

Each convicted offender sample received by the laboratory is accompanied by a data card in the case of buccal samples, or a data sheet in the case of whole blood samples. Both the card and the sheet contain basic information on the offender including name and date of birth as well as information on where the sample was collected and who collected it.

At the time of receipt each offender sample is assigned a laboratory number. (See the CODIS Laboratory STR Analysis Procedures manual for details of the administrative processing of convicted offender samples.)

Processing of Whole Blood Samples

Whole blood samples are normally received in EDTA vacutainer tubes. Upon receipt, each whole blood sample is prepared as follows:

1. Ten to twelve 75 microliter stains are prepared on paper (e.g. Schleicher & Schuell 903). The stains are air dried, sealed in plastic bags, and frozen at –20 to –80 degrees C pending analysis.
2. Any remaining whole blood is destroyed by pouring into a disinfectant solution.
3. The dried bloodstains and corresponding submission paperwork are retained indefinitely by the laboratory.

Processing of Buccal Samples

Buccal samples are received as two dried stains on Whatman FTA® cards. A portion of one of the stains is either punched out or cut out if the sample is to be typed within the laboratory. If the sample is being sent out to a contract laboratory for typing, then an entire stain is removed and repackaged for sending out. The buccal samples and corresponding submission paperwork are retained indefinitely by the laboratory.

DNA TYPING OF CONVICTED OFFENDER SAMPLES

STR typing procedures used are detailed in the WSPCLD document entitled “CODIS Laboratory STR Analysis Procedures”. STR profiles developed from convicted offender samples that are typed in-house are either peer-reviewed by qualified DNA analysts employed by the Crime Laboratory Division or passed by the CODIS Laboratory’s Expert System. As needed, the WSPCLD may decide to contract out the DNA typing of convicted offender samples.

Whenever the typing of convicted offender samples is contracted out, the contract established between the Crime Laboratory Division and the vendor will specify the technical requirements for the analysis of the samples. All samples contracted out will undergo a technical review by a qualified DNA analyst employed by the Crime Laboratory Division. The requirements of the review
process will be established in writing by the DNA Technical Leader once the format of the data being returned by the contract laboratory is determined.

The reviewed profiles are entered into the Convicted Offender Index (or Multi-allelic Offender Index where appropriate) at SDIS by the CODIS Manager. Profiles entered manually using STR Data Entry shall be verified in CODIS by another CODIS analyst. The entry and verification (if applicable) shall be documented in the case file with the individual’s initials and date. The CODIS Manager is responsible for uploading eligible profiles to NDIS.

**CASEWORK PROFILES**

**Forensic STR**

For the specimen identification of the forensic STR samples entered into CODIS utilize the following process.

1. Use the entire case number including all zeros (ex. 117-001542).
2. For the sample name replace spaces with underscores (ex. Vag_SF, shirt_A, and R_breast). Other punctuation such as dashes, periods, or pound signs can also be included if they are part of the sample name (ex. 130-1, 130.1 and vag-1). Alternatively, spaces can be omitted in the sample name (ex. vagSF, shirtA, and Rbreast).
3. Use spaces between the case number and the sample name and between the sample name and the SAK indicator if applicable (ex. 117-001542 vag_SF SAK3 and 117-001542 130-1).

Forensic STR profiles are normally entered into LDIS by the DNA casework analyst prior to peer review. Before a profile can be uploaded, the analyst must determine if the sample from which the profile is generated is eligible for NDIS by ensuring documentation is in the case file that the three following case scenario criteria have been met:

1. That a crime has been committed,
2. The DNA sample was recovered from the crime scene and is attributed to the putative perpetrator, and
3. That elimination sample(s) have been requested, if applicable

The DNA sample must meet all three criteria to be eligible for upload to NDIS or SDIS.

Additionally, all partial and mixture profiles for CODIS consideration will be assessed for compliance with Moderate Match Estimation (MME) threshold requirements using the CODIS software. Profiles that do not meet the required MME for NDIS will be assessed for compliance with the Match Rarity Estimate (MRE) threshold requirements for the NDIS forensic targeted specimen category using the CODIS software. The MME/MRE are automatically calculated for forensic partial, forensic mixture, and forensic targeted profiles once saved in Specimen Manager. A copy of the “LDIS Specimen Detail Report” will be printed and included in the case file. If needed, the MME/MRE can be calculated prior to saving a profile in Specimen Manager using CODIS POPSTATS as follows:

**CALCULATING THE MME/MRE USING CODIS POPSTATS**

1. In the CODIS software choose the PopStats tab and Match Estimation.
2. In the Match Estimation Target Profile window either enter or import the profile of interest.
3. Make sure only the Original thirteen CODIS core loci are checked.
   a. Navigate to codis>Popstats>POPDATA>FBI>NIST 2017
   b. Select the NIST 2017 folder and press OK

5. In the Configuration Summary window locate the Ethnic Groups section and ensure ONLY the COMB box is checked.

6. If calculating an MRE, set the stringency to H (high) by double clicking in the stringency box at the appropriate loci.

7. In the Match Estimation Target Profile window press calculate.

8. A Match Estimation Summary window will open and display a result for the Average Profile-Level Match Rarity Estimate (MRE) and the Average Inverse MRE. If the stringency was set to M (moderate) for all the loci the Average Inverse MRE is the MME. If the stringency of any locus was set to H (high) the Average Inverse MRE is the MRE.

   If a profile is determined to be ineligible for SDIS due to not meeting MME Threshold requirements, the “Match Estimation Report” or “LDIS Specimen Delete Report” (if applicable) shall be printed and included in the case file to document the MME of the profile.

   Once the profile, case scenario eligibility, MME/MRE, and the specimen category listed on the “LDIS Specimen Detail Report” are peer reviewed and approval is documented by the LDIS Administrator for forensic targeted category profiles, the profile can be uploaded by the LDIS Administrator to be searched at SDIS (and NDIS as appropriate). A request for any necessary elimination standards must also be made and documented before a profile can be uploaded to be searched.

   Requesting elimination standards:

   DNA Case Supplemental Information forms completed by the submitting law enforcement agency make the initial request for any necessary elimination standards involving sexual assault cases and may also provide scenario information regarding elimination standards for the other case types. This information may also be located elsewhere in the case file. If the DNA Case Supplemental Information form/other documentation is received with incomplete information regarding the availability of or need for elimination standards (e.g. consenting partner for sexual assault, non-perpetrator vehicle owner for steering wheel swabs) and a CODIS eligible profile is developed, follow up with the submitting law enforcement agency is required prior to profile upload. Follow up will include a documented request to submit reference samples, if they are or become available, for any instances where an elimination standard may be needed.

   Missing Persons, Relatives of Missing Persons and Unidentified Human (Remains)

   Since mitochondrial DNA testing is usually required for these indices, it is recommended that evidence associated with these types of cases be submitted to the FBI or other NDIS participating laboratory that offers both mitochondrial and STR typing. On occasion, STR typing for these samples may be done within the WSP crime laboratory system, therefore, analysts should be aware that NDIS has additional requirements for these types of cases as follows:

   1. In missing persons investigations, references may be requested from family members. Family reference samples submitted to a WSP Crime Laboratory shall be accompanied with a Consent for Family Reference Samples Collection, Reference and CODIS Entry Form.
2. The analyst should obtain the NCIC (National Crime Information Center) number associated with the case from the submitting agency representative. This is a unique 10 digit alphanumeric number that is generated when a law enforcement agency enters information about the case into NCIC to assist in locating or identifying the person. The NCIC number should be listed on the laboratory report under the agency case number.

3. Specimen identification numbers for entry into CODIS should not include the individual’s name as an identifier. An appropriate identifier would be the case number and item number.

4. In addition to the laboratory report, a letter on agency letterhead notifying the submitting agency of the STR results obtained is required (see Appendix A, Sample Letters 1, 2 and 3 for examples). Information in this letter should be used by the submitting agency representative to update the Miscellaneous or MIS field in NCIC with DNA information.

5. If an STR and/or Y-STR profile has been generated by a WSP CLD DNA analyst, .cmf files on a CD can be provided to the law enforcement agency if requested. The data provided will enable the NDIS participating laboratory conducting additional technology testing (e.g. mitochondrial) to link the profiles in the CODIS software.
**SEARCHES**

Casework DNA profiles must be peer reviewed before being uploaded or searched at SDIS or NDIS. The review shall include (at a minimum) GeneMapper® data for all appropriate samples and controls to ensure that all allele calls are correct and that mixtures have been properly resolved. This review must also ensure that the profile meets search eligibility requirements and that the designated specimen category is correct. The peer reviewer’s initials and date of the review shall be noted on the “LDIS Specimen Detail Report” prior to upload or search of the profile. Specimens entered into the forensic targeted specimen category must be reviewed and signed off by a Local CODIS Administrator (initials and date of the review) on the “LDIS Specimen Detail Report” prior to upload or search of the profile.

Any comparison of a casework profile to a convicted offender profile should be done by searching the casework profile against the database. The following table summarizes search configurations at the state (SDIS) level. Information for NDIS searches can be found on the CJIS SEN or by contacting a CODIS Administrator.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDEX</th>
<th>Forensic*</th>
<th>Convicted Offender, Multi-Allelic Offender</th>
<th>Unidentified Human (Remains)</th>
<th>Missing Person</th>
<th>Relatives of Missing Person</th>
<th>Employee (includes staff and elimination, known)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>Forensic*</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convicted Offender, Multi-Allelic Offender</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relatives of Missing Person</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified Human (Remains)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee (includes staff and elimination, known)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* = Forensic includes the Forensic Index, Forensic Partial Index, SDIS Forensic Partial Index, Forensic Mixture Index and SDIS Forensic Mixture Index, and Forensic Targeted Index.
**TYPES OF SEARCHES**

**Manual Search**

Manual searches may be conducted by the CODIS Manager when requested by a DNA analyst. The result of this search will be documented in the case file. If the results of the manual search yields a match that needs confirming, the casework analyst will give a copy of the “State Match Detail Report” and a “CODIS DNA Match Data Request Offender Match (SDIS/NDIS)” or “CODIS DNA Match Data Form Casework Match (SDIS/NDIS)” form, as appropriate, to the CODIS Manager. For further information see the section, “Matches”.

**Public Remote Search**

In circumstances deemed appropriate by the LDIS Administrator, a public remote search, which searches eligible profiles at SDIS, may be executed for a profile that meets CODIS entry/upload eligibility requirements at the request of a casework DNA analyst. The profile shall be entered into LDIS by the DNA casework analyst using the appropriate Specimen Category. A copy of the “LDIS Specimen Detail Report” shall be printed for the case file and subsequent peer review. Once peer reviewed, a public remote search will be conducted by the LDIS Administrator. The result of this search will be documented in the case file. If the results of the remote search yield a match that needs confirming, a copy of the “CODIS DNA Match Data Request Offender Match (SDIS/NDIS)” or “CODIS DNA Match Data Form Casework Match (SDIS/NDIS)” form, as appropriate, will be sent to the CODIS Manager. For forensic hits, this information will also be provided to the other casework DNA analyst. For further information see the section, “Matches”.

**SDIS Onetime Search of Suspect Profile**

Suspect references, if typed, will be onetime searched against eligible profiles in the SDIS database except when the suspect reference profile has already produced a casework match to a profile that has been or will be entered into CODIS in the Forensic Unknown specimen category, when the reference sample was submitted as a direct result of a confirmed convicted offender match, or when the suspect has an offender sample already in CODIS. It is optional to perform a onetime search of a suspect reference profile if it has already produced a casework match/inclusion to a profile that has been or will be entered in the Forensic Partial or Mixture specimen categories (NDIS or SDIS). All suspect reference samples in criminal paternity investigations shall be onetime searched (including those matching a deduced haplotype profile). Submitted reference samples from deceased suspects (e.g. murder/suicide investigations) will be typed and onetime searched unless they have already produced a casework match to a profile being entered into the Forensic, Unknown specimen category in CODIS. (Note: For CODIS purposes, a secondary reference is not considered a “Suspect, Known” and shall not be onetime searched.)

Casework DNA analysts shall enter the suspect’s profile into LDIS (using the Specimen Category of “Suspect, Known”) and print the “LDIS Specimen Detail Report”. The specimen identification number shall not include the individual’s name. An appropriate identifier would be the case number and item number or individual’s initials. A copy of the “LDIS Specimen Detail Report” shall be printed for the case file and subsequent peer review. Once peer reviewed, the LDIS Administrator will perform a public remote search of the suspect’s profile against eligible profiles at SDIS. Search results shall be documented in the case file. The LDIS Administrator is responsible for the prompt deletion of the suspect profile in the LDIS database.

Any matches to a specimen from the Forensic Unknown, Forensic Partial or Forensic Mixture (NDIS or SDIS) or the Forensic Targeted categories will be evaluated by a casework DNA analyst. If the search results in new investigative information, then the following steps will be completed:
- A “CODIS DNA Match Data Form Casework Match (SDIS/NDIS)” shall be completed. On the form, add “Onetime suspect search” in the Comments box.
- A copy of the completed form will be supplied to the CODIS Manager.

Note: See “Conviction Matches” if the search results in a match to a solved case.

The onetime search will not be conducted on persons other than a named suspect whose reference sample has been submitted in association with a criminal case under investigation.

**SDIS Autosearch**

The CODIS Manager initiates a moderate stringency, no mismatches search of the SDIS database utilizing the “Autosearcher” program within the CODIS software on regular business days. Periodically the CODIS Manager shall execute a low stringency search of the SDIS database to identify possible matches between Relative of Missing Persons and Unidentified Human (Remains) profiles.

The “Autosearcher” program searches all eligible profiles and automatically places any matches that are found into the “Match Manager” program. Matches that occur between profiles entered from another Washington State lab will also appear in that lab’s “Match Manager” program. It is the responsibility of the LDIS Administrator in the laboratory involved in the match to initially evaluate the match. A CODIS disposition is required for all matches in “Match Manager” and should be entered within 30 business days of the match date. Setting a disposition is the responsibility of the LDIS Administrator or the CODIS Manager. For matches that need confirming, a “State Match Detail Report” will be printed and provided to the casework analyst. The CODIS Manager will also retain a copy of this report. For further information on the guidelines when a match that needs confirming occurs, see the section, “Matches”. (Note: At the discretion of the LDIS Administrator, “State Match Detail Reports” on matches other than offender or forensic hits may be provided to casework analysts for their review.)

**NDIS Autosearch**

Information on NDIS searches can be found on the CJIS SEN or by contacting a CODIS Administrator. The CODIS software automatically forwards the results of any matches to the laboratories that submitted the matching samples. These matches are recorded in the “Match Manager” program. It is the responsibility of the CODIS Administrator or CODIS Manager in the laboratory involved in the match to initially evaluate the match and determine if it may need to be confirmed. A CODIS disposition is required for all matches in “Match Manager” and should be entered within 30 business days of the match date. Setting a disposition is the responsibility of the LDIS Administrator or the CODIS Manager. For all matches that need confirming, the “National Match Detail Report” will be printed and given to the DNA scientist assigned to the case for inclusion in their case file. The CODIS Manager will also retain a copy of this report. For further information on the guidelines when a match that needs confirming occurs, see the section, “Matches”.

**High Stringency/One Mismatch Search**

As a quality assurance tool, the CODIS Manager will conduct a high stringency/one mismatch search of the SDIS database on a monthly basis.

**NDIS Manual Keyboard Search**

The CODIS Manager may request that the NDIS Custodian perform a manual keyboard search of an appropriate and peer-reviewed profile. This type of search is warranted in situations where a national search is needed on a rush basis. A manual keyboard search may also be requested when a forensic DNA profile does not meet the minimum number of loci for upload to NDIS if the profile has at least seven of the Original CODIS core loci and an MME of at least 10 million. (Note:
The NDIS Custodian may be able to achieve the MME threshold by setting the search stringencies on a locus by locus basis.

To request an NDIS Manual Keyboard search, send an electronically completed and peer reviewed Request for Manual Keyboard Search by NDIS Custodian form (located on the CJIS SEN to the CODIS Manager via secure means (i.e. email if the search request form is attached as a password protected document or by fax).

**International Search**

Analysts should be aware that it is possible to have an STR profile searched in other countries. For further information, contact the CODIS Manager.

**Laboratory to Laboratory DNA Search Request and NDIS Batch Target File**

To request a search in another state(s), send an electronically completed and peer reviewed Laboratory to Laboratory DNA Search Request Form (located on the CJIS SEN) to the CODIS Manager via secure means (i.e. email if the search request form is attached as a password protected document or by fax).

The NDIS batch target file contains “Source ID” “No” single source or deduced single source profiles submitted and searched on a voluntary basis by NDIS participating laboratories. To request a Forensic profile be added to the NDIS batch target file, send an electronically completed and peer reviewed Laboratory to Laboratory DNA Search Request Form to the CODIS Manager via secure means (i.e. email if the search request form is attached as a password protected document or by fax). A minimum of seven Original CODIS core loci are required for a profile to be added to the NDIS batch target file.

Once the “Source ID” can be set to “Yes” for a Forensic profile existing in the NDIS batch target file, the DNA casework analyst/LDIS Administrator shall notify the CODIS Manager and request that the profile be deleted from the NDIS batch target file.
ENTRY AND UPLOAD OF STR PROFILES INTO CODIS

DNA profiles that can be entered into CODIS and uploaded to a higher level are restricted in terms of their source. The DNA Identification Act of 1994, as amended, specifies the following indexes and files of allowable data at NDIS:

1. DNA identification records of persons convicted of qualifying state crimes and juveniles required by the relevant jurisdiction to provide DNA samples. (Convicted Offender Index/Multi-allelic Offender Index)

2. DNA identification records of persons who have been arrested or indicted or charged in an information with a crime and are required by law to provide DNA samples. (Arrestee Index)

3. DNA identification records of persons whose DNA samples are collected under applicable legal authorities. (Legal Index)

4. DNA records from non-United States (U.S.) persons detained under the authority of the U.S. and required by law to provide a DNA sample. (Detainee Index)

5. DNA profiles originating from and associated with evidence found at crime scenes. For example, evidence associated with a crime scene includes DNA that may be carried away from a crime scene. (Forensic, Forensic Partial, SDIS Forensic Partial, Forensic Mixture, SDIS Forensic Mixture, and Forensic Targeted Indexes)

6. DNA records from recovered living persons (e.g., children who can’t and others who can’t or refuse to identify themselves), and recovered dead persons (including their body parts and tissues), whose identities are not known. [Unidentified Human (Remains) Index]

7. DNA records from missing persons and deduced missing persons. (Missing Person Index)

8. DNA records from the biological relatives of individuals reported missing. (Relatives of Missing Person Index)

9. DNA records from the presumptive parent of a common child of a missing person. (Spouse Index)

Information regarding searches and the uploading of a DNA casework profile will be included in the laboratory report (see the Casework STR Analysis Procedures Manual for suggested wording). In addition, the deletion of a casework profile previously reported as an uploaded sample will be documented in the case file and communicated to the investigating agency either through a laboratory report or letter. The LDIS Administrator is responsible for the prompt deletion of a profile once a casework DNA analyst provides notification that a deletion is necessary.

There are also sources of DNA profiles that cannot be entered into CODIS. These include the following types of samples:

1. Victim profiles

2. Samples submitted for exclusionary purposes (e.g. consensual sexual partners)

Further information on eligibility requirements for entry and upload of a specimen into CODIS is as follows:
Note: For all indexes described below, Y-STR alleles included in the autosomal multiplex kit shall be included in the CODIS entry provided the relevant interpretation protocols have been applied. Rapidly mutating Y-STR loci should not be included in samples entered into the Unidentified Human Remains, Missing Persons, or Relatives of Missing Persons indexes.

**CONVICTED OFFENDER INDEX AND MULTI-ALLELIC OFFENDER INDEX (CONVICTED OFFENDER AND MULTI-ALLELIC SPECIMEN CATEGORIES)**

Indexes consist of DNA profiles from adults and juveniles convicted of qualifying state crimes and individuals required to register in Washington State as a sex/kidnapping offender.

STR minimum loci requirements:
NDIS: twenty CODIS core loci. Offender profiles with twelve of the Original CODIS core loci shall also be uploaded to NDIS, but will only be searched periodically against the Forensic Indexes in a high stringency, one mismatch search by the NDIS Custodian.

SDIS: ten Original CODIS core loci

**NOTES:**
- Offender profiles with three or more alleles at two or more loci shall be entered in the Multi-allelic Offender specimen category/index.
- In instances where a sample has been consumed and a full profile was not developed, but a more complete or full profile may be constructed by considering multiple results of that sample, those iterations may be used to generate a composite profile. See the CODIS Laboratory STR Analysis Procedures “Composite Profiles” for further details.

**FORENSIC INDEX (SPECIMEN CATEGORY FORENSIC, UNKNOWN)**

Forensic, Unknown profiles shall be either single source or a fully deduced profile originating from a mixture which is attributable to the putative perpetrator with no dropout (locus or allelic).

STR minimum loci requirements:
NDIS and SDIS: thirteen Original CODIS core loci with no more than three alleles at any one locus while the remaining loci can have up to two alleles.

Alleles below the stochastic threshold are permitted as long as a statistic can be provided.

**FORENSIC PARTIAL INDEX (SPECIMEN CATEGORY FORENSIC PARTIAL) AND SDIS FORENSIC PARTIAL INDEX (SPECIMEN CATEGORY SDIS FORENSIC PARTIAL)**

Forensic partial profiles shall be either single source or a fully deduced profile originating from a mixture which is attributable to the putative perpetrator with either locus or allelic dropout at any autosomal locus.

Criminal paternity cases: A deduced DNA profile (i.e. a haplotype) from a criminal paternity investigation with a “Source ID” of “No” shall be entered into the appropriate forensic partial specimen category assuming the profile meets the eligibility requirements listed below. If the source of the profile is subsequently identified, then the profile shall be deleted from CODIS. A deduced profile with a “Source ID” of “Yes” shall not be entered into CODIS.

STR minimum loci requirements:
NDIS (Forensic Partial): eight Original CODIS core loci; no more than three alleles at any one locus while the remaining loci can have up to two alleles. MME must be at least 10 million (i.e. 1.000E+007).

SDIS (SDIS Forensic Partial): six Original CODIS core loci, no more than three alleles at any one locus while the remaining loci can have up to two alleles. MME must be at least 60,000 (i.e. 6.000E+004).

An exception to the STR minimum loci requirements for searching purposes may be authorized by the CODIS Manager in consultation with the DNA Technical Leader. The MME of the profile using the Original CODIS core loci and the MME of the profile using all loci shall be provided to the CODIS Manager. The evidentiary profile shall be from an unsolved homicide, sexual assault, or other crime with significant public safety concerns and have an unambiguous connection to the crime.

Alleles below the stochastic threshold are permitted as long as a statistic can be provided.

For CODIS, the DNA Casework analyst must ensure that a statistic can be calculated before a profile is searched.

**FORENSIC MIXTURE INDEX (SPECIMEN CATEGORY FORENSIC MIXTURE) AND SDIS FORENSIC MIXTURE INDEX (SPECIMEN CATEGORY SDIS FORENSIC MIXTURE)**

Forensic mixture profiles contain DNA contributed from more than one source attributable to a putative perpetrator(s). (For further information on the interpretation of forensic mixture profiles, see the WSPCLD Casework STR Procedures Manual.)

STR minimum loci requirements:
NDIS (Forensic Mixture): eight Original CODIS core loci; no more than four alleles at any locus. (A locus with > 4 alleles may be dropped if needed.) MME must be at least 10 million (i.e. 1.000E+007).

SDIS (SDIS Forensic Mixture): six Original CODIS core loci, no more than four alleles at any locus. (A locus with > 4 alleles may be dropped if needed.) MME must be at least 60,000 (i.e. 6.000E+004).

An exception to the STR minimum loci requirements for searching purposes may be authorized by the CODIS Manager in consultation with the DNA Technical Leader. The MME of the profile using the Original CODIS core loci and the MME of the profile using all loci shall be provided to the CODIS Manager. The evidentiary profile shall be from an unsolved homicide, sexual assault, or other crime with significant public safety concerns and have an unambiguous connection to the crime.

Stutter peaks will be considered for CODIS mixture profile upload if it is determined (i.e. included in stutter calculations) that the profile of interest could be masked by stutter (above or below the stutter filter). Justification must be provided in the file if those stutter alleles are not included in the upload. Alleles below the stochastic threshold are permitted as long as all alleles within the mixture are accounted for. Upload of mixtures that include stutter position alleles and subthreshold alleles must meet CODIS upload requirements for mixtures and it must be possible to calculate a statistic for the profile. Alternatively, either the single obligate allele for the suspected perpetrator shall be entered or the locus can be dropped.

For CODIS, the DNA Casework analyst must ensure that a statistic can be calculated before a profile is searched.
Additional considerations for Forensic Mixture profiles:

Once peer-reviewed, mixtures may be searched, however, careful consideration needs to be given to any mixture where allele drop out or masking may result in the genotype in question missing alleles. The peer-reviewer shall review both the complete mixture profile and the profile to be searched in CODIS (listed on the “LDIS Specimen Detail Report”) prior to the search. If, at a locus with two or more alleles, one of the putative perpetrator’s alleles is missing, then the search will return a “not a match” at that locus. If this occurs with two or more loci in a sample, a remote search will not return a hit on that specimen since remote searches only allow for one mismatch. (See Public Remote Search for further details.) SDIS autosearches do not allow any mismatches; therefore even one locus with a missing allele as described above will result in no matches. This problem can be addressed in two different ways:

1. At the locus in question only enter the single allele suspected of coming from the putative perpetrator or
2. Drop the locus from the search.

An additional tool to use when searching mixtures is designating obligate alleles. These are alleles that can be deduced as originating from the putative perpetrator and are designated by placing a plus sign (+) after the allele value. Only one obligate allele can be designated at a given locus but there is no limit on the number of loci in the profile that can have an obligate allele. (Note: the “+” designation serves no purpose for loci with only one allele and should not be used.) It should be recognized that the same considerations be given to drop out and masking even when using obligate alleles.

**FORENSIC TARGETED INDEX (SPECIMEN CATEGORY FORENSIC TARGETED)**

A forensic targeted specimen would otherwise be designated as a forensic partial or a forensic mixture except that the specimen does not meet the NDIS moderate match estimate (MME) threshold of 10 million. The forensic targeted category will be considered a specimen category of last resort since specimens in this category will only be searched against full single source profiles at NDIS (Forensic Unknown, Convicted Offender, Arrestee, Detainee and Legal). Forensic targeted specimens will however be searched against SDIS. The MRE, which is able to evaluate loci at both moderate and high stringency, is used to determine a profile’s eligibility for entry into the forensic targeted category.

**STR minimum loci requirements:**

NDIS (Forensic Targeted): eight original CODIS core loci; no more than four alleles at any one locus. MRE must be at least 10 million (i.e. 1.000E+007).

**Guidance for Using the Partial Locus Indicator and Obligate Allele Designation within a Forensic Targeted Specimen:**

A forensic targeted specimen is searched at high stringency at all loci for which the partial locus indicator is set to “No” and that have no more than 2 alleles. If the partial locus indicator is set to “Yes” or a locus has more than 2 alleles, the locus will be searched at moderate stringency. Instances in which only 1 or 2 alleles are present and a contributor’s genotype is ambiguous, will require the partial locus indicator to be set to “Yes” (even though complete allele information appears to have been entered for all contributors) in order to allow the locus to be searched at moderate stringency. The obligate (+) allele designation can be used within the forensic targeted category to increase the search discrimination of a locus when targeting a single contributor’s genotype that is ambiguous (i.e. “partial Yes” locus with 2 alleles or locus with more than 2 alleles) as appropriate. Adding an obligate designation will not affect a locus’ search stringency, therefore obligate designations should not be added to loci that will be searched at high stringency since under this search configuration the obligate designation will be ignored. Careful
consideration still needs to be given for forensic targeted specimens where allele drop out or masking may result in the genotype in question missing alleles.

Alleles below the stochastic threshold are permitted as long as a statistic can be provided and all alleles within the mixture (if applicable) are accounted for.

For CODIS, the DNA Casework analyst must ensure that a statistic can be calculated before a profile is searched.

**UNIDENTIFIED HUMAN (REMAINS) INDEX (SPECIMEN CATEGORY UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS) AND MISSING PERSON INDEX (SPECIMEN CATEGORIES MISSING PERSON AND DEDUCED MISSING PERSON)**

The Unidentified Human (Remains) Index consists of DNA profiles from the recovered deceased (including body parts and tissue) or individuals who are unidentified (e.g. children who can’t and others who can’t or refuse to identify themselves).

The Missing Person Index consists of known reference DNA profiles from individuals that are missing and DNA profiles of reported missing individuals that have been generated by examining intimate items purported to belong to the missing person such as a toothbrush and compared to close biological relatives (if possible).

STR minimum loci requirements:
NDIS: minimum of seven Original CODIS core loci plus amelogenin (Note: If < seven Original CODIS core loci are obtained with an UHR, the data may be provided as a .cmf file to another NDIS participating laboratory to upload along with another technology for pedigree searching).

SDIS: seven Original CODIS core loci plus amelogenin

Alleles below the stochastic threshold are allowed.

**RELATIVE OF MISSING PERSON INDEX**

Index consists of DNA profiles from the biological relatives of individuals reported missing.

STR minimum loci requirements:
NDIS and SDIS: thirteen Original CODIS core loci plus amelogenin.

**EMPLOYEE INDEX (SPECIMEN CATEGORIES “ELIMINATION, KNOWN” AND “STAFF”)**

As outlined in the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) of 2008, 42 U.S.C. § 2000ff, a forensic DNA laboratory may require the genetic information of employees when it is used for analysis of DNA identification markers for quality control to detect sample contamination and is maintained and disclosed in a manner consistent with such use. Therefore, in accordance with GINA, the WSPCLD shall maintain internal DNA databases for the purpose of identifying potential contamination. These database samples are not uploaded to the national CODIS database.

All CLD employees are required to provide a DNA sample which is used to generate a known STR profile (and Y-STR haplotype/profile for males). Visitors may also be required to provide a DNA sample (CLD Quality Operations Manual). DNA samples are typed in the CODIS Laboratory and are used for the purposes of comparison against profiles generated in casework and convicted offender DNA testing to identify potential contamination. (Note: Y-STR haplotype/profiles will be generated by a WSP CLD laboratory with Y-STR service capabilities.)

Any DNA profile with a minimum of six Original CODIS core loci, has an MME of at least 60,000 (i.e. 6.000E+004), and is considered unidentified/extraneous contamination will be
entered/uploaded into the Employee Index of SDIS. A profile with suspected contamination may be keyboard searched against the Employee Index by the CODIS Manager at the request of a DNA analyst.

Staff DNA profiles are also kept as confidential records in a restricted access file. The file is only accessible by DNA staff that have clearance from the FBI to utilize CODIS.
MATCHES

Once a candidate match returned in a CODIS search is determined to be a match (i.e. not a no-match), the analyst shall determine if the match needs confirmation (i.e. convicted offender sample retyped) or just verification (i.e. review of case file/data: case-to-case matches, conviction matches). Only matches related to unsolved/unresolved cases involving a convicted offender sample (or arrestee, legal, or detainee) need confirmation. Determining if a match needs confirmation is required for forensic profiles with a Source ID of “No”. This can be accomplished by contact with the investigator (after the match occurs or recently before the match) and/or by accessing court records to determine if the individual returned in the CODIS search has already been convicted in the case. This initial contact with the investigator and/or prosecuting attorney’s office is not considered a verbal report since no specific information regarding the match (i.e. convicted offender’s identifying information) is released.

When a match that needs confirming occurs between specimens either within Washington State (SDIS match) or between a Washington State specimen and a specimen from another state (NDIS match), a series of steps is initiated to confirm the match. Washington State Offender Match Responses shall be administratively reviewed by a CODIS staff member prior to release (see Appendix B “Administrative Review of the Match Response Packet” procedure). Paperwork associated with any match response shall be retained by the CODIS Laboratory indefinitely.

Except in cases where there are extenuating circumstances, matches will be reported within thirty business days of receipt of the match request. The following match categories detail the steps to be followed.

WASHINGTON STATE CASE SAMPLE MATCHES A WASHINGTON STATE CONVICTED OFFENDER SAMPLE

1. The analyst whose casework profile matches the Washington State convicted offender sample submits a “CODIS DNA Match Data Request Offender Match (SDIS/NDIS)” form to the CODIS Manager. No information about the convicted offender is released to the case investigator until the match response has been issued. Exceptions to this policy may be authorized by the CODIS Manager in consultation with the DNA Technical Leader in situations where public safety is at risk.

2. The convicted offender DNA sample is pulled from storage and retyped to confirm the original typing results. Exceptions to the policy of retyping the convicted offender DNA sample are as follows:
   a. The convicted offender DNA sample has been previously confirmed by retyping.
   b. Concordant typing results from a duplicate sample.
   c. No remaining original convicted offender DNA sample.

3. If available and of suitable quality, a thumbprint on the Washington State Patrol Convicted Offender card will be examined by the Washington State Patrol Ten Print Unit to assist in the verification process.

4. A CODIS staff member shall request an Interstate Identification Index (“Triple I”) background check on all offender confirmations. This search request, conducted by Criminal Records Division staff, queries the national criminal history of the offender which will trigger an alert to the U.S. Marshals Service if the offender is in the Witness Protection Program.

5. When the above steps have been completed, the CODIS Manager will fill out the “CODIS DNA Match Data Response Offender Match (SDIS)” form with the information regarding
the convicted offender. The information on this form is obtained from the Washington State Patrol Convicted Offender card, as well as information obtained through the Washington State Patrol WATCH website, which provides criminal history information on individuals arrested and/or convicted of an offense in Washington State, and through Ingress, which contains court records. This check will also verify that the individual was convicted of an offense covered under the applicable law. If a qualifying offense for the convicted offender cannot be determined, the CODIS Manager will note this on the hit confirmation paperwork. These matches will be reported pursuant to RCW 43.43.754 (8). A copy of the match response form will be given to the casework analyst for inclusion in their case file.

6. The casework analyst will issue a laboratory report stating the match and include, at a minimum, name, date of birth, and WA State Identification number (WA SID). In the absence of a WA SID, another identifier may be used. A reference sample from the convicted offender will be requested to be submitted for typing. The DNA profile developed from this sample will then be compared to the casework profile by the DNA analyst.

**WASHINGTON STATE CASE SAMPLE MATCHES A CONVICTED OFFENDER (OR ARRESTEE, LEGAL, OR DETAINEE) SAMPLE FROM ANOTHER STATE**

1. The DNA analyst (or LDIS Administrator) sends a “CODIS DNA Match Data Request Offender Match (SDIS/NDIS)” form to the CODIS Administrator in the laboratory which has the convicted offender (or arrestee, legal, or detainee) profile. It is the responsibility of the casework analyst to provide a copy of this form to Washington’s CODIS Manager.

2. The state with the convicted offender (or arrestee, legal, or detainee) profile will conduct their hit confirmation process and subsequently provide identifying information on the individual in a “CODIS DNA Match Data Response Offender Match” form to the requestor. It is the responsibility of the casework analyst to provide a copy of this form to Washington’s CODIS Manager.

3. The casework analyst will issue a laboratory report indicating the match and include the name, date of birth and any identifying numbers provided (such as a state ID or FBI number). A reference sample from the convicted offender (or arrestee, legal, or detainee) will be requested to be submitted for typing. The DNA profile developed from this sample will then be compared to the casework profile by the DNA analyst.

**WASHINGTON STATE CASE SAMPLE MATCHES ANOTHER WASHINGTON STATE CASE SAMPLE OR A CASE SAMPLE FROM ANOTHER STATE**

1. The analysts involved shall communicate and verify they have a match that needs verification. Additionally, a profile(s) involved in a case to case match that has a Source ID of “No” will require contact with the investigator (after the match occurs or recently before the match) and/or review of court records to determine if an individual has been convicted in the case. Upon verification of the case to case match, one of the casework analysts involved in the match shall submit a “CODIS DNA Match Data Form Casework Match (SDIS/NDIS)” form to the other casework analyst. For out of state matches, the form may be submitted to the CODIS Administrator in the other laboratory. Once the form is completed, a copy of the form is placed into the appropriate case files. In addition, one of the casework analysts shall provide a completed copy of the form to Washington’s CODIS Manager.

2. Report(s) must be generated for verified case to case matches. Positive associations involving a solved case(s) in which the agency representative is the same can be reported by issuing one report only. Both case files will retain the necessary CODIS paperwork and
the analyst not generating the report will indicate in their documentation which laboratory request contains this reported information.

WASHINGTON STATE CONVICTED OFFENDER SAMPLE MATCHES A CASE SAMPLE FROM ANOTHER STATE

1. The out of state laboratory will initiate a request to perform a felon hit confirmation by submitting a “CODIS DNA Match Data Request Offender Match (SDIS/NDIS)” form to the CODIS Manager (Note: Other states may utilize their own version of this type of form.)

2. The convicted offender sample will be retyped following the felon hit confirmation process and the thumbprint (if available and of suitable quality) will be verified by the Ten Print Unit. (See exceptions as noted above.)

3. An Interstate Identification Index (“Triple I”) background check shall be requested on all offender confirmations.

4. When the above steps have been completed, the CODIS Manager will fill out the “CODIS DNA Match Data Response Offender Match (NDIS)” form with the information regarding the convicted offender. The information on this form is obtained from the Washington State Patrol Convicted Offender card, as well as information obtained through the Washington State Patrol WATCH website, which provides criminal history information on individuals arrested and/or convicted of an offense in Washington State, and through Ingress, which contains court records. This check will also verify that the individual was convicted of an offense covered under the applicable law. If a qualifying offense for the convicted offender cannot be determined, the CODIS Manager will note this on the hit confirmation paperwork. These matches will be reported pursuant to RCW 43.43.754 (8). The match response form will be sent to the out of state laboratory with a copy retained by the CODIS Manager.

CONVICTION MATCHES

A conviction match occurs when CODIS matches a DNA profile developed from crime scene evidence to a DNA profile from a convicted offender, arrestee, detainee, or legal index specimen (or suspect in a 1x-suspect search), and the crime from which the evidence was collected has already been solved.

The process to verify a conviction match for solved crime scene samples is listed below:

- The name of the putative perpetrator and the offender shall be compared using information from LIMS or the case file to ensure they correspond. Other identifiers such as date of birth or FBI# may also be useful. Additionally, the criminal history record may be used to verify information, especially if any aliases or discrepancies are found.
- A disposition note shall be added in Match Manager for all NDIS conviction matches documenting what information was verified and the source of that information. Disposition notes are optional for SDIS. Only use the individual’s initials when documenting the source of the information in Match Manager.
- Match(es) to duplicate offender specimen(s) are also dispositioned as conviction matches.
- If the offender’s name (or aliases) does not match the solved case, further steps may be warranted such as confirmation of fingerprints (if available) and/or retyping of the offender DNA sample.
**Duplicates and Duplicate Matches**

Duplicate: A match between any two profiles that does not provide probative information. Disposition used when a crime scene sample for an unsolved case matches to an offender and duplicate sample(s) for the same offender in the same search.

Duplicate Match: The same match between candidate and target profiles is already in the database.

**Investigative Information Matches**

Generic category for matches that do not provide probative information and/or do not readily fit the other disposition categories. Examples include a match between a forensic unknown and an offender reported to be a consensual partner or the listed victim in addition to matches where both cases are solved.

In order to release offender information in a report, a match request should be submitted to the offender lab. The request shall include a brief explanation that the match is investigative information only and a confirmation is requested for report purposes only.

**Partial Matches**

A partial match is currently defined by NDIS as a "moderate stringency candidate match between two single source profiles having at each locus at least one allele in common". It is recognized that a potential familial relationship may exist between the offender and the putative perpetrator in partial matches. The CODIS Manager, DNA Technical Leader and other casework DNA analysts, as appropriate, will review partial matches on a case by case basis.

**SDIS Partial Match**

Criteria to be considered for SDIS partial matches shall include:

- Only unsolved homicide, sexual assault, or other crimes with significant public safety concerns where all standard leads have been exhausted will be pursued.
- The evidentiary profile shall be from an item of evidence having an unambiguous connection to the crime in question and there is an acceptable level of certainty that the crime scene profile is relevant.
- The candidate match shall be a moderate stringency match at a minimum of thirteen loci.
- The evidentiary and offender samples must both be attributed to a male source and also have sufficient sample remaining for Y-STR testing. Note: For cases involving females, other arrangements for testing using an appropriate additional technology may be pursued.
- A statistical analysis conducted by the DNA technical leader with results that support a potential familial relationship between the suspected perpetrator and the offender.
- Documentation that the investigating agency and prosecutor’s office have committed to further investigate the case if the name of the potentially related offender is eventually released.

If Y-STR typing on the partial match is warranted, a "CODIS DNA Match Data Request Offender Match (SDIS/NDIS)" will be completed by the casework DNA analyst who developed the forensic unknown profile (or the LDIS Administrator in their absence) with the following comment adjacent to the Match ID # “Note: This association was made via a partial match”. The Match Request will be submitted to the CODIS Manager with a copy to the casework DNA analyst who developed the forensic unknown profile. The casework
DNA analyst who developed the forensic unknown profile shall make arrangements to transfer any remaining forensic unknown DNA extract (or portion of the forensic unknown sample) along with any corresponding reagent blank to the analyst at the WSP CLD laboratory performing the Y-STR testing.

Upon receipt of the Match Request, the convicted offender DNA sample will be retyped following the felon hit confirmation process and the thumbprint (if available and of suitable quality) will be verified by the Ten Print Unit. (See exceptions as noted above.) Once confirmed, the remaining convicted offender DNA sample extract (or portion of the convicted offender DNA sample) along with any corresponding reagent blank will be transferred to the analyst at the WSP CLD laboratory performing the Y-STR testing.

Upon completion of the Y-STR typing on the convicted offender extract (or DNA sample) and the forensic unknown sample, a “CODIS DNA Match Data Response Offender Match (SDIS)” form shall be filled out by the CODIS Manager. If the Y-STR profiles of the convicted offender sample and the forensic unknown match, then identifying information on the convicted offender may be released on the Match Response. If the Y-STR profiles do not match, the CODIS Manager will document “No Match” on the Match Response and no identifying information will be released. A copy of the Match Response will be provided to the Y-STR casework DNA analyst and to the casework DNA analyst who developed the forensic unknown profile.

**NDIS Partial Match**

For partial matches at NDIS, consult the NDIS Operational Procedures Manual Appendix G (Plan for the Release of Information in the Event of a “Partial Match” at NDIS). Note: “Appropriate cases” are defined as unsolved homicide, sexual assault, or other crimes with significant public safety concerns where all standard leads have been exhausted.
RELEASE OF CONVICTED OFFENDER RELATED INFORMATION

All information related to a match between a casework DNA profile and a convicted offender sample is released by the casework analyst once they have received the match response paperwork. This information must be released in a written report to a criminal justice agency, however, the information may in addition be provided in a verbal report to the case investigator.

Exceptions to this policy may be authorized by the CODIS Manager in consultation with the DNA Technical Leader in situations where public safety is at risk.

A DNA profile with the name of the convicted offender can be released under certain circumstances: a request by the convicted offender through the Public Records Act, a court order or search warrant signed by a judge or through the Discovery Process.

Information as to whether the laboratory has received a sample from a particular individual and whether that sample has been typed can be accessed by members of the criminal justice community through Washington Access to Criminal History (WATCH) online at [http://watchcj.wsp.wa.gov/](http://watchcj.wsp.wa.gov/). This information can also be provided to criminal justice agencies for law enforcement purposes by Washington State Patrol Crime laboratory staff with access to LIMS. The CODIS Manager can verify whether the DNA profile from a convicted offender is in the CODIS databank.

Note: Non-criminal justice agencies include The Innocence Project. However, the Innocence Project, as the legal representative of the convicted individual, may for criminal defense purposes have access to the samples and analyses performed in connection with the case in which such convicted individual is charged or convicted.
RELEASE OF CONVICTED OFFENDER DNA

A portion of a convicted offender's DNA sample may be released as follows:

To an offender or law enforcement agency:

1. Upon receipt of a court order signed by a judge which details the type of forensic DNA testing to be conducted for a specific law enforcement case and originates from either an offender requesting their own offender DNA sample or a law enforcement agency requesting a deceased putative perpetrator's offender DNA sample.

To a WSP laboratory or WSP contract laboratory

2. For additional DNA testing such as Y-STRs or mitochondrial to assist in the evaluation of partial matches.

3. For additional testing with a different amplification kit to assist in the verification of an offender’s profile at a specific locus (i.e. possible tri-allelic pattern or mutation verification).
QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL

PROFICIENCY TESTING

All qualified DNA analysts employed by the WSP Crime Laboratory Division will participate in two external proficiency tests per year. The Proficiency Testing Program is outlined in the WSP Crime Laboratory Division’s Quality Operations Manual and the DNA Quality Assurance Manual.

AUDITS

Audit documentation will be maintained as required by the NDIS Operational Procedures Manual and the WSPCLD Quality Operations Manual.

Audit documentation will be provided to NDIS on a yearly basis as required for NDIS participation.

The DNA casework laboratories will be audited annually as required by the FBI’s “Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories” and the CODIS Laboratory will be audited annually as required by the FBI’s “Quality Assurance Standards for DNA Databasing Laboratories”. Ensuring compliance with the standards is the responsibility of the DNA Technical Leader and the CODIS Manager. DNA data may be disclosed to an auditor for the purposes of determining the accuracy and acceptability of the DNA records contributed by that laboratory.

All WSP CLD NDIS participating laboratories are subject to an audit request by FBI CODIS auditors and the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the Inspector General (OIG). If such an audit request is received, DNA data may be disclosed to the auditors for the purposes of determining the accuracy and acceptability of the DNA records contributed by that laboratory.

CORRECTIVE ACTION RELATED TO AUDITS, NONCONFORMING WORK OR PROFICIENCY TESTING

Any findings identified in an audit related to CODIS or a problem with a CODIS analyst’s technical work or proficiency test results will be handled as detailed in the WSP Crime Laboratory Division’s Quality Operations Manual and the DNA Quality Assurance Manual.
SYSTEMS OPERATIONS

The CODIS System Administrator role is designated for WSP Information Technology and Electronic Services staff approved by the CODIS State Administrator to perform tasks described below in support of the CODIS program.

WSP Information Technology Division (ITD)

WSP ITD is responsible for the oversight and safeguarding of the agency’s technology infrastructure. This includes but is not limited to:

- Providing server hardware support
- Providing server operating system support
- Configuring, managing and monitoring server-based backups
- Configuring, managing and updating the server operating system (using WSUS)
- Configuring, managing and updating the agency’s antivirus program
- Where necessary, configuring and managing the CODIS Active Directory environment

Application Development and Support Section (ADSS) ITD staff provides application level system support. Duties include but are not limited to:

- Receive CODIS bulletins from CODIS DNA Administrators
- Receive and install CODIS updates/enhancements
- Maintain CODIS Active Directory, reset user passwords, add/delete users, add workstations, and troubleshoot CODIS printers
- Submit ITD Help Desk tickets via the work order system, and coordinate with IO and ESD when needed
- Submit CODIS Help Desk support requests

WSP Electronic Services Division (ESD)

WSP ESD is responsible for the oversight and safeguarding of the agency’s data network infrastructure. This includes, but is not limited to, configuring, managing and maintaining:

- The agency’s network security devices which control CODIS firewall rules
- The network infrastructure such as firewalls and switches
- CODIS IP addressing and Network Address Translation (NAT)
- The agency interconnection to the CJIS network

CODIS Help Desk

The CODIS Help Desk is responsible for the oversight and safeguarding of the CODIS application. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Addressing issues with the CODIS software
- Providing updates to the CODIS software
- Distribution of CODIS bulletins

The CODIS Help Desk can be contacted by either calling 1.877.263.4743 or emailing CODIShelp@leidos.com.

Requesting Technical Support Assistance

Requesting support for CODIS related hardware (server, computer, printer, and peripherals), CODIS hardware related software (operating system, antivirus program, and backup software), and network related functions (IP addresses, firewall settings, etc.) are directed to ITD Customer Services Unit (CSGU) via the work order system by either calling 360.705.5999, VoIP 13599 or emailing ITDHelp@wsp.wa.gov. When contacting ITD CSU via email, include who the work order should be assigned to within the body of the email, if known.
All other support requests should be directed to the CODIS Help Desk.

WSP Backup System

The SDIS and LDIS servers are backed up daily using the agency provided backup system over the secure WSP network to the State Data Center servers in Olympia, WA (an offsite secured location for disaster recovery purposes).

ANTIVIRUS

Antivirus software is installed and enabled on each server and workstation. Details pertaining to how the antivirus software is administered are available on the FLSB IT Portal here: [http://teamsites/sites/flsb1/IT/CODIS/Forms/AllItems.aspx](http://teamsites/sites/flsb1/IT/CODIS/Forms/AllItems.aspx)

SECURITY

Authorized CODIS users shall use their unique user name and password to login to a workstation and shall not grant CODIS access to others under their login. All CODIS users are responsible for the security of the software. When a user is finished with a CODIS work session the user will log out of CODIS.
REMOVAL OF DATA FROM CODIS

ADMINISTRATIVE REMOVAL

There are occasions when it is necessary to remove data from CODIS. Such occasions would include, but are not limited to the following:

1. A member of the CODIS staff determines that a biological sample was collected from an individual who does not have a qualifying offense under RCW 43.43.754.

2. Casework analyst or CODIS Manager determines that a forensic profile that has been entered into CODIS does not meet eligibility requirements. For example, it is determined that the profile is from a consenting sexual partner or the profile is that of the victim.

In these situations the data shall be removed from CODIS by the LDIS Administrator or by the CODIS Manager, as appropriate.

EXPUNGEMENT

The expungement procedure for the Washington State Patrol convicted offender program is available in WAC 446-75-070. Additional information is found in the NDIS Operational Procedures. Individuals who qualify for expungement shall have their DNA profile deleted from the CODIS database and their convicted offender submission card and biological sample destroyed. The LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System) specimen number will be retained with a notation in the Case Info tab that the sample was expunged per WAC 446-75-070; other LIMS documentation shall be deleted. A copy of the expungement request and supporting documentation, if applicable, will be retained.
APPENDIX A

SAMPLE LETTERS FOR MISSING PERSONS/UNIDENTIFIED HUMAN REMAINS CASES

Letter to law enforcement agency notifying them of results on missing person/unidentified human (remains) case where complete profile has been obtained. The letter should be on Crime Laboratory letterhead following the Correspondence Procedures Manual.

Sample Letter 1

This is to inform you that a DNA typing profile has been developed for Item [item #] (description of evidence) submitted to the Washington State Patrol [lab location] Crime Laboratory under case number [crime lab case #]. This evidence is associated with [agency and agency case number] and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) record number [NCIC #]. This DNA typing profile has been entered into both the Washington State Patrol and National CODIS (Combined DNA Index System) databases.

The following information is provided to you to assist in locating and identifying your missing or unidentified person. Please update your NCIC missing person/unidentified person record by including this information in the NCIC record’s Miscellaneous Field (MIS):

- Laboratory ORI number: [NDIS Participating Laboratory’s ORI number]
- Type of DNA analysis: STR
- Specimen Category: [e.g. biological mother, father, sibling, unidentified person]
- CODIS Specimen ID number: [specimen ID number]

The sharing and coordination of data submitted to the two databases containing missing person-related information should assist future investigative activities. It is suggested that mitochondrial DNA typing also be performed on [item#]. At the present time, the FBI laboratory and the University of North Texas are the only CODIS approved accredited facilities available to local law enforcement for mitochondrial DNA typing. Please contact [name of analyst] at the WSP [lab location] Crime Laboratory at [phone number] for more information about CODIS. For specific NCIC-related questions, please refer to the NCIC Operating Manual or contact NCIC at (304) 625-3000.
Letter to law enforcement agency notifying them of results on missing person/ unidentified human (remains) case where no profile has been obtained. The letter should be on Crime Laboratory letterhead following the Correspondence Procedures Manual.

Sample Letter 2

This is to inform you that a DNA typing profile was not developed for Item [item #] (description of evidence) submitted to the Washington State Patrol [lab location] Crime Laboratory under case number [crime lab case #]. This evidence is associated with [agency and agency case #] and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) record number [NCIC #]. Thus, no DNA profile could be entered into the Washington State Patrol or National CODIS (Combined DNA Index System) databases.

Please update your NCIC missing person/unidentified person record by including this information in the NCIC record’s Miscellaneous Field (MIS):

- DNA sample submitted for STR analysis but unable to obtain a DNA profile.

The sharing and coordination of data submitted to the two databases containing missing person-related information should assist future investigative activities. Please contact [name of analyst] at the WSP [lab location] Crime Laboratory at [phone number] for more information about CODIS. For specific NCIC-related questions, please refer to the NCIC Operating Manual or contact NCIC at (304) 625-3000.

Letter to law enforcement agency notifying them of results on missing person/ unidentified human (remains) case where a partial profile (not eligible for upload to NDIS) has been obtained. The letter should be on Crime Laboratory letterhead following the Correspondence Procedures Manual.

Sample Letter 3

This is to inform you that a partial DNA typing profile was developed for Item [item #] (description of evidence) submitted to the Washington State Patrol [lab location] Crime Laboratory under case number [crime lab case #]. This evidence is associated with [agency and agency case #] and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) record number [NCIC #]. This DNA typing profile has been entered into the Washington State Patrol CODIS (Combined DNA Index System) database. Since only a partial DNA typing profile was obtained, it is not suitable for upload to the National DNA Index System (NDIS).

The following information is provided to you to assist in locating and identifying your missing or unidentified person. Please update your NCIC missing person/unidentified person record by including this information in the NCIC record’s Miscellaneous Field (MIS):

- Laboratory ORI number: [NDIS Participating Laboratory’s ORI number]
- Type of DNA analysis: STR (number of loci-partial profile)
- Specimen Category: [unidentified person, missing person or deduced missing person]
- CODIS Specimen ID number: [specimen ID number]
The sharing and coordination of data submitted to the two databases containing missing person-related information should assist future investigative activities. Please contact [name of analyst] at the WSP [lab location] Crime Laboratory at [phone number] for more information about CODIS. For specific NCIC-related questions, please refer to the NCIC Operating Manual or contact NCIC at (304) 625-3000.
APPENDIX B

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW OF THE MATCH RESPONSE PACKET

Verify the following and flag any discrepancies:

- Verify the correct version of the Match Response form is being used.
- Ensure the correct date is on the Match Response and the date on the Match Request is on or after the date of the Match Detail Report.
- Verify the name of the person the Match Response is addressed to is the same as the Match Request submitter.
- Compare the Match ID(s) and specimen ID(s) (offender and casework) on the Match Response to the Match Detail Report(s).
- Ensure a copy of the 10-print verified submission paperwork is present in the packet (if applicable).
- Verify the lab number on the submission paperwork is the same as the Offender Specimen ID on the Match Response.
- Verify the following information from the submission paperwork is accurate on the Match Response. Ensure that the source of any information added to the submission paperwork by the issuer of the Match Response is referenced on the submission paperwork:
  - Name (including note re: alternates, if applicable)
  - DOB (including note re: alternates, if applicable)
  - State ID number (including a note re: 10-print verification)
  - FBI number (for national hits only)
  - DOC number (if available)
  - Qualifying offense (to include documentation that the offense was confirmed)
  - Offender whereabouts
- Check that the allele table, if present, has documentation of confirmation by the individual issuing the Match Response. This is usually documented by the following: “FHC of (offender’s name)”.

By initialing the Match Response in the lower right corner, the administrative reviewer is acknowledging the above steps have been completed.
APPENDIX C

CODIS ADMINISTRATOR’S TRAINING GUIDE

Objective: To perform duties associated with the role of an LDIS Administrator

Goals:
- Search a sample and understand search configurations at SDIS and NDIS
- Delete a sample
- Edit a sample
- Check that source id and partial profile boxes are set correctly
- Verify a sample’s eligibility for the Forensic Targeted Index
- Upload a sample

Disposition matches
- Check Message Center for new messages, understand reports/review
- Find name of lab and contact person for NDIS matches
- Become aware of settings in the Options tab
- Find information on the CJIS SEN
- Understand the CODIS backup system
- Resources-CODIS Help desk, ITD Help,
  “CODIS Database Maintenance” protocol, and “CODIS Quick Reference Guide” (QRG)

Exercises: Instructor will review/demonstrate the following:

Specimen Manager
- Locate specimens
- Create sample views
- Change specimen properties (Source ID, Partial Profile ID, Partial Locus)
- Review how to delete a specimen (to include documentation in the “Comments” box)
- Edit a specimen (locus editing-details in QRG)

Searcher (LDIS administrators only)
- Contact the CODIS Manager for the appropriate Searcher search configuration settings and revise as needed.
- Conduct a remote search of a profile. Print and review the Specimen Detail Report paying careful attention to the Search Configuration information and Indexes/ totals searched to ensure proper search execution.
- One time suspect remote search-delete specimen after search

Match Manager
- Locate new matches and retrieve previous matches
- Discuss match disposition choices (definitions), change a match disposition, and review appropriate entries for the “Note” field
- Demonstrate how to resend a match disposition
- Create sample views

Message Center
- Review the various reports
- Explain the “Outbox” and how to transmit a “stuck” message

Upload
- Explain mark/unmark status of a sample
• Send an upload and discuss differences between LDIS and SDIS uploads (i.e. manual vs. autoexecute)
• Check the reconciliation report and review possible recon errors

Options
• Options tab-discuss the various subsections

CJIS SEN/Learning Management System (LMS)
• Navigate the sites to include sharing information on the following:
  o contact information for a lab
  o NDIS forms
  o LMS
  o CODIS bulletins
  o CODIS Administrators Resources
  o NDIS Search Configuration document
  o NDIS Security Requirements

CODIS Backups
• Explain the data backup system and review the CODIS IT documents on the FLSB Portal

Resources/Miscellaneous
• Provide CODIS Help desk contact info
• Demonstrate the “Help” search feature in the CODIS software (e.g. search the terms “remote search”, “partial match” and “partial locus” and review the information)
• Demonstrate use of Remote Desktop Connection
• Explain opening a work order using the ITD Help
• Explain the purpose of the “administrator account” and demonstrate resetting a password
• “LDIS Database Maintenance” protocol-explain the value of performing the various tasks
• “CODIS Quick Reference Guide”-review and discuss with instructor as needed.
• CODIS Administrator meeting minutes-review recent meeting minutes and discuss with instructor as needed.
• Review the “Memorandum of Understanding Between the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Laboratory Division and the Washington State Patrol  <Location> Crime Laboratory for Participation in the National DNA Index System (NDIS)”
• View the FBI’s “New CODIS Administrator Training” webinars
## Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Analyst initials/date</th>
<th>Trainer initials/date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CODIS software online training (current version)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>View FBI’s “new CODIS Administrator Training” webinars</td>
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<tr>
<td>Read CODIS Administrator’s handbook</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Read WATCH summary document</td>
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<td>Sign up/use WATCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Complete exercises</td>
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<tr>
<td>Read Quick Reference Guide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Complete Evaluation</td>
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## Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answers</th>
<th>Trainer initials/date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Count the number of specimens belonging to &lt;CODIS user ID&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Count the number of specimens missing Amelogenin</td>
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<tr>
<td>For specimen &lt;specimen ID&gt;, what are the D3 allele calls?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Count the number of matches in 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>What is the match date for match ID &lt;match ID&gt;?</td>
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<tr>
<td>List the CODIS definitions for “Mark” and “Unmark”</td>
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<tr>
<td>What lab has the following ORI: MI8200121?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Who is the State CODIS Administrator for Rhode Island?</td>
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<tr>
<td>What is the start date for CODIS user &lt;CODIS user ID&gt;?</td>
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</table>

Trainee has completed review of all topics and tasks:

________________________________________________________________________

Trainer Signature/Date