

DNA LEGISLATION & NEWS

**Smith
Alling
Lane**

1025 Connecticut Ave. # 1021
Washington, D. C. 20036
202-258-2301

1102 Broadway Plaza # 403
Tacoma, WA 98402
253-627-1091

*A Professional Services Corporation
Governmental Affairs
Attorneys At Law*

Tim Schellberg tims@smithallinglane.com and Lisa Hurst lhurst@smithallinglane.com of Smith Alling Lane, P.S. provide nationwide governmental affair services to PE Biosystems. As part of the firm's representation weekly reports are generated which identify recent state and federal legislation and news articles. PE Biosystems has authorized Smith Alling Lane to make these reports available to anyone that requests them through this web site.

The information presented in these reports does not necessarily reflect the viewpoints of PE Biosystems or Smith Alling Lane, P.S.

The March 24, 2000 DNA report is attached. Relevant summaries are listed below.

These reports are prepared by Tim Schellberg and Lisa Hurst of Smith Alling Lane (253) 627-1091, on behalf of PE Biosystems.

COMMENTS

1. The Georgia bill to require DNA samples from all felons continues to move through the legislative process and has received friendly treatment by the press (article 16). Articles 9, 10 and 24 discuss New York Governor Pataki's proposal to gather samples for Class B misdemeanors and greater.
2. FBI Director Louis Freeh has asked Congress for funding for a federal offender DNA database and authorizing legislation.
3. Several newspapers around the country carried articles regarding the problem of DNA backlogs – a sampling of these articles can be seen in #'s 1, 5, 7 and 8.
4. Newspapers were also very interested in cases of warrants or indictments issued for unknown rapists identified by DNA, and in discussions of extending the statutes of limitations (see articles 2, 6, 11, 23 and 13, 14 and 21 respectively).

STATE LEGISLATION

Forensic DNA

1. Florida SB 2202 – Appropriations guidelines bill – expects 24,000 DNA samples to be added to DNA database.
2. Minnesota HB 2688 – Eliminates statute of limitation for any crime resulting in death and kidnapping crimes. Allows indictments any time for 1st – 3rd degree criminal sexual conduct, provided the crime was reported within 72 hours of commission.
3. Minnesota SB 2974 -- Eliminates statute of limitation for any homicide and for kidnappings. Allows indictments any time for 1st – 3rd degree criminal sexual conduct, provided the crime was reported within 72 hours of commission and there is DNA evidence.
4. Mississippi SB 3279 – Sets forward appropriations performance measures for DNA analysis.
5. Pennsylvania HB 2361 – provides federal funds for “DNA Laboratory Improvement” at \$303,000.

DNA LEGISLATION & NEWS

**Smith
Alling
Lane**

1025 Connecticut Ave. # 1021
Washington, D. C. 20036
202-258-2301

1102 Broadway Plaza # 403
Tacoma, WA 98402
253-627-1091

*A Professional Services Corporation
Governmental Affairs
Attorneys At Law*

Tim Schellberg tims@smithallinglane.com and Lisa Hurst lhurst@smithallinglane.com of Smith Alling Lane, P.S. provide nationwide governmental affair services to PE Biosystems. As part of the firm's representation weekly reports are generated which identify recent state and federal legislation and news articles. PE Biosystems has authorized Smith Alling Lane to make these reports available to anyone that requests them through this web site.

The information presented in these reports does not necessarily reflect the viewpoints of PE Biosystems or Smith Alling Lane, P.S.

NEWS ARTICLES

Forensic DNA

1. State crime labs are facing significant DNA backlogs. Congress is considering funding alternatives.
2. Oklahoma files charges against unnamed offender based on DNA evidence.
3. Oklahoma Indigent Defense System says 100 state prisoners warrant DNA testing.
4. China starts national DNA database to track kidnapped women and children.
5. States face DNA backlogs. Former IACP head says DNA should be taken for all fingerprintable arrests.
6. Wisconsin prosecutors use DNA evidence to charge unknown rapist.
7. Chicago detectives wait 10 months for DNA analysis. 953 sample backlog at state lab – 8300 potential additional cases kept waiting at Chicago police offices.
8. Lack of money and manpower hamper DNA sampling in Utah.
9. New York Times letter to the editor – “Support DNA Sampling”.
10. New York Times editorial – Governor’s first priority should be to address funding for DNA backlog. Discussion of elimination of statutes of limitation.
11. Wisconsin charges unknown man with rape of 5 women. Illinois does not have enough scientists to complete DNA analysis.
12. Washington Post editorial criticizes Virginia for not allowing testing for death row inmates. Mentions Sen. Leahy’s post-conviction bill.
13. “DNA evidence spurs states to rewrite crime laws” – discusses efforts to eliminate and/or extend statutes of limitation.
14. California Assembly passes bill to eliminate sex crime statute of limitation when DNA evidence is available.
15. DNA tests confirm that teen spit on police officer’s sandwich.
16. Positive article on Georgia’s effort to enact law requiring samples from all felons. Comparison of DNA requirements in southern states.
17. DNA sample taken from snack left behind by burglar helps police in Great Britain find thief.

DNA LEGISLATION & NEWS

**Smith
Alling
Lane**

1025 Connecticut Ave. # 1021
Washington, D. C. 20036
202-258-2301

1102 Broadway Plaza # 403
Tacoma, WA 98402
253-627-1091

*A Professional Services Corporation
Governmental Affairs
Attorneys At Law*

Tim Schellberg tims@smithallinglane.com and Lisa Hurst lhurst@smithallinglane.com of Smith Alling Lane, P.S. provide nationwide governmental affair services to PE Biosystems. As part of the firm's representation weekly reports are generated which identify recent state and federal legislation and news articles. PE Biosystems has authorized Smith Alling Lane to make these reports available to anyone that requests them through this web site.

The information presented in these reports does not necessarily reflect the viewpoints of PE Biosystems or Smith Alling Lane, P.S.

18. DNA sample taken from cigarette butt left behind by burglar helps police in Great Britain find thief.
19. Legislators in Hong Kong concerned with proposal to allow police to collect "non-intimate" DNA samples.
20. Louis Freeh asks Congress for \$5.3 million and 5 employees for federal offender DNA database. Authorizing legislation will also be needed.
21. Pennsylvania legislators consider extending or eliminating statute of limitations.
22. New DNA lab in Charlotte, NC aids police.
23. ABC news report – DNA used to indict unknown suspect in New York.
24. Discussion of New York Governor's proposal to expand DNA database.
25. Nevada Supreme Court upholds collection of DNA samples from burglars.
26. DC case tests police authority to interrogate suspects while awaiting results from court-ordered blood tests.
27. Court orders paternity test to prove assault and battery charges – defendant claims unreasonable search and seizure.

Genetic Privacy

29. Pros and cons of letting insurance companies have access to genetic information.
30. England to allow insurers to conduct genetic tests to show if prospective policy holders are more likely to develop an illness.
31. New law in Michigan limits insurance's use of genetic testing. Prohibits insurance from requiring policy holders to undergo testing or disclose results.
32. Emerging technologies reinforces need for genetic information protections.
33. Doctors and theologians must work together on developing biotech ethics.
34. Virginia Office of Protection from Research Risks required consent from entire family before obtaining health history of one person for genetic research.