

CHAPTER 150
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION CRIMINALISTICS LABORATORY

[Prior to 11/22/06, see 661—Ch 12]

Chapter rescission date pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.7: 2/25/31

661—150.1(691) Criminalistics laboratory. The state criminalistics laboratory created in Iowa Code section 691.1 is located, pursuant to that section, within the division of criminal investigation.

150.1(1) Identification. The state criminalistics laboratory will be known as the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory. Unless the context clearly implies otherwise, the term “laboratory,” when used in this chapter, means the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory.

150.1(2) Administration. The laboratory will be headed by an administrator who reports to the director of the division of criminal investigation.

150.1(3) Contact information.

a. The address of the laboratory for receiving mail or shipped materials is Iowa DCI Criminalistics Laboratory, 2240 South Ankeny Boulevard, Ankeny, Iowa 50023.

b. The telephone number of the laboratory is 515.725.1500.

c. Information regarding the laboratory may be obtained from the department website.

NOTE: Currently, information about the laboratory may be found at www.dps.state.ia.us/DCI/Crime_Lab/index.shtml.

[ARC 0025D, IAB 1/21/26, effective 2/25/26]

661—150.2(691) Purpose and scope of work. The laboratory provides forensic science services to law enforcement agencies within the state of Iowa. The laboratory will, within its capabilities, conduct analyses and comparative studies on physical evidence to aid in any criminal investigation, when requested by a prosecuting attorney, a medical examiner, or a law enforcement agency.

150.2(1) Resource or capability limitations.

a. The laboratory administrator may refuse any request to conduct an analysis when, in the judgment of the administrator, the laboratory is unable to adequately conduct the requested analysis, either because of resource limitations or because the analysis is not within the professional capabilities of laboratory personnel.

b. The laboratory administrator may establish a policy excluding evidence of specific types or evidence arising from certain types of cases from being accepted by the laboratory if the administrator finds that such a policy is necessary either due to resource constraints, safety concerns, or the professional capabilities of laboratory personnel. Any policy adopted pursuant to this paragraph will be made available to all county attorneys, medical examiners, and law enforcement agencies within Iowa.

c. If analysis by the laboratory of specific evidence arising from a criminal investigation in Iowa has been excluded pursuant to either paragraph 150.2(1)“*a*” or “*b*,” the administrator may, at the administrator’s discretion, assist the agency requesting the analysis in locating the services of another laboratory able to perform the requested analysis.

150.2(2) Exclusion by law. The laboratory will only perform analyses that have arisen from, or will aid in, criminal investigations or that are otherwise provided for by law.

[ARC 0025D, IAB 1/21/26, effective 2/25/26]

661—150.3(691) Laboratory capabilities. The laboratory is capable of performing any forensic scientific analysis for which a laboratory staff member has received appropriate training and for which the necessary equipment and materials are available to the staff member performing the analysis. Information regarding the current forensic science capabilities of the laboratory may be obtained in the Iowa Criminalistics Laboratory Quality Assurance Manual published by the laboratory.

[ARC 0025D, IAB 1/21/26, effective 2/25/26]

661—150.4(691) Evidence submission to the laboratory.

150.4(1) Evidence may be submitted to the laboratory by:

- a. Any law enforcement agency in Iowa;
- b. The Iowa department of corrections;
- c. Any other criminal or juvenile justice agency, with the approval of the laboratory administrator; or
- d. Any other state agency, with the approval of the laboratory administrator.

150.4(2) Evidence may be submitted to the laboratory via regular, certified, or registered mail or personal service. Any evidence to be submitted to the laboratory will be entered electronically into the laboratory information management system prior to submission. Each entry will include a description of each item to be submitted and an examination request for each item to be submitted.

NOTE: Access to the laboratory information management system is restricted to authorized users representing agencies authorized to submit evidence to the laboratory. Authorized users should contact the laboratory for instructions regarding access to the system.

150.4(3) Evidence submitted to the laboratory that is not personally delivered will be packaged in such a manner that laboratory personnel can determine that the package has not been opened while in transit. If the laboratory receives an unsealed or damaged package, the laboratory may refuse to process such evidence if the integrity of the evidence has been compromised.

[ARC 0025D, IAB 1/21/26, effective 2/25/26]

661—150.5(17A,691) Distribution of reports.

150.5(1) A copy of each completed report of analyses performed by the laboratory will be provided to the submitting officer and to the prosecuting attorney. The prosecuting attorney is responsible for providing copies of any laboratory report to the defendant or defendants as required by law.

150.5(2) Results of laboratory analyses will not be made available to any unauthorized person or organization.

[ARC 0025D, IAB 1/21/26, effective 2/25/26]

661—150.6(17A,691) Disposition of evidence.

150.6(1) Evidence will be returned to the submitting agency unless one of the following conditions applies:

- a. Retention of the evidence would be beneficial for future laboratory analysis.
- b. Returning the evidence presents a hazard to health or safety. Any required notice to the defendant of destruction of evidence pursuant to this paragraph is the responsibility of the prosecuting attorney.

150.6(2) Evidence will not be transferred or submitted to any person or agency other than the submitting agency without an applicable court order unless authorized by the submitting agency.

[ARC 0025D, IAB 1/21/26, effective 2/25/26]

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 691.

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