

Date

State or Local Prosecutor
Address

Dear _____ :

The United States Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) are engaged in a review of microscopic hair comparison analysis testimony and reports provided by the FBI Laboratory before December 31, 1999, by which time the Laboratory had adopted the practice of mitochondrial DNA testing, where appropriate, in hair comparison analysis. It has been determined that in numerous cases being reviewed, FBI Laboratory examiners exceeded the limits of science by overstating the conclusions that may appropriately be drawn from a positive association between evidentiary hair and a known hair sample. The purpose of this review is to ensure that FBI Laboratory reports and examiner testimony regarding microscopic hair comparison analysis met accepted scientific standards and to identify any case in which they may not have met this standard.

In order to evaluate the appropriateness of examiner testimony, the FBI previously reached out to your office requesting information regarding the below identified case(s) and whether a transcript was available.

Defendant's name

Victim's name

Local Case No.

FBI Case No.

The FBI has not heard back from you, or has received an inadequate response regarding this case(s) and has requested our assistance in determining certain information regarding the disposition of the case(s). In the FBI request letter they included a Fax Response Sheet (additional copy attached hereto). I request that you please complete the form for the identified case(s) and return it to:

Cherise Dreyfus
Unit Chief, Trace Evidence Unit
Fax: 703-632-7714

If you have the hair examiner's testimony transcript, please contact Ms. Dreyfus and she will provide instructions regarding forwarding a copy of the transcript to the FBI Laboratory in Quantico, Virginia. If you do not have a copy of this transcript, or a copy was not made, please provide the name of the relevant court reporter's office so that the FBI may contact it directly.

If you have any questions regarding this request or the general issue of microscopic hair analysis, please do not hesitate to contact either Cherise Dreyfus, Unit Chief of the Trace Evidence Unit at FBICaseReview@ic.fbi.gov or Paula Wulff, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, FBI, at Paula.Wulff@ic.fbi.gov.

Sincerely,

[State Governor]