

## DNA DATA ACCEPTED AT THE NATIONAL DNA INDEX

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Since the implementation of the National DNA Index in October 1998, the categories of DNA data that may be uploaded to the national level and searched have remained the same (as dictated by Federal law). At the State level, however, State DNA database laws are being expanded each legislative session to include additional categories of DNA data, such as the DNA profiles of persons arrested or indicted for specific offenses. Can these DNA profiles be uploaded to the National DNA Index?

A review of the categories of DNA profiles that are accepted at NDIS will include a discussion of relevant pending Federal legislation as well as various scenarios that may be encountered by the DNA analyst/examiner. For example, take a hypothetical case in which a suspect has been developed but the law enforcement agency is unsure about the suspect's identity. The individual has been very secretive and there appears to be no or very few records in his name. A drinking cup thrown from his car was submitted for analysis and the laboratory generated a DNA profile. That DNA profile is the only DNA evidence in this case. The law enforcement agency has reason to believe that this individual was involved in crimes in a specific State. The law enforcement agency requests that the DNA profile be searched at the national level. Can this DNA profile be uploaded to the National DNA Index?