

**UPDATE ON THE FBI'S CODIS PROGRAM
LABORATORY DIVISION, CODIS UNIT**

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An idea conceived fifteen years ago, the Combined DNA Index System or CODIS as it is known in the forensic DNA community, has matured into a program supporting DNA databases in over 200 forensic laboratories around the world. As DNA database programs evolve, the CODIS software has and will continue to accommodate the changing needs of the DNA community.

A major component of the CODIS program is operation of the National DNA Index System or NDIS. All 50 States as well as the FBI Laboratory and United States Army Crime Laboratory participate in the National DNA Index System. Changes made by the Justice for All Act of 2004 will affect the administration and operation of the National Index. Supporting its many contributors and ensuring compliance with the recent statutory changes has resulted in the establishment of new procedures governing NDIS. Changes to NDIS procedures will be discussed that may be of interest to the DNA community such as the new requirement that NDIS participants be accredited by October 30, 2006 and new criteria for one-time searches of the National Index System.

Many challenges await the CODIS program in the coming year, including an expected increase in DNA data contributed by laboratories receiving federal funding. Priorities of the CODIS program as well as recent statistics and trends will be presented.