# Dossier: PARABON NANOLABS, INC.

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $167,494.00

**Award Date:** 2023-03-23

**Branch:** DTRA

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

Parabon NanoLabs, Inc. is a DNA technology company focused on developing next-generation forensic and human identification products and services. Their core mission is to leverage the power of DNA to provide actionable intelligence for law enforcement, defense, and intelligence agencies. They aim to solve complex human identification challenges in criminal investigations, missing persons cases, and disaster victim identification by using advanced DNA phenotyping, kinship analysis, and genetic genealogy. Their unique value proposition lies in their ability to predict physical appearance and ancestry from trace amounts of DNA, even from degraded or mixed samples, providing investigative leads when traditional DNA methods fail. They also offer cutting-edge DNA kinship inference software.

**Technology Focus:**

* Snapshot® DNA Phenotyping:\*\* Predicts physical appearance traits (skin color, eye color, hair color, facial morphology) from DNA. The company has continually improved its accuracy and now incorporates more detailed facial feature predictions.
* Nth Ancestry®:\*\* Provides advanced genetic genealogy analysis, including distant kinship reconstruction, to identify potential relatives from DNA samples, even with limited reference samples.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* Parabon has been involved in multiple high-profile cold case investigations and missing persons cases, providing investigative leads to law enforcement agencies.\*\* Public reports often highlight their involvement in solving long-standing cases. While specific deal terms are generally not publicly disclosed, their participation demonstrates a strong adoption rate by law enforcement.
* May 14, 2020: Parabon announced its release of its Snapshot® Advanced DNA Analysis Service.\*\* This new service expands Snapshot's capabilities to incorporate even more phenotypic predictions.
* Parabon offers additional products and services related to forensic genealogy and identity resolution, which are continuously upgraded based on new research and market demands.\*\* Specific release dates and feature enhancements are often detailed in their press releases.

**Leadership & Team:**

* Dr. Steven Armentrout, CEO:\*\* Co-founder of Parabon NanoLabs. His expertise lies in applying computational methods to solve complex biological problems.
* Dr. Ellen McRae Greytak, Director of Bioinformatics:\*\* PhD in Genetics and extensive experience in DNA analysis and forensic science.

**Competitive Landscape:**

* Othram Inc.:\*\* A forensic genealogy company that offers DNA extraction, sequencing, and analysis services to law enforcement. Parabon differentiates itself through its advanced phenotyping capabilities, focusing on appearance prediction, alongside kinship analysis.
* Verogen (Now Illumina):\*\* Another player in the forensic genomics space. Parabon competes with them in terms of advanced analytical tools and data interpretation capabilities.

**Sources:**

1. [https://parabon-nanolabs.com/](https://parabon-nanolabs.com/)

2. [https://parabon-nanolabs.com/services/snapshot-dna-phenotyping.html](https://parabon-nanolabs.com/services/snapshot-dna-phenotyping.html)

3. [https://parabon-nanolabs.com/services/nth-ancestry.html](https://parabon-nanolabs.com/services/nth-ancestry.html)

4. [https://www.justice.gov/d9/2021-11/21-ojp-cold-case-02-parabon.pdf](https://www.justice.gov/d9/2021-11/21-ojp-cold-case-02-parabon.pdf)

5. [https://parabon-nanolabs.com/news/2020/200514-Snapshot-Advanced-DNA-Analysis-Service.html](https://parabon-nanolabs.com/news/2020/200514-Snapshot-Advanced-DNA-Analysis-Service.html)