

From: Curtis, Amy (DFS)
Sent: Tue, 31 Jan 2023 16:12:48 +0000
To: Rahul Ramesh
Cc: Betsy Kim;Norton, Jessica (DFS)
Subject: Re: [RECORDS REQUEST] Virginia Rape Kit Backlog
Attachments: Ramesh.FOIA Response.13123.pdf, Responsive Documents for (a)(1).pdf, Responsive Document for (a)(2).pdf, Responsive Documents for (d).pdf

Please see the attached response and responsive records.

Thank you.

Amy C. Jenkins, Esquire
Department Counsel
Virginia Department of Forensic Science
700 N. 5th Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
Desk: (804) 786-6848
Cell phone: (804) 495-5046
Facsimile: (804) 786-6857
Email: amy.jenkins@dfs.virginia.gov

From: Rahul Ramesh <rahulrameshaz@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 23, 2023 6:11 PM
To: Curtis, Amy (DFS) <amy.jenkins@dfs.virginia.gov>
Cc: Betsy Kim <betsyk@usafacts.org>
Subject: [RECORDS REQUEST] Virginia Rape Kit Backlog

Jan 23, 2023

To whom it may concern:

Under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, we would like to request the following records:

- (a) The Virginia rape kit backlog in 2022, broken down by:
 - (1) rape kits that had, by the end of 2022, remained untested within 30 or more days of being submitted to Virginia Department of Forensic Science, in addition to any accredited forensic or crime lab in Virginia.
 - (2) rape kits that were not submitted to the aforementioned crime labs and held by entities that collect rape kits, including, but not limited to, police stations and hospitals.
- (b) The month/date that the 2022 rape kit backlog numbers from (a) were collected.
- (c) Whether the numbers from (a) are reflective of the rape kit backlog for the entire state. If not, please list the municipalities, police stations, or crime labs that have been excluded from the counts provided in (a).

Please prioritize (a), (b), and (c) in your response. In addition, we would like:

- (d) The information from (a), (b), and (c) for 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021.
- (e) Of the rape kits that were tested in 2022, the count tested within 30 days of being submitted to a lab.

Please include me, a resident of Virginia, and my collaborator Betsy Kim on any external or internal correspondence related to this request.

My address is:
8190 Strawberry Ln
Apt 207
Falls Church, VA 22042

Let me know if clarifying my request might speed the release of these records or reduce any programming or staff time.

If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law.

We seek this information in the public interest as journalists, and not for a commercial purpose.

If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, please inform us if the cost will exceed \$100.

The Virginia Freedom of Information Act requires a response to this request be made within 5 days. If access to the records we are requesting will take longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when we might expect copies or the ability to inspect the requested records.

Please provide us with the information in a continuous manner. We are more than happy to get partial responses to this request until it's completed in full.

Thank you again for your time. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Rahul Ramesh and Betsy Kim
Data Analyst
USAFacts
betsyk@usafacts.org

Note: Correspondence referencing a specific case may be retained and subject to disclosure as part of the case file.

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