

From: Williams, Jessica
Sent: Tue, 24 Jan 2023 22:12:03 +0000
To: Betsy Kim
Cc: Jewson, Janice;Hurley, Zenita
Subject: RE: [RECORDS REQUEST] Maryland Rape Kit Backlog
Attachments: 2022 LEA Annual Reports for PIA Request.zip

Good Evening Ms. Kim,

Thank you so much for your email.

Under section (a) of your request, you seek data related to the “Maryland rape kit backlog in 2022 broken down by (1) rape kits that were not tested within 30 days of being submitted to the...lab [and] (2) rape kits that were not submitted to the...labs and held by entities that collect rape kits.”

We are in possession of annual reports from law enforcement agencies and forensic labs that are responsive to this portion of your request. However, the reports are not broken down in the manner that you seek.

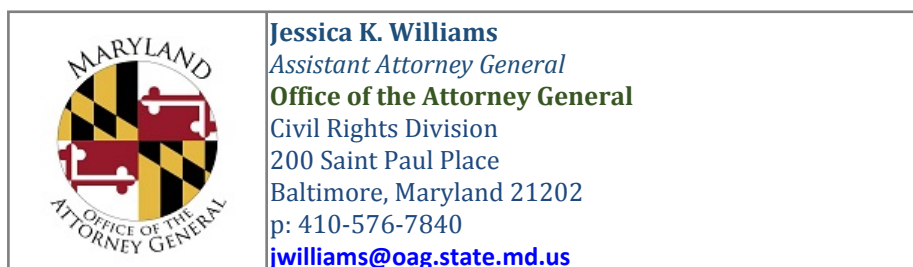
I have attached the 2022 Annual Reports our Office received from law enforcement agencies. Under COMAR 02.08.04.01(B), on or before **September 1, 2022** law enforcement agencies must submit an annual report to our Office providing specific information about the sexual assault evidence kits in their possession. The attached reports outline the number of tested and untested sexual assault evidence kits each reporting agency provided.

The forensic lab reports, as well as all of data you requested is forthcoming. Please be advised that our Office does not collect annual data regarding SAEKs from any other entities outside of law enforcement agencies and forensic labs. Additionally, our Office only has data from agencies and labs that submitted an annual report. Therefore, we will not be able to provide information for agencies that did not submit a report.

I am sending the reports in a compressed folder. Please let us know if you have any issues accessing the reports.

Thank you,

Jessica





www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov

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From: Betsy Kim <betsyk@usafacts.org>
Sent: Monday, January 23, 2023 8:01 PM
To: Williams, Jessica <jwilliams@oag.state.md.us>
Cc: Jewson, Janice <jjewson@oag.state.md.us>
Subject: Re: [RECORDS REQUEST] Maryland Rape Kit Backlog

Hi Jessica,

I can confirm that I'm willing to pay a sum between \$185 and \$296. I'm looking forward to seeing my request fulfilled by Jan 30.

Thank you for your consideration,
Betsy



Betsy Kim
Data Analyst

(425) 708-8875
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g



From: Williams, Jessica <jwilliams@oag.state.md.us>
Sent: Friday, December 23, 2022 9:58 AM
To: Betsy Kim <betsyk@usafacts.org>
Cc: Jewson, Janice <jjewson@oag.state.md.us>
Subject: FW: [RECORDS REQUEST] Maryland Rape Kit Backlog

Good Afternoon Ms. Kim,

The Maryland Office of the Attorney General received your request under the Public Information Act seeking records related to Maryland's backlog of sexual assault evidence kits. Please see the attached preliminary response to your PIA request.

I will be your primary point of contact in reference to this request.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Jessica



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From: Jewson, Janice <jjewson@oag.state.md.us>
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2022 10:17 AM
To: Williams, Jessica <jwilliams@oag.state.md.us>
Subject: FW: [RECORDS REQUEST] Maryland Rape Kit Backlog

From: Betsy Kim <betsyk@usafacts.org>
Sent: Friday, December 9, 2022 7:11 PM
To: Jewson, Janice <jjewson@oag.state.md.us>
Subject: [RECORDS REQUEST] Maryland Rape Kit Backlog

You don't often get email from betsyk@usafacts.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dec 9, 2022

To whom it may concern:

Under the Maryland Public Information Act, I'd like to request the following records:

- (a) The Maryland rape kit backlog in 2022, broken down by:
 - (1) rape kits that were not tested within 30 days of being submitted to the Maryland State Police Forensic Sciences Division, in addition to any other accredited crime or forensic lab in the state of Maryland that tests rape kits.
 - (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, I 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 on any external or internal correspondence related to this request.

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.

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

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

The Maryland Public Information Act requires a response to this request be made within 30 days. If access to the records I am requesting will take longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or the ability to inspect the requested records.

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

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

Sincerely,

Betsy Kim
Data Analyst
USAFacts
betsyk@usafacts.org



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