



**NEW JERSEY STATE POLICE
OFFICE OF FORENSIC SCIENCES
MEMORANDUM**



TO : State of New Jersey Law Enforcement Agencies
FROM : Joseph R. Petersack , Interim Director, OFS
SUBJECT : STR DNA Statistics Update

DATE: 4-18-18

In April 2017, the New Jersey State Police Office of Forensic Sciences DNA laboratory began testing more Short Tandem Repeat (STR) loci, and started using the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) "U.S. Population Data for 29 Autosomal STR Loci" (published in Forensic Science International: Genetics Volume 7 (2013) e82-83) database to calculate statistics for STR DNA profiles. In November 2017, revisions to NIST's database were published in Forensic Science International: Genetics Volume 31 (2017) e36-40 under "Corrigendum to 'U.S. Population Data for 29 Autosomal STR Loci' [Forensic Sci. Int. Genet. 7 (2013) e82-83]." This publication detailed minor revisions made to the population data. Calculations conducted by our laboratory using the revisions to the original data set showed the difference in the resultant statistics to be insignificant and there should be no impact on any of the reported conclusions issued between April 2017 and April 2018. Therefore, statistics reported during this time frame will not need to be recalculated. The DNA laboratory has updated the statistical worksheets used to calculate STR DNA statistics to reflect these revisions and commencing on April 18th, 2018, the revised allele frequencies will be used in any statistical calculations regarding STR profiles.

Any questions regarding these changes should be directed to the DNA Laboratory Director, who can be reached at 609-584-5054 ext. 5721.