

# FACT SHEET

## PROSECUTING COLD CASES USING DNA

### Program Summary

Designed to aid prosecutors, the Prosecuting Cold Cases Using DNA Program provides funding to support agencies in the resolution of violent cold case crimes.

### Program Objectives

- Prosecution of cold cases involving violent crime where suspects have been identified through DNA evidence.
- Decrease in the number of unresolved violent cold case crimes awaiting prosecution.

### Program Funding & Awards

Award Year	# of Awards	Total Amount
FY 2019	2	\$970,239
FY 2020	10	\$4,700,000
FY 2021	13	\$6,955,000
FY 2022	15	\$7,500,000
FY 2023	15	\$7,998,000
FY 2024	15	\$7,000,000

### Program Accomplishments

- Multiple suspect profiles uploaded to Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS/AFIS).
- 94 suspects who were initially unknown are now identified.
- 20 cases have resulted in convictions.
- 39 suspects were identified via forensic genetic genealogy work.
- 66 cases have been charged and/or indicted.
- 83 cold cases have been resolved/closed.

### Program Requirements

- A prosecutorial body must be a fully engaged project partner.
- Suspects' DNA profiles have already been generated (can be known or unknown suspects).
- Utilization of forensic genetic genealogy must follow the "DOJ Interim Policy Forensic Genetic Genealogical DNA Analysis and Searching."

### Additional Information

- BJA Prosecuting Cold Cases Using DNA Program webpage: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/prosecuting-cold-cases-using-dna/overview>
- Subscribe for more information about BJA funding, programs, and resources: <https://bja.ojp.gov/subscribe>
- For more resources and program information, please see BJA's Forensics Training and Technical Assistance webpage: <https://www.forensicstta.org/>

### ABOUT BJA

BJA helps America's state, local, and tribal jurisdictions reduce and prevent crime, lower recidivism, and promote a fair and safe criminal justice system. BJA provides a wide range of resources—including grants, funding, and training and technical assistance—to law enforcement, courts and corrections agencies, treatment providers, reentry practitioners, justice information sharing professionals, and community-based partners to address chronic and emerging criminal justice challenges nationwide. To learn more about BJA, visit [bja.ojp.gov](https://bja.ojp.gov) or follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/DOJBJA](https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA)) and X (@DOJBJA). BJA is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.

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