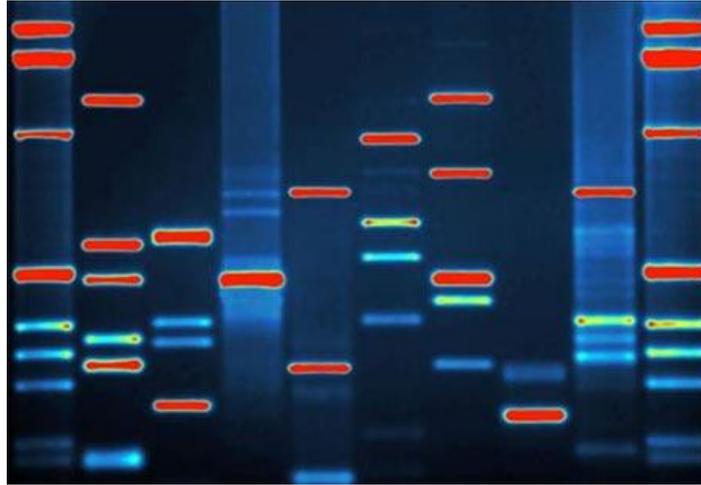


## Envisioning the future of the CODIS DNA database

Do you like what you see America?



Excerpts from;

### GENETICS AND PUBLIC POLICY CENTER AT JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

2007

GenePOPS

#### “A PERFECT MATCH? DNA IN LAW ENFORCEMENT”

By Kaye Beach, 2010

[Http://www.AxXiomForLiberty.com](http://www.AxXiomForLiberty.com)

*“There are backlogs around the country that are impeding the labs’ and the prosecutors’ and the police’s ability to solve the cases when the information is sitting right there. Partially it’s because, politically, it sounds great to rack up the hits and to tell everyone we’re going to collect the DNA from offenders as if, you know, it’s some magic solution to crime problems.”*

--Stephen Saloom, Policy Director of [the Innocence Project](#)

**Greggory LaBerge**, Director, Crime Laboratory Bureau, Denver Police Department

Introduced;

**Gregg LaBerge**, who is the scientific director and bureau commander of the Denver Police Department Crime Laboratory.

Before he was promoted to be director and bureau commander, he was responsible for the operations of forensic biology in the DNA section of the laboratory and helped build one of the most successful DNA laboratories in the country. He has taught at the National Forensic Science Technology Center and around the world.

**Gregg LaBerge** speaking;

“I’ll give a brief talk on forensic genetics of DNA database expansion, and specifically the CODIS database as it sits today, and **where we think it will go in the future.**”

(LaBerge then gives a brief overview of DNA testing and profiles as used in law enforcement-you can read the [entire transcript here](#))

“The CODIS system is similar to the automated fingerprint identification system, which has been used for years in the United States. And this system compares fingerprints regionally. Right now, (2007) it’s not fully integrated nationally. It has regional databases.”

(Begin Ed Note)

- “. . .the FBI was considering the construction of its own Biometrics Technology Center (BTC) on FBI property. Because DoD was in negotiations with the FBI to construct its stand-alone facility on the same property, the concept of a joint facility was suggested. In 2007, senior FBI and DoD leaders agreed to pursue this course. [Read More](#)
- The FBI’s automated fingerprint identification system was upgraded to “[Next Generation ID](#)” beginning in 2008-09. *“The FBI’s Next Generation Identification (NGI) system, which could cost as much as \$1 billion over its 10-year life cycle, will create **an unprecedented database of biometric markers, such as facial images and iris scans**”* [Read More](#)

The center, which began as a criminal justice system for fingerprint identification of known or suspected criminals has morphed rapidly since 2007;

- The BTC will house new CJIS information technology and biometric initiatives, to include the Biometric Center of Excellence, which will coordinate biometrics research and development efforts for the FBI, and accommodate an alternate Continuity of Operations Plan for many FBIHQ personnel. The BTC will also house the DoD Biometrics Fusion Center (managed and funded by DoD). [National Security Fact Sheet 2010](#)

(End Ed Note)

**LaBerge**: “CODIS started in 1990 as a pilot project with only 14 states participating, and in 1994, the DNA Identification Act allowed the FBI to establish a national databank. And that databank went into effect in October of 1998.

The main indices – the two indexes that are the most important to forensic laboratories – are the offender index, which contains the DNA profiles from convicted offenders – and each state has laws that govern which type of

offenders based on which types of offenses go into those state databases, which are then uploaded to the national system.

**We talk in the near term about how this database can be expanded. . . There are states also looking at all arrestees legislation. . .”**

. . .All felon states in 1999 there were six states. Six states had all felons; **today, it’s 45 states**. You see the progression in the database. Arrestee legislation is just starting – 2006 and 2007, 11 states introduced it; in 2007, 26 states. So that’s moving it. Now, that’s introduced – it does not mean it passed. Arrestee legislation is now not passing in many states. There are other states that are enacting legislation in 2007. But that’s only four.

. . The greatest challenge for U.S. law enforcement – and my lab is no exception – is getting the backlog of cases into the database.

**. . In the U.K. right now, it’s all people of any recordable offense go into the national database as part of their processing of prisoners.**

. . And we envision, further out three to five years, **using the CODIS database potentially for allele DNA searches.**

. . There are plans for a **mitochondrial database, the use of Y-STRs that come only from the male, and tracking that.**

. . When I moved here from Canada, I gave fingerprints and that’s included in a national fingerprint database.

**There’s talk now of using a DNA database for the same reason.** And any local legislation, as I’ve mentioned.

. . If you look out **five to 10 years**, there is some talk about how when you load a DNA profile into CODIS, it’s searched once a week at your state or your national level.

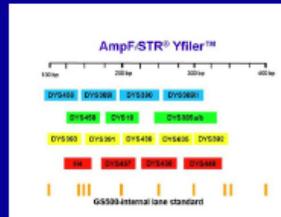
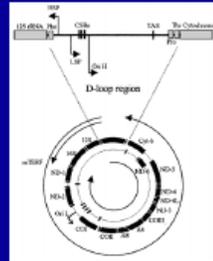
There are plans to have it so that when you load your sample in, to have that immediately searched nationwide. So there’s no waiting to it; you’re not waiting six days from the time that you put the sample in. ***So that would be real time and immediate search capabilities.***

. . The other thing that could be done in the future is **relating Y-STR and mitochondrial DNA accurately to names and geography.**”

More comments and SLIDES from [LaBerg’s presentation](#);

## Further out 3-5 years

- Familial DNA searches-beyond FBI interim policy
- mtDNA databasing CODIS<sup>mt</sup>
- Y chromosome STR databanks
- Immigration DNA database index for all VISA applicants or targeted at certain countries
- Any local based legislation that allows DNA databasing uploaded to NDIS



“And then, potentially **all military personnel** are now giving DNA samples or blood samples, but the DNA is not being run. So **there are plans potentially for using that.**”

“*And then there is the argument about, should the DNA database include all people in a population.*”

And Tony Blair, before he left office, made the claim that he felt that that’s the way the U.K. database, or the NDAD, in the U.K. should go.



## Outer limits-15 years +

- Relational databanks-biometric data merged with:
  - DNA,
  - fingerprints,
  - photos,
  - vehicle registrations,
  - facial and body index/structure characteristics
  - Accurate ethnicity, race prediction
  - demographic data,
  - work and medical history,
  - financial profiles,
  - behavior modeling
  - Criminal history,
  - Relate to other DNA polymorphisms like SNP haplotypes



“DNA, fingerprints, photos, vehicle registrations, and all other types of data could be linked together in relational databases,

*so that if I have a DNA profile, I can immediately know your driving record, your military record, a financial profile.*

Those are looking ahead as **databases are merged**” --Gregory LeBerge

“The other thing, I think, that is quite far out, is any medical condition databases”

“Roadside DNA profiling at every police stop, and again, universal databases.”



## Outer limits-15 years +

- Rare allele databases that relate genotype to geographical data
- Predictive databases for crime propensity
- Integrated police forensic intelligence databanks
- Medical condition databases and DNA markers that characterize conditions-Research database access?
- Roadside DNA profiling at every police stop
- Universal databases?

[LaBerg's presentation](#)

Read the transcript and other panelists presentations as well as all of Gregg LaBerg's remarks [here](#)

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