



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
A Nationally Accredited Laboratory

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NOTICE OF DFS POLICY CHANGE

To: All Agencies Serviced by Department of Forensic Science Laboratories
From: Linda C. Jackson, Director *LCA*
Date: June 10, 2016
RE: Trace Evidence Submission Policy Change

The Department of Forensic Science (DFS) is pleased to announce that, effective July 1, 2016, it will expand the Trace Evidence examination services it provides to submitting agencies as described below.

1. **Primer Residue** – Requests for primer residue examinations of samples obtained from living persons suspected of firing a weapon will be routinely accepted. Primer residue kits collected from the following will not be routinely accepted: gunshot victims, inanimate objects, and individuals found in possession of a weapon. This supersedes the policy dated November 5, 2014, which provided that only suspect kits involving a gunshot victim would be accepted for examinations.
2. **Explosives** – The Trace Evidence Section will resume examinations on Improvised Explosive Devices (I.E.D.s), low explosives, and high explosives. This supersedes the policy dated November 5, 2014, which discontinued explosives examinations.

For questions regarding Trace Evidence submission criteria, please contact any of the following:

- Chemistry Program Manager - Scott Maye (804-588-4168)
- Central Laboratory Section Supervisor - Josh Kruger (804-588-4009)
- Principal Forensic Scientist - Doug DeGaetano (804-588-4078)