



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE**

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
A Nationally Accredited Laboratory

700 NORTH 5TH ST.  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219  
(804) 786-2281 FAX (804) 786-6857

**NOTICE OF DFS TEMPORARY CLOSURE**

To: All Agencies served by the DFS Eastern Laboratory

From: Linda Jackson, Department Director 

Date: September 11, 2018

RE: INCLEMENT WEATHER CLOSURE OF DFS EASTERN LABORATORY BUILDING (INCLUDES OCME)

Beginning at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 12, the Department of Forensic Science Eastern Laboratory, located at 830 Southampton Avenue, Norfolk, VA will be closed due to impending inclement weather. The laboratory is located in Zone A and is included in Governor Northam's mandatory evacuation. Evidence will not be accepted or returned during this closure.

The Eastern Laboratory will remain closed on Thursday and Friday, September 13 and 14, 2018. Another notice will be distributed when the building is able to reopen.

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME), Eastern District, which is located in the Eastern Laboratory will also be closed. On Wednesday, September 12, the OCME will start diverting cases that would normally be handled by the Tidewater OCME to the Central OCME, which is located in Richmond, VA. If decedents cannot be safely transported to the Central OCME, then they ask that you work with the appropriate officials to have the decedents stored at a local facility until the Tidewater OCME can reopen. During this time, your employees will still be able to contact the Tidewater OCME at (757) 683-8366. If at any time your staff cannot reach anyone, please have them to contact the Central OCME at (804) 786-3174.

For DFS related questions, please contact Susan Stanitski, Eastern Laboratory Director, at (757) 355-5914 or (757) 567-7913.