NOTICE OF DFS POLICY CHANGE

To: All Agencies Served by DFS

From: Linda C. Jackson, Department Director

Date: July 20, 2021

RE: **New Digital & Multimedia Mobile Device Capabilities**

The Virginia Department of Forensic Science's Digital & Multimedia Evidence (DME) Section is pleased to announce the addition of new *Android* device acquisition capabilities. DME now has several options for providing security measure identification/bypass and enhanced data extraction services for the latest *Android* devices, operating system versions, and security mechanisms. We also continue to have the ability to provide these services for several *Apple* device models and *iOS* versions.

In order to be able to expedite these services for our user agencies, we will be utilizing a tiered examination approach.

For user agencies with mobile device data analysis capabilities, we will:

- Identify the passcode on the device (when available);
- Provide a physical, full or partial file system, memory (when applicable/available), and keychain (when applicable/available) extractions of the device.

For user agencies with limited or no mobile device data analysis capabilities, or the analysis is deemed necessary (e.g., beyond the capabilities of the submitting agency), we will additionally:

- Analyze the acquired data for requested information.

If it is determined that the passcode identification process will take more than three months, the process may be terminated by DFS and the device returned to the submitting agency in its secured state. However, any data (i.e., partial file system extraction) that is accessible while the device is secured will be provided.

Please contact DME Section Supervisor Jesse Lindmar at (804) 588-4128 with questions or to discuss the re-submission of mobile devices that previously could not be examined or other extenuating circumstances.