

Basic Services Provided by Crime Laboratories

Physical Science Unit

The physical science unit applies principles and techniques of chemistry, physics, and geology to the identification and comparison of crimescene evidence (such as drugs, glass, paint, explosives, and soil).



Biology Unit

The biology unit deals in the identification and grouping of dried bloodstains and other body fluids, comparison of hair and fiber, and the identification and comparison of botanical materials (such as wood and plants).



Firearms Unit

The examination of firearms, discharged bullets, cartridge cases, shotgun shells, and ammunition of all types is conducted by the firearms unit. Garments and other objects are also examined in order to detect firearm discharge residues and to approximate the distance from a target at which a weapon was fired.



Photography Unit

A complete photographic laboratory is maintained by the photography unit to examine and record physical evidence.