



“Overview of Missing Persons Program & Fillable DNA Submission Forms”

The State Medical Examiner Division provides law enforcement personnel and families of missing persons the tools to actively and successfully search for missing Oregonians. Our Medical Examiner system is now partnered with the University of North Texas Center for Human Identification to supply leads from DNA analysis, performed at no cost to law enforcement agencies or families of missing persons.

Family Reference Samples and ***Direct Reference Samples*** provide biological material for DNA analysis. When successfully completed, the DNA profiles created are entered into a national system (CODIS) that allows federal, state, and local crime laboratories and Medical Examiner’s Offices to electronically exchange and compare DNA profiles. These comparisons may ultimately lead to a DNA match and thus give closure to a family searching for a missing loved one.

Here is a description of the biological samples needed in order to facilitate DNA analysis on missing persons cases, and the accompanying required forms.

FAMILY REFERENCE SAMPLES (FRS): biological samples (oral swabs, blood cards) from biological relatives of the missing person. Female biological relatives are highly effective for DNA analysis (mitochondrial), but any sample from a biological relative is sufficient. This form is for LAW ENFORCEMENT and FAMILIES:

- Download required submission form for Family Reference Samples

http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SME/docs/NEW_CombinedFRS_5p_Fillable2.pdf

DIRECT REFERENCE SAMPLE (DRS): any article associated with the missing person that may contain biological material, i.e. toothbrush, hairbrush with hair, blood sample, or hospital sample (past biopsies, pap smears, etc.)

- Download required submission form for Direct Reference Samples

http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SME/docs/DRS_UHfillableform.pdf

If you need additional information, please click on the link for the University of North Texas Center for Human ID. This site provides assistance for relatives of missing persons, medical examiners and law enforcement agencies, as well as contact information.

<http://www.unthumanid.org/Forensics/Initiative/Collection.cfm>