







Central (Richmond)

Northern (Manassas)

Eastern (Norfolk)

Western (Roanoke)

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

Linda C. Jackson, Director Massachusetts Forensic Science Oversight Board Summit October 14, 2022



VA Department of Forensic Science



- Accredited state laboratory system
 - 1 calibration (breath alcohol) and 4 testing labs
 - For most disciplines, DFS is the sole provider of forensic services in VA
- Created via legislation as independent agency in 1972 within Division of Consolidated Laboratories, then moved under the Department of Criminal Justice Services (1996)
- Elevated to Department status in 2005 with the Secretariat of Public Safety and Homeland Security
- Oversight by Policy Board (Forensic Science Board) and Advisory Board (Scientific Advisory Committee) beginning 2005
- Forensic Science Academy created in 1974



DFS Overview

Forensic Services

- Breath Alcohol
- Controlled Substances
- Digital & Multimedia Evidence
- Firearms & Toolmarks
- Forensic Biology (nuclear, YSTR, mitochondrial, Data Bank, familial searching)
- Latent Prints & Impressions
- Toxicology
- Trace Evidence

Agency Snapshot

Cases Received in FY22	49,701
Total Budget for FY23	\$59,127,378
Total Classified Positions	355

Agency Values

Quality, Integrity, Impartiality, Diversity, and Resilience