



CODIS is comprised of:

- LDIS = local database
- SDIS = state database
 - FL statute 943.325, convicted persons and arrestees
 - most hits happen at state level
- NDIS = national database
 - ~17 million profiles
 - ~13 million offender profiles
 - ~3 million arrestee profiles
 - ~800,000 forensic (unknown) profiles

DNA Profiles

- Stay in CODIS unless manually removed
 - E.G. – Sexual assault where the victim had consensual sex with partner the day of the incident to several days before the incident. Unknown profile(s) from the examination go into CODIS. Known standards are later obtained from victim's partner and compared to the unknown profiles. One profile belongs to the partner. That profile is removed from CODIS, while the remaining unknown stays in CODIS.
 - Side note: An agency has 30 days to transfer sexual assault kits to the lab for processing, unless extenuating circumstances exist, or the case is determined to be unfounded by agency personnel. The lab has a maximum of 120 days to analyze the kits.
 - E.G. – Profile from item collected from a recovered stolen vehicle is entered. Victim's standards are obtained later and sent for analysis. Profile from item belongs to the victim. That profile is removed from CODIS.
 - It's possible to get sealed//expunged profiles out of CODIS, however they have to go through the court system to do so.

CODIS Eligibility

1. Is there documentation to indicate that a crime has been committed?
2. Was the profile developed from biological material from the crime scene?
 - a. Small differences in details make a difference
 - b. If a K9 tracks to items, you must articulate that
3. Is the profile attributable to a perpetrator?
 - a. DNA from anyone other than the suspect is NOT allowed to be entered into CODIS
 - b. Elimination standards may be required to verify that developed profile is not theirs
 - c. Not all profiles probative to the case are eligible for upload into CODIS
 - i. An item can be processed for the victim's DNA for probative knowledge, but will not be entered into CODIS (E.G. – if the victim's blood is on a sweatshirt suspected to be worn by the suspect, or the sweatshirt is taken off of the suspect)
 - d. *Some* deceased victim's profiles can be entered if *they* are suspected of crimes
4. Was the item collected by LEO from the suspect's person, or was in the possession of the suspect when collected?
 - a. If the suspect's profile could *reasonably* have been suspected to be on any item that is at the crime scene, or is part of the crime scene independent of the crime, then it will probably not be CODIS eligible

- b. Weapons//drugs//anything taken from the suspect or their home//apartment//vehicle//etc. are not eligible for CODIS entry
 - c. However, the items may be able to be analyzed for DNA and compared directly to their profile
 - i. Must submit known standards for suspect, or
 - ii. Cross-reference case with known profile of suspect
 - 1. In order to testify in court, the examiner *must* personally work a standard from the suspect, so we will eventually need the suspect's buccal swabs
5. Case example
- a. A cigarette butt collected from the floor of a recovered stolen vehicle, where the victim//owner of the vehicles states they do not smoke or that the cigarette butt isn't theirs
 - i. If the suspect is arrested from the vehicle, even if he fled and was captured shortly after, the DNA is not CODIS eligible
 - 1. Unknown profile can be compared to the suspect's known standards, even though it isn't CODIS eligible
 - 2. If the unknown profile does not match the suspect, and the victim is positive it isn't theirs, it might be CODIS eligible
 - ii. If person fled from the vehicle and was *not* captured, then DNA is CODIS eligible (provided there are no other extenuating circumstances)
6. There is a \$250,000 fine for the lab if a profile other than the suspect's is entered into CODIS and kept there, knowing that the profile does not belong to the suspect (E.G. – not removing a profile that is now known to belong to the victim, or another innocent person)

CODIS Misunderstandings

- Myth 1: If the suspect is listed, the evidence is not eligible for CODIS
 - Truth: As long as the above questions are answered, they don't care if there's a suspect name or not
- Myth 2: Because something is not CODIS eligible, the lab will not work it
 - Truth: Lab will work it to get a profile, but it's useless without suspect standards
 - If an item is not CODIS eligible, it's better to wait until you have suspect standards before sending anything to the lab, if a suspect is known
- Myth 3: "My guy is in the system, so you can pull his profile"
 - Truth: NO ONE can search CODIS by name, date of birth, or social security number
 - No names are in CODIS, just identifying numbers
 - Cannot pull profiles from other agencies unless their samples are in CODIS, and your sample is CODIS eligible

*****It's **FASTER** if suspect standards are submitted at the same time as the item. Then only one report is issued, instead of one report for getting the profile and entering it into CODIS, one report for a hit conformation in CODIS, and another report once the standards are obtained, sent to the lab, analyzed, and compare to the original unknown profile for confirmation. Get victim swabs at the time of the incident too!!*****

There is an FDLE lab that only does CODIS entry of state-obtained standards, so the backlog is minimal. FDLE Orlando has ~27 analysts in the Biology Section for forensic analysis.

When analyzed, 21 loci (areas) of the DNA are looked at, including 13 "original" loci. In order for the profile to be CODIS eligible, the sample must have at least 8 of the original 13 loci for local and state entry, as well as a good "moderate match estimation", which is the "1 in _____" statistic included in the lab report. Labs are transitioning to using more of the 21 loci for identification, not just the original 13, but is not yet in effect.