



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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FORENSIC SERVICES LABORATORY CUSTOMER NOTICE 2017-06

REGARDING DNA STATISTICAL DATA September 5, 2017

The SLED Forensic Services Laboratory has been notified of recent amendments made by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to the published genotypes and allele frequencies reported for 1036 U.S. population samples. The revised allele frequency data sets are available for viewing on STRbase at <http://strbase.nist.gov/NISTpop.htm>. **This updated information does not affect the determination of a match, but may affect the statistic associated with the match.**

In summary, it was found that the population data published in 2013 by NIST contained incorrect allelic frequencies and as a result, NIST has amended the data. The revisions only affected 12 separate samples in the 1036 sample data set. Evaluations performed by both NIST and the SLED DNA Casework Department have revealed that differences between statistics calculated using the original frequency values and the corrected frequency values are minimal. Statistics generated vary on a case by case basis with some frequencies increasing in rarity, while others decrease.

Reports issued on or after September 5, 2017 will use the most current population database information for statistical calculations. For reports issued prior to September 5, 2017 on pending criminal cases, the DNA Casework Department will recalculate the statistics and issue a supplemental report as needed upon proper request. On all other cases, SLED will exercise discretion and issue a supplemental report with recalculated statistics when deemed necessary. Please direct any questions on this matter to sleddna@sled.sc.gov.



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