

# A GUIDE TO CODIS ELIGIBILITY



# General CODIS Principles

- Analyst reviews details in case documentation. If it is not a clear a crime has been committed, the DNA profile/s **cannot** be entered into CODIS.
  - **EXAMPLE: A suspect puts out a cigarette in a restaurant ashtray. If the suspect has not committed a crime while in the restaurant, that cigarette is not eligible for CODIS entry.**
- A DNA profile taken from evidence not directly linked to a crime scene or victim, or where the connection is ambiguous, is **not eligible** for CODIS.
  - **EXAMPLES:**
    1. **Clothing found a mile from a crime scene.**
    2. **Contact swabs from a bank robbery without elimination swabs of the bank's employees.**
    3. **Contact swabs from a victim's stolen car without elimination swabs from the owner and/or driver of the vehicle.**
- If the suspect's profile could reasonably have been expected to be on an item at a crime scene OR is part of the crime scene but not linked to the crime, the profile **cannot** be entered into CODIS as an unknown.
  - **EXAMPLES:**
    1. **A weapon taken from a suspect.**
    2. **A toothbrush collected from a suspect's house.**
    3. **A shirt taken from a suspect.**

**\*\* MANY OF THE PROFILES ABOVE CAN BE ELIGIBLE FOR CODIS IF KNOWN REFERENCE SAMPLES ARE COLLECTED.**

- **EXAMPLE: A victim's car is stolen and the vehicle is swabbed for DNA. IF A REFERENCE SAMPLE IS COLLECTED FROM THE VICTIM, AN UNKNOWN PROFILE FROM THE CAR CAN BE ENTERED INTO CODIS BECAUSE WE KNOW IT'S NOT THE VICTIM. WITHOUT THE KNOWN REFERENCE SAMPLE, THE VICTIM CANNOT BE ELIMINATED AND DNA PROFILES CANNOT BE UPLOADED TO CODIS BECAUSE WE CANNOT PUT THE VICTIM'S PROFILE INTO THE DATABASE.**