



U. S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D. C. 20535-0001

August 10, 2026

Subject: FBI Laboratory's Comment Regarding Electronic DNA Data File Security

The FBI Laboratory is aware of a vulnerability to certain DNA data file formats that, under certain conditions and with access to the files, allows for undetectable alterations. While the FBI Laboratory uses the impacted file formats in both its casework and federal databasing operations, FBI DNA data files are generated and stored on a secure file storage system with strict access and networking controls. There is no evidence at this time that any FBI DNA data files have been compromised due to exploitation of the vulnerability, nor does the vulnerability itself inherently undermine the validity of past forensic DNA results. It should also be noted that while each CODIS participating laboratory is responsible for the cybersecurity of its DNA data files, this vulnerability does not affect the CODIS software itself. The FBI Laboratory is in the process of applying a patch provided to address the vulnerability moving forward and will continue to monitor any developments related to this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Eric G. Pokorak". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "P" and a cursive "Pokorak".

Eric G. Pokorak
Assistant Director
FBI Laboratory Division