

## ARIZONA



State legislatures consider and enact laws that address the administration and use of forensic science by state justice systems. Issues addressed in these measures include the delegation of oversight responsibilities for forensic services, accreditation standards for forensic laboratories, access to post-conviction DNA testing, the collection and analysis of DNA samples from arrested and convicted individuals and procedures for eyewitness identification. Following is information on this state's legislative activity on forensic science issues. More information on forensic science policy from all 50 states and the District of Columbia is available on the NCSL [forensic science page](#).

### **Administration of State Forensic Services** .....§§ 41-1771, 2411, 2415, 2418

The state administers its forensic services through the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

### **State Oversight of Forensic Services** ..... §§ 41-2404, 2405

The Criminal Justice Commission is responsible for oversight of forensic services. The commission is required to meet at least once quarterly.

#### ..... **Administrative Action**

The Forensic Science Advisory Committee was established by the Arizona Attorney General in response to a [2007 report](#). The primary purpose of the committee is to measure and standardize forensic science practices and increase transparency in lab operations. The committee is required to meet quarterly.

### **State Studies Addressing Forensic Services**.....SB 1182 (2005)

The Cold Case File Task Force was established in 2005 to compile and disseminate information on best practices for cold case investigations and released a [report](#) on Dec. 28, 2007.

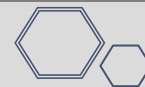
### **Convicted Offender DNA Analysis** .....§ 13-610

People convicted of any felony or sex crime misdemeanor must submit a DNA sample to state officials. Sample collection applies to juveniles.

### **Arrestee DNA Analysis** .....§ 13-610

People arrested for enumerated dangerous, violent and serious offenses (murder, sex crimes, burglary, etc.) and enumerated misdemeanors (indecent exposure, public sexual indecency, etc.) must submit a DNA sample to state officials. The sample is to be collected at booking and expunged upon request. Sample collection applies to juveniles upon being charged.





**Post Conviction DNA Analysis ..... § 13-4240**

The state allows an individual convicted of a felony to apply for post-conviction DNA testing. Their application must raise a reasonable probability that testing will produce exculpatory evidence or that their verdict or sentence would have been more favorable if testing had been conducted previously. Arizona code has specifications for the preservation of biological evidence.

