

Alaska's rate of sexual assault is four times national average, according to latest FBI numbers

By Zachariah Hughes, Alaska Public Media - November 12, 2019

New data from the FBI show that violent crime in Alaska increased last year. Though reports of crime nationally are generally on the decline, by most measures Alaska is bucking that trend. The state also continues to have the highest rate of sexual assault in the nation.

The FBI recently released the latest numbers from its **Uniform Crime Reporting Program**. The figures are collected from law enforcement agencies all around the country, giving a broad picture of crime at the national, **state**, and **even municipal** levels. By several important metrics, Alaska is going in the opposite direction as the rest of the country.

Though violent crime is down 3 percent nation-wide, in Alaska it increased by the same three percentage points from 2017 to 2018. And Alaskans experience violent crimes like murder and assault at more than twice the rate as the average American, 885 per 100,000 in Alaska, versus 380.6 per 100,000 nationally.

It's a similar story with sexual assault. Alaska saw an 11 percent increase in the number of sexual assaults reported to law enforcement, much higher than the 2.7 percent uptick nationally. But the rate at which Alaskans report sexual assaults is nearly four times as high as the U.S. as a whole: 161.6 per 100,000, compared to 42.6 nationally.

In contrast, the number of murders fell significantly by 24 percent in the state, from 62 in 2017 to 47 in 2018, more than half of which, 26, occurred in Anchorage. At 6.4 percent, Alaska's homicide rate is still above the national average of 5 percent, but lower than several other states.

And in Alaska, reports of property crime fell by 7.1 percent, not dramatically different from declines nationally in crimes like burglary and car-theft, 6.3 percent.

According to the FBI, state law enforcement agencies reported seven separate incidents of hate crimes in Alaska during 2018. Four of those were based on a bias against the victim's race or ethnicity, and were reported in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Kotzebue. Two incidents in Juneau centered on religion, and another report of bias over a person's disability status in Fairbanks was also cited by the Bureau. That's an increase over 2017, which saw just four reports of hate crimes, but lower than the 11 logged by law enforcement agencies in 2016 in Alaska.



A police crime lab and Anchorage Police Department officers investigating a homicide in 2016. (Photo: Zachariah Hughes, Alaska Public Media - Anchorage)

Zachariah Hughes, Alaska Public Media

Zachariah Hughes reports on city & state politics, arts & culture, drugs, and military affairs in Anchorage and South Central Alaska. zhughes [at] alaskapublic (dot) org | 907.550.8424 | @ZachHughesAK [About Zachariah](#)





February 6, 2020

The Honorable Senator Gray-Jackson
Alaska State Senate

Dear Senator Gray-Jackson:

On behalf of the Alaska Peace Officers Association (APOA), I am writing to convey our support of SB133, "An Act relating to testing of sexual assault examination kits; and providing for an effective date."

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of victims of sexual assault. The APOA also supports companion bill HB182. Valuable information obtained from the processing of the biological evidence will assist in the identification of sexual assault suspects. Many sexual assault examination kits may not be needed for evidence in court proceedings, but the DNA evidence obtained could be vital to solving other cases. Processing these kits and getting the information entered into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) is vital to the identification and apprehension of sex offenders. Please contact the APOA office in Anchorage at 277-0515 if there is anything our organization can do to help with the passage of this bill. Thank you for your commitment and dedication to our state.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Pearson
State President
Alaska Peace Officers Association

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About APOA

The Alaska Peace Officers Association (APOA) is a dynamic, professional and non-partisan organization. Our membership consists of law enforcement, corrections, prosecutors, security professionals and others at the local, state and federal levels. APOA has served as a voice for peace officers and issues impacting the law enforcement profession for over half a century. We are one of the oldest and largest 501c(3) charitable, nonprofit organizations in Alaska. www.apoaonline.org

Why Testing Rape Kits Matters

Rape kit testing sends a message to survivors that they—and their cases—matter. It sends a message to perpetrators that they will be held accountable for their crimes. It also demonstrates a commitment to survivors to do everything possible to bring healing and justice.

"Finally, my nightmares have stopped almost altogether. I have a sense of security that I haven't felt in over a decade. My home is my own. My family is safe."

- Survivor, speaking about getting the results of an analysis of her rape kit after 13 years

Jurisdictions across the country have begun to witness the benefits of testing every rape kit. When tested, rape kit evidence can identify an unknown assailant, link crimes together, and identify serial offenders. It can also confirm the presence of a known suspect, affirm the survivor's account of the attack, discredit the suspect, and exonerate the innocent. Testing rape kits also saves communities millions of dollars.

Many communities' rape kit testing efforts are taking violent offenders off the streets—many whom have escaped justice for decades—and improving public safety. **Detroit's** initiative to test all 11,341 kits in its storage facilities has resulted in 2,616 matches made on the DNA database, identifying 824 potential serial rapists who have committed crimes in 40 states and Washington, D.C.

TEST RAPE KITS. STOP SERIAL RAPISTS.

But not only does testing rape kits make communities safer, it also saves them millions of dollars. According to a study from the [Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Education](#) at Case Western Reserve University, the Cleveland backlog testing program has saved the community a net total of \$38.7 million dollars, or \$8,893 per tested sexual assault kit.

WHAT IS IT?

Why Does The Backlog Exist

WHERE IS IT?

The Accountability Project

Why Accountability?

Our Process

Our Partners

WHY IS RAPE KIT TESTING IMPORTANT?

Testing Rape Kits Stops Serial Rapists

WHY TEST ALL KITS?

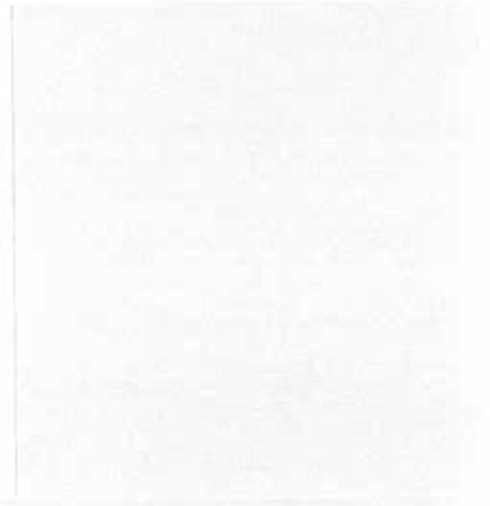
What Can I Do?



SUPPORT
OUR EFFORTS

"Testing is the first step in bringing justice to long neglected victims. The next important steps are investigation and prosecution. People should be aware that these kits contain valuable evidence that can assist law enforcement in preventing future rapes, robberies, home invasions and even homicides."

- Kym Worthy, Wayne County (Michigan) Prosecutor



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ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

She leapt from a van on the Kenai Peninsula to escape her rapist. Then she waited 18 years for an arrest.

Anna Sattler's rape kit sat untested for almost 20 years as Alaska's backlog got worse. Now, an ex-Iditarod musher faces charges, and she's speaking publicly about the attack for the first time.

✍ Author: Kyle Hopkins 📅 Published September 6, 2019

This article was produced in partnership with ProPublica as part of the ProPublica Local Reporting Network, and is part of a continuing series, [Lawless: Sexual violence in Alaska](#).

She met him at a bar on a windless January night. Anna Sattler, 30 years old at the time, was wrapping up a girls' night out when she got into an argument with friends and found herself without a designated driver. When this kindly stranger appeared, offering to drive her home, she accepted.

"The intention was never to pick anybody up. I was looking for a ride," said Sattler, who had grown up in the close-knit Yup'ik communities of Western Alaska and was still learning to navigate life on the urban road system. The man seemed so nice, she remembers. Until she started saying no.

Sattler says the man parked along a dark stretch of highway on the Kenai Peninsula. There, he raped her, dragging her back to his van again and again when she tried to escape and scrambled for the woods. Afterward, as he began driving again, he asked her if anyone knew where she was. Would anyone miss her?

Sattler opened the door and tumbled from the moving vehicle. "If I was going to die that night, I was going to die by my own hands," she said.

That was 18 years ago.

Like countless other reports of sexual assault in Alaska, the case soon went cold. Sattler told a state trooper what had happened and a nurse swabbed her body for DNA samples. In the months and years after the attack, she said, no one seemed to believe her.

"I'm someone's auntie. I'm someone's mom. I'm someone's sister," she said in a recent interview. "We are humans. We desire to have justice."

Sattler gave up hoping he would ever be caught. Until now.

The Alaska State Troopers on Thursday announced that rape and kidnapping charges had been filed in the case against 57-year-old Carmen D. Perzechino Jr. A former dog musher who competed in the 2004 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, Perzechino was a longtime Sterling resident whom the U.S. Marshals Service extradited from the Philippines to face the new charges.

Perzechino has denied committing the crime. He could not be reached for comment.

[Read more in the 'Lawless' series]

Sattler says she can't remember hearing much, if anything, from troopers after first reporting the rape. A troopers spokeswoman described the 2001 investigation as thorough and said it included witness interviews, seizure of surveillance video and other efforts. There is nothing in trooper records that indicate why the DNA evidence was not earlier submitted for testing, she said.

Over nearly two decades, Sattler had never stopped looking over her shoulder: The man had her driver's license and purse, left behind when she jumped from the van.

Sattler said she wants her story to be publicly known as part of an ongoing investigation by the Anchorage Daily News and ProPublica into sexual violence in Alaska. She is one of nearly 300 Alaska survivors who have come forward to share their experiences from all corners of the state.

Her assault raises questions about the Alaska State Troopers' efforts to find a suspect when she first reported the attack, and delays in processing DNA evidence that might have solved cold cases years earlier. It also hints at a new reckoning for perpetrators. Men who escaped arrest for decades are now being caught in a net of new evidence testing as police departments dust off old rape kits and cold-case investigators capitalize on advances in DNA testing and genetic genealogy.

According to the indictment filed March 13 in state court in Kenai, but not made public until Thursday, troopers submitted evidence from Sattler's sexual assault examination for testing in 2018 under a project to reduce Alaska's mountain of more than 3,000 unprocessed rape kits. As of June 1, 568 previously untested rape kits collected by troopers, including the evidence in this case, had been processed by a private lab under a federally funded portion of the project.

Troopers say Perzechino is the first person to be charged with rape in an Alaska case as a result of the newly tested evidence and follow-up investigations.

Perzechino had recently sought to open a marijuana retail business. Investigators contacted him in January to talk about the 2001 attack, according to the charges. Two weeks later he bought roundtrip tickets to the Philippines and skipped the return flight, a state prosecutor said Friday.

Perzechino denied the assault and said he did not engage in any sexual activity with Sattler, the charges say.

[We've heard from nearly 300 survivors of sexual assault in Alaska. But there are more of you we'd like to reach.]

Sattler, who said she was also sexually abused as a child by a relative, said she is sharing her story publicly now to support other survivors and fuel a conversation about rape in Alaska. The state's rate of sex crimes is nearly three times the U.S. average. This year, the Daily News and ProPublica have been reporting how gaps in law enforcement leave many communities unprotected.

"None of this stuff is my fault," she said. "We have to start saying something."

"You're Going to Die Today"

Here is what happened the night of the attack, according to Sattler's recollection and a detailed account filed in state court by prosecutors.

On Jan. 19, 2001, Sattler traveled from her home in Anchorage to Soldotna, about 145 miles away on the highway, where she and friends went barhopping. The group split up and Sattler began talking to a man later identified by prosecutors as Perzechino.

Perzechino offered to give Sattler a ride, the charges say, and she accepted. They climbed into a vehicle that Sattler later described to troopers as a white or light-colored van with bucket seats.

The body of the van had no windows, Sattler noticed as they traveled the highway. She began to feel uneasy.

"After the male (Perzechino) had been driving for awhile, he began to tell (Sattler) that he wanted to have sex with her and began talking sexually aggressive to her," prosecutors wrote in charging documents. "(Sattler) told him no, and that she wanted to go back to the bar."

Sattler said Perzechino's demeanor changed. He told her he was going to have sex with her, she said. He wasn't asking.

Perzechino parked in a wooded area, Sattler said. It might have been along the highway, or a back road. "I was so disoriented. I didn't know my way around back then."

No cars passed. She saw no house lights.

"When I attempted to run away from his parked vehicle, he would tackle me and drag me back," Sattler said. She remembers feeling the sting of ice on the ground after each tackle. Perzechino took her back to the van, pulled down her pants and raped her, she said. He told her, "You asked for this."

Eventually they returned to the road, Perzechino talking as he drove. The charges say he told Sattler she was "pathetic" and threatened to kill her.

Sattler says she believed him. "He said, 'You're going to die today.'"

She pretended to be in shock, leaning her head against the cool window. Lying motionless. If she jumped from the van, would her legs be injured, she wondered. Could she run? She said, "I wanted to make myself as small as possible so I can figure out what he was going to do next, and I could counter that."

The van had traveled about two miles when Sattler saw the lights of a state Department of Transportation truck.

“As we passed the DOT truck, I turned and looked at (Perzechino),” she said. The two made eye contact.

Without a word, Sattler opened the passenger door of the van and rolled, spilling out onto the highway, she said.

The state transportation employee, who had been working to place a road sign, heard the squealing of brakes. According to the charges, he looked up and saw Sattler “rolling in the road” as a van sped away.

“He’s going to kill me!” Sattler yelled. She asked the DOT driver to follow the van.

“I had wanted to figure out who he was,” she said. After a short, failed chase attempt, the DOT worker took Sattler to troopers, who began a sexual assault exam. The investigator seemed uninterested, Sattler said. She believes troopers could have done more.

“I knew that they wouldn’t actively search for him,” she said.

The charges say troopers tried to identify the white van by looking for similar vehicles in the area.

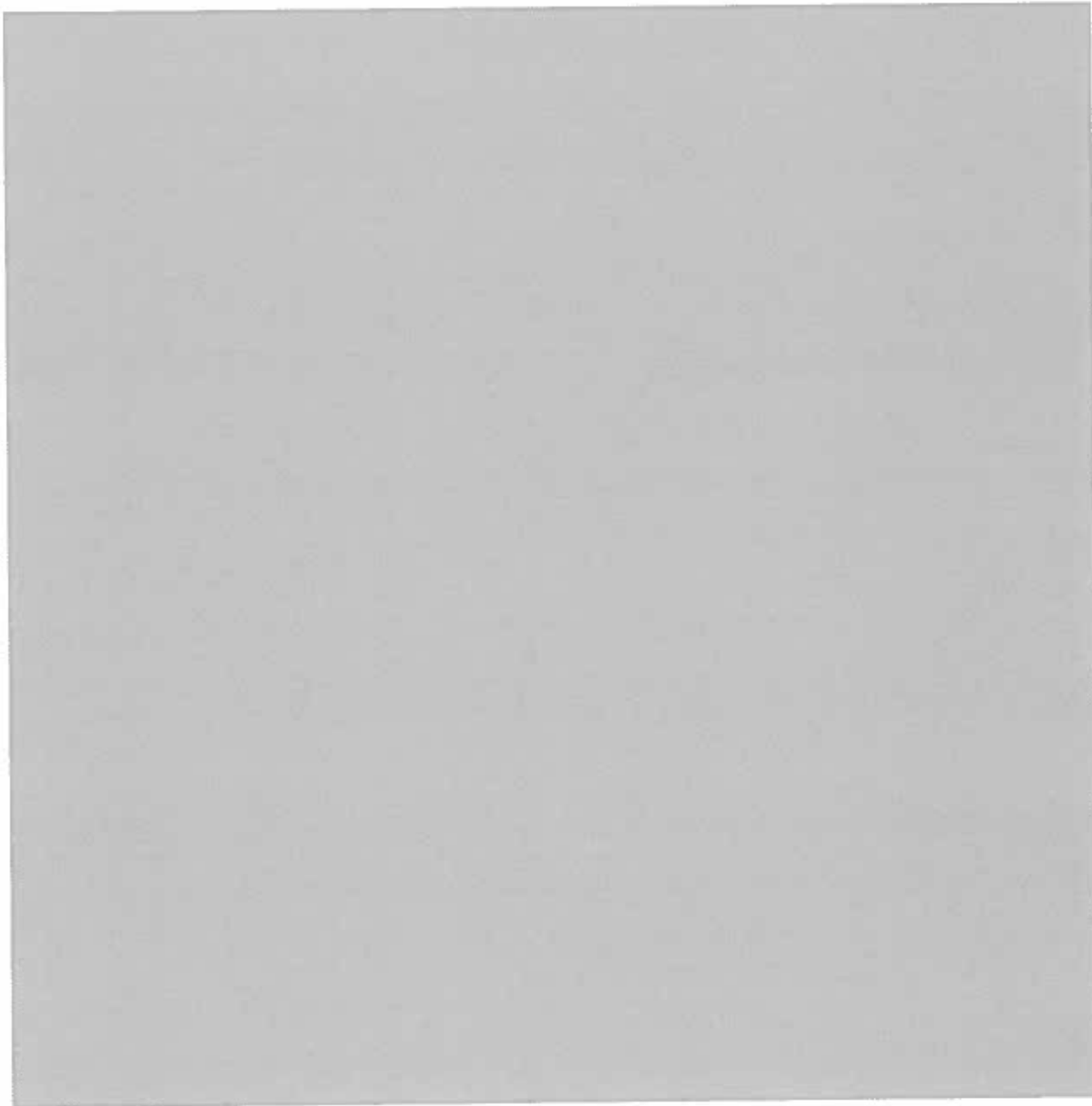
“Unfortunately, it was a popular vehicle ... and (the trooper) was unable to develop a lead through this process,” trooper spokeswoman Megan Peters wrote in response to questions about the investigation. The Department of Public Safety “takes all reports of sexual assault seriously and strives to investigate each case to the highest of professional standards.”

But by January 2002, a year after the attack, the state closed the case because of a lack of leads.

“He did more talking than running dogs”

Perzechino, meantime, was making a life for himself in Alaska.

A short profile published on the Iditarod website says he had come to the state in 1996 from New Hampshire, where he owned a mechanical installation company. In 1999, he pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor domestic violence assault charge and filed for bankruptcy the following year.



In March, Carmen D. Perzechino Jr. was indicted for the 2001 rape and kidnapping of Anna Sattler. Alaska State Troopers submitted evidence from Sattler's sexual assault examination for testing in 2018 under a project to reduce Alaska's mountain of more than 3,000 unprocessed rape kits. (Marc Lester / Anchorage Daily News)

By the winter of 2001, Perzechino was competing in sled dog races, entering short Eagle River contests and finishing second to Lance Mackey in the Chugiak 50. Perzechino ran the Tustumena 200 and Copper Basin 300 before entering the Iditarod as a rookie.

"I've been a nervous wreck for the last two to three weeks," he told a Daily News sports reporter on the day of the race. He didn't finish the 1,000-mile competition, scratching about a third of the way through. He never entered again.

"Seemed like he did more talking than running dogs," said longtime Kenai Peninsula musher and former Iditarod champion Dean Osmar, who remembered Perzechino as an occasional presence in the area mushing scene.

"He was sort of around the fringes of it. He was buying dogs," Osmar said.

[DNA evidence: Oregon man arrested, charged with teen's murder in 41-year-old Anchorage cold case]

A few weeks after the Iditarod, his wife wrote a request for a protective order saying Perzechino threatened to shoot their sled dogs after she withdrew money from a joint savings account. Among the family possessions, the filing noted, was a 1998 Ford van. It is unclear from online court records if Perzechino responded to the accusations; Kenai courthouse filings show a judge or magistrate granted the protective order.

In 2005, the couple began divorce proceedings, public records show. (His ex-wife did not respond to interview requests.) That year two women filed requests, one in Kenai and one in Anchorage state court, asking that domestic violence protective orders be placed against Perzechino.

One of the women described herself as an ex-girlfriend. She wrote that Perzechino told her he would “never let me go” and had vowed to slice a tattoo from his skin and mail it to her. “He said he needs to beat someone up and it might as well be me,” she wrote.

In 2009, Perzechino pleaded guilty to a charge of misconduct involving a controlled substance. A trooper smelled marijuana during a traffic stop and seized his truck. Three years later he was visiting Anchorage when he saw a woman and yelled to her from his car. He had \$20 to spend, he said.

The woman told him to pull into a parking lot and they agreed to trade money for sex, according to criminal charges filed by the city of Anchorage. The woman turned out to be an undercover police officer, and Perzechino pleaded no contest to a charge of soliciting prostitution. A magistrate ordered him to pay a \$1,000 fine and serve three years of probation.

More recently, Perzechino attempted to launch a retail marijuana business, according to Marijuana Control Board records. Regulators denied the application, citing prior violations at the address.

There is no indication Perzechino was considered a sexual assault suspect prior to 2018, when the state announced an effort to reduce the backlog of untested rape kits across the state. Some of the testing, for evidence gathered by dozens of police departments, would be paid for with a one-time appropriation from the state Legislature. Testing of evidence from trooper investigations was funded with a \$1.5 million federal grant.

Under the federally supported effort, troopers submitted DNA swabs collected from Sattler in 2001. It matched a known profile for Perzechino, according to the charges.

It's unclear how and when Perzechino's DNA came to be included in the national database, known as the Combined DNA Index System, or CODIS.

In January, an investigator with the Alaska State Troopers, Mike Burkmire, called Perzechino and asked him about the sexual assault reported all those years earlier by Sattler. Perzechino told the detective he did not go out to bars at the time and said he did not drink. He was married back then, he said, and “never had sex with anyone he picked up from a bar and that no female had ever jumped out of his van while it was moving.”

Perzechino could not explain why his DNA matched evidence collected in the case, the charges say.

Sattler had told investigators the man who attacked her was 5-foot-8 to 5-foot-10 and about 190 pounds. Perzechino is 5-foot-10 and currently 225 pounds. When the cold-case investigator searched vehicle records, he found Perzechino had owned a full-sized silver van in 2001, similar to the vehicle Sattler described to police and witnessed by the state transportation worker who drove her to safety.

A grand jury handed up the indictment on rape and kidnapping charges in March, with a Superior Court judge in Kenai issuing a warrant for Perzechino's arrest.

"People like him are not welcome in our country"

On April 4, members of the Philippine Bureau of Immigration's Fugitive Search Unit found Perzechino in an apartment in Angeles City, in the province of Pampanga, and took him into custody at the request of the U.S. Embassy, according to a state-run news agency.

"People like him are not welcome in our country. If he did that in the U.S., then there is a possibility that he might commit the same crime in the Philippines," Immigration Commissioner Jaime Morente of the Philippines said at the time. "Criminals like him ought to be barred from ever setting foot in our country."

The Philippine News Agency reported that Perzechino was to be held at an immigration facility in Camp Bagong Diwa in Taguig pending a deportation order. Troopers say he was extradited to the U.S. in August and is expected to face the charges in Alaska state courts.

The Daily News attempted to reach Perzechino, family members or an attorney representing him via several email addresses and phone numbers that he had listed in public records. One such email received a reply.

It said, in part: "Carmen has not been convicted of a crime. ... I do not communicate with Carmen and have no information as to his circumstance." The sender did not respond to requests for additional information or explain his or her relationship to Perzechino.

At his first Alaska court appearance on the charges Friday, Perzechino asked Kenai Superior Court Judge Jennifer Wells that he be released on bail. He only lives 20 minutes from the courthouse, he said, and he promised not to leave.

Wells, who said Perzechino faces 20 to 99 years in prison if convicted, wasn't buying it.

"It looks bad, that the troopers talked to you and you went to the Philippines," she said, setting bail amounts at \$550,000.

Sattler had learned Perzechino's name this year when called by investigators and said she never stopped worrying about encountering the man who raped her. She's grateful for the new effort to test rape kits and to prosecute cold cases.

She also hopes to start a conversation about sexual assault in Alaska. It was a scary step to go public with her story, she said. At the time of the attack, she kept it to herself and she knows other Alaska women who carry similar wounds.

“I want to hold everybody’s hand who has been through something like this,” she said. “It’s not easy, but I have enough strength to go through this and I have enough to carry people through this with me. But I can’t do it alone.”

The Anchorage Daily News and ProPublica are spending the year investigating sexual violence in urban and rural Alaska. Here’s how you can stay in touch with us:

- Get updates
- Share your story in our questionnaire
- Reach out to the reporting team anytime: alaska@propublica.org

About this author

Kyle Hopkins

Kyle Hopkins is special projects editor of the Anchorage Daily News. Through 2020, he is working with ProPublica on a project as part of the Local Reporting Network, and is a recipient of the Online News Association / Google News Initiative Journalism 360 Challenge. Contact him at khopkins@adn.com.



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ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

Crime & Courts

**For more than 20 years these rape kits sat on the shelves.
That's about to change.**

✍ Author: Kyle Hopkins ⌚ Updated: November 3, 2018 📅 Published November 3, 2018



The State of Alaska's Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory, photographed on Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2017. (Loren Holmes / Alaska Dispatch News)

The state has identified about 2,600 rape kits that could help solve crimes but were never tested for DNA results, including some that sat on police department shelves for more than 20 years.

The Department of Public Safety described the findings in a report to the Legislature on Thursday, outlining plans to systematically test the kits over the next several years. The goal: Solve cold cases and arrest rapists in a state with the nation's highest rates of sexual assault.

The kits in question were never submitted for testing. The Anchorage-based Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory also found a backlog of 219 sexual assault kits police submitted for analysis but that have remained untouched for as long as 10 months.

Each kit represents a potential victim, usually a woman or child, who endured invasive swabs and questionnaires following a suspected sexual assault. But sometimes the paperwork and DNA evidence never made it out of a cardboard box for testing.

[Decades' worth of rape kits are finally being tested, but no one can agree on what to do next]

As the failure to analyze rape kits became a public safety concern across the country, the Alaska Legislature passed a law in 2018 requiring an annual audit of untested kits and mandating sexual assault training for police. On Friday, crime lab officials spoke with reporters about their plan to tackle the untested kits and to prevent future backlogs.

The kits flagged for testing over the next two to four years are those that include evidence taken from victims that is considered scientifically viable for analysis.

Department of Public Safety officials said the effort will be paid for by a \$1.5 million federal grant and a one-time \$2.75 million appropriation from the Alaska Legislature. The new analysis could identify suspects, lead to prosecution of serial rapists and strengthen a national DNA database of offenders. But it might also require detectives and prosecutors, already grappling with high crime rates, to handle larger workloads.

In some cases, evidence collected in Alaska sexual assault investigations is processed right away. DNA found during the investigation into the rape and killing of 10-year-old Ashley Johnson-Barr, in Kotzebue, was analyzed by a multi-person team working around the clock, said Michelle Collins, a supervisor in the crime lab's forensic biology unit.

Within a day, the team had matched the DNA on the victim to samples taken from suspect Peter Wilson. (The Department of Public Safety and Department of Law have declined to say whether Wilson's DNA was found to match any unsolved sexual assault cases in Alaska. The Daily News has spoken to two women who say Wilson assaulted them when they were children.)

But every year, as many as 120 rape kits are never submitted for processing by the crime lab. Many of the untested kits in Alaska involve cases in which there is no question that sexual contact occurred between a potential suspect and victim, and the case instead hinges on whether the encounter was consensual, Collins said.

For example, in a case in which a woman says a man raped her while she was incapacitated, and the man says the sex was consensual, a rape kit might not have been processed for DNA evidence. In that case, investigators focused on proving sexual contact occurred without consent.

But imagine that same suspect's DNA was taken from the rape kit and entered into law enforcement databases. The man's DNA might later be linked to other, unsolved rape cases, or to a string of attacks on incapacitated victims. That's where comprehensive testing could lead to more prosecutions.

"They may reveal patterns, solve cold cases and lead to new indictments," the Public Safety Department wrote to lawmakers.

The \$1.5 million in federal money will pay for testing of 577 kits collected by the Alaska State Troopers. That process is ongoing, with DNA results received for 340 kits so far and the remaining results expected by March, according to the department's report to the Legislature.

The money is also meant to help the state develop new policies to prevent future backlogs and to pay the salary of a cold case investigator.

The \$2.75 million from the state will be used to begin testing kits held by 47 police departments across Alaska. More than half were collected by the Anchorage Police Department. A private lab will assist in that analysis, which is expected to take three to four years.

Josh Nolder, captain of detectives for APD, said the untested Anchorage kits represents about 10 percent of sexual assault cases handled by the department over the past 25 years. In some cases, kits were not tested because DNA evidence was not deemed necessary for prosecution or conviction.

All untested kits submitted by smaller police departments will be tested, the report says. The Anchorage Police Department kits will be analyzed in batches and are expected to require "an increase in follow-up investigative and prosecutorial workloads" for Anchorage police and prosecutors, according to the state report.

The report notes that the federal and state funding will help Alaska law enforcement catch up on unsubmitted rape kits, but the crime lab might not be able to keep up with testing once the money is spent. The report calls for the creation of a sexual assault analysis team, including hiring four scientists, at a cost of about \$700,000 a year.

The state on Friday also announced the launch of a website created to provide updates and data on the effort to address untested kits. That site can be found at dps.alaska.gov/saks.



About this Author

Kyle Hopkins

Kyle Hopkins is special projects editor of the Anchorage Daily News. Through 2020, he is working with ProPublica on a project as part of the Local Reporting Network, and is a recipient of the Online News Association / Google News Initiative Journalism 360 Challenge. Contact him at khopkins@adn.com.



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November 15, 2019

The Honorable Cathy Giessel
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The Honorable Bryce Edgmon
Speaker of the House
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Subject: 2019 Report on Untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits

Dear President Giessel and Speaker Edgmon,

In accordance with AS 44.41.070, the Department of Public Safety (DPS) has prepared the following report on the results of a statewide inventory of untested sexual assault examination kits (SAKs) taken as evidence by Alaska law enforcement agencies. This report also provides an update on the \$2.75 million capital budget appropriation for sexual assault kit backlog analysis, as well as the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative project, both of which are included as part of DPS' overall plan to address untested SAKs.

The 2019 inventory identified 1,696 untested sexual assault examination kits in the possession of either a law enforcement agency or the Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory; 34 percent less than the number of untested kits identified in the 2018 report (2,568) and 51 percent less than the number of untested kits identified in the 2017 report (3,484). With the passage of legislation such as HB 31 in 2018 and HB 49 in 2019, and the hard work and dedication of the many staff involved in this effort, progress is being made.

Thank you for your continued support as we work to address the inventory of untested sexual assault examination kits to ensure justice is served.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amanda Price".

Amanda Price
Commissioner

2019 Report on Untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits

Updated Inventory of Untested SAKs

On August 8, 2019, DPS contacted each Alaska law enforcement agency regarding the requirement to conduct an annual inventory of untested SAKs in the possession of the law enforcement agency in accordance with AS 44.41.070. Subsequent emails and phone calls were made as needed, and 46 of 47 law enforcement agencies complied with the request.¹

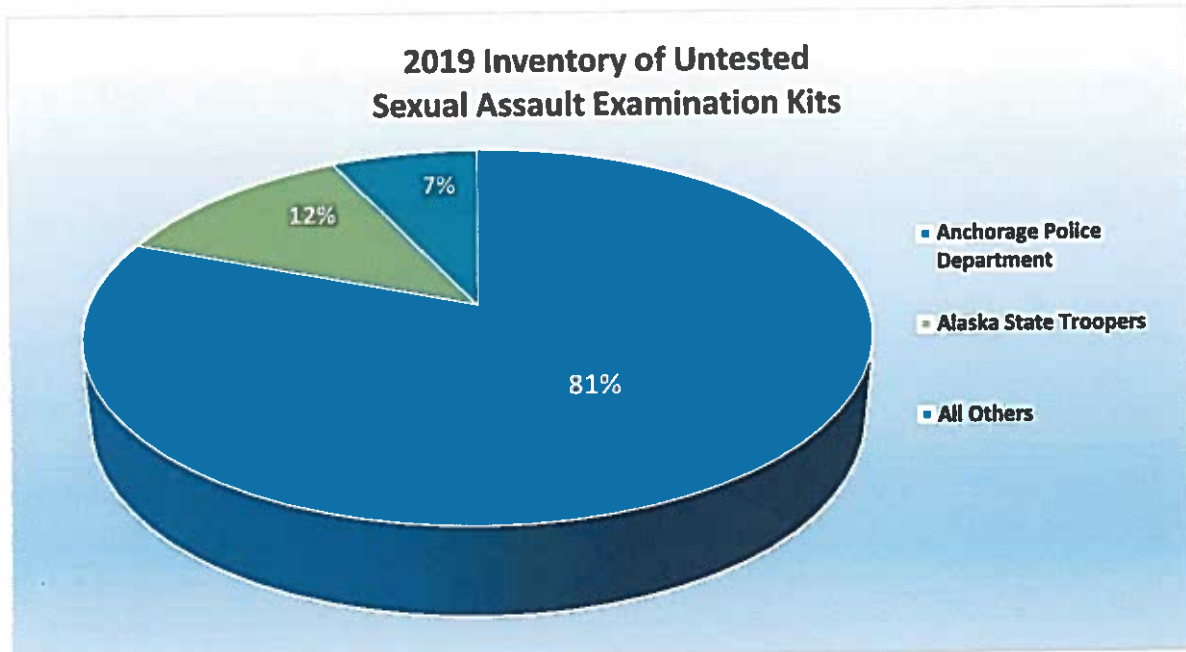


Figure 1. 1,696 sexual assault examination kits were inventoried by 46 law enforcement agencies and the crime lab.

This inventory, combined with the SAKs already in possession of the Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory (crime lab), resulted in a total of **1,696 untested victim SAKs** being accounted for. **190 of the 1,696 SAKs** are in storage at the crime lab but are pending review to determine their eligibility for testing. **388 of the 1,696 SAKs** were submitted to the crime lab for testing but remain on the backlog as of this report.

Apart from the Anchorage Police Department (APD), law enforcement agencies were asked to continue to submit their entire inventory of untested victim SAKs to the crime lab as part of the inventory process. The crime lab is accepting APD SAKs in batches as crime lab staffing is limited in its ability to take in nearly 1,000 SAKs at once.

Every SAK submitted to the crime lab in response to this request was entered in the lab's records management system which includes information recorded on the *Sexual Assault Evidence Kit* form and the *Request for Laboratory Services* form, including agency case number and date of collection, when provided. Agencies that could not comply within the given timeframe provided an electronic inventory.

¹ There were 47 active law enforcement agencies in 2019. One agency was removed from the inventory as they are no longer operational and the Alaska State Troopers retains jurisdiction. The Galena Police Department did not respond to requests for the inventory.

2019 Report on Untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits

Note: Future inventories will remove the Alaska Railroad Corporation Police Department, Ketchikan Airport Police, and Alaska State Parks from the inventory as it was confirmed with each agency that their sexual assault investigations are handled by another law enforcement agency of jurisdiction (e.g., the Alaska State Troopers).

There are an additional **300 SAKs** not eligible for testing that will be retained at the crime lab under the same evidence retention timeframes as all other SAKs. These SAKs are not included in the 1,696 count as they are not being considered for testing.

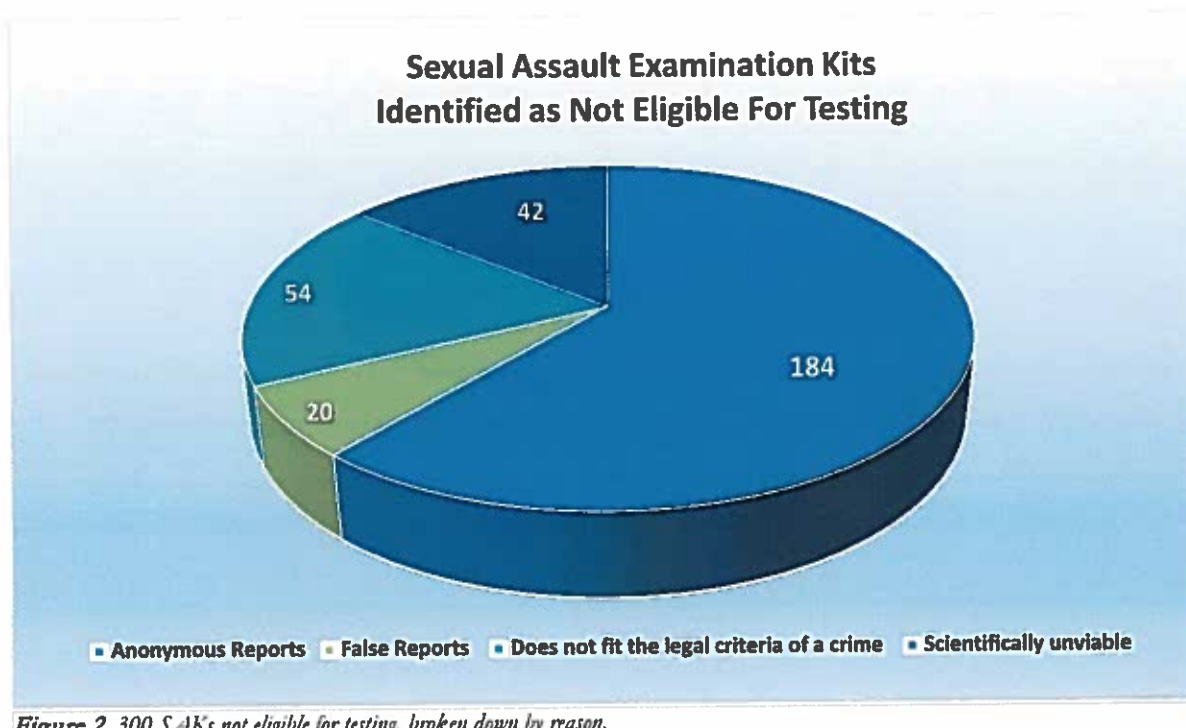


Figure 2. 300 SAKs not eligible for testing, broken down by reason.

Current Projects Addressing Untested SAKs

DPS is continuing to coordinate two large scale efforts to address the current inventory of untested SAKs in Alaska:

1. Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) Project

The DPS SAKI project is funded through a federal grant from the USDOJ and is in year three of a four-year timeline. SAKI covers eligible SAKs belonging to cases from the Alaska State Troopers (AST). As of this report, all 568 eligible AST SAKs under the SAKI project have been analyzed by a private lab and eligible DNA profiles have been uploaded into CODIS.

SAKI funds have paid for a cold case investigator and a specialized SAKI prosecutor to evaluate the impacts of the DNA results on the cases. While several cases are still being investigated, there has been one indictment and subsequent arrest of a previously unnamed suspect in a 2001 case. Identifying this suspect was a direct result of analyzing the kit for DNA and uploading his profile into CODIS.

2019 Report on Untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits

The SAKI Working Group is comprised of multidisciplinary experts and continues to meet on a quarterly basis. Protocols and documents developed by the SAKI Working Group have been shared with local law enforcement and advocacy agencies. An interim report of best practices and recommendations from the Working Group has been provided to DPS with the focus on improving outcomes for survivors and the process of sexual assault investigations.

2. Capital Appropriation

While SAKI focused on SAKs belonging to AST, the \$2.75 million appropriated by the legislature in the FY2019 capital budget focuses on analyzing the remaining 2,568 untested victim SAKs across the state that were identified in the 2018 SAK inventory. It is estimated the kits identified for this project will be completed by September 2021. It is important to note that each inventory is a snapshot in time and additional kits are added to these inventory totals each month as law enforcement agencies continue to collect and submit SAKs to the lab for storage or analysis.

As of October 2019, 1,129 SAKs have been submitted to a private lab for analysis with 729 case reports received back. The crime lab has developed a website with additional information for victims and the public on the SAK projects which will provide quarterly updates on the status of the testing.²

Ongoing Plan to Address Untested SAKs

The capital appropriation was a one-time event that is expected to allow for the testing of all historical SAKs in Alaska up through 2018.

The passage of HB 49 in May 2019 addressed several of the remaining gaps regarding untested SAKs in Alaska. Effective January 1, 2020, law enforcement agencies must:

1. Submit SAKs to the crime lab, or another accredited lab in coordination with DPS, within 30 days after the agency collects the kit;
2. Ensure the crime lab tests each kit within one year after the lab receives it; and
3. Make reasonable efforts to notify victims that their kit has been tested within two weeks of receiving results.

Additionally, HB 49 defined SAKs that were ineligible for testing to be those that:

1. Are scientifically unviable;
2. Do not meet eligibility requirements for inclusion in CODIS; or
3. Were collected from an anonymous victim.

Finally, HB 49 expanded the information to be provided in the annual report of untested SAKs to also include the number of SAKs determined to be ineligible for testing along with the reason(s) they were determined to be ineligible.

The crime lab was provided funding for two additional DNA analysts to meet the one-year turnaround time on testing. It is the expectation, however, that DPS continue to build the capacity and staffing to significantly reduce that timeline even further. All SAKs that are submitted to the crime lab by a law

² Updates on the status of untested SAKs in Alaska can be found at <https://dps.alaska.gov/Comm/SAK/Home>

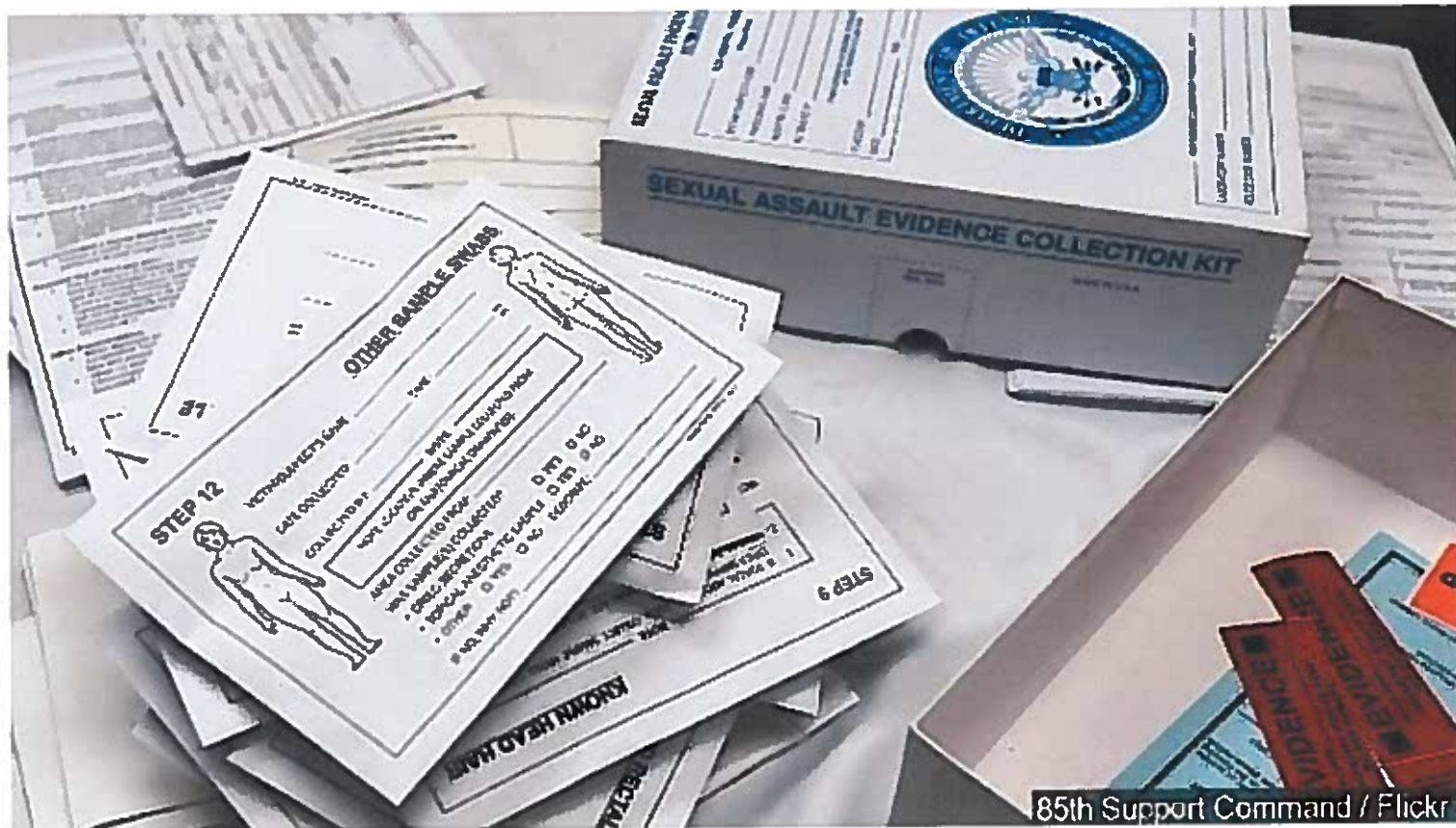
2019 Report on Untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits

enforcement agency for storage will be reviewed by a DPS investigator. The investigator has been assigned by the Office of the Commissioner to improve consistency among law enforcement agencies across the state and to ensure analysis is performed for every SAK that should be tested.

Summary

The 2019 inventory identified 1,696 untested SAKs in the possession of either a law enforcement agency or the crime lab. This is 34 percent less than the number of untested SAKs identified in the 2018 report (2,568) and 51 percent less than the number of untested SAKs identified in the 2017 report (3,484). With the passage of HB 31 in 2018 and HB 49 in 2019, and the hard work and dedication of the many staff involved in this effort, progress is being made.

Alaska bill would shrink time limit a rape kit could stay untested



85th Support Command / Flickr

By Sean Maguire | Posted: Tue 4:54 PM, Oct 01, 2019

ANCHORAGE (KTUU) - An Anchorage Democratic representative is planning to introduce a bill that would shorten the time that a rape kit could remain untested

Rep. Geran Tarr, D-Anchorage, has spearheaded efforts to end the backlog of rape kits in Alaska. House Bill 49, passed by the Alaska Legislature in May, imposed a one-year deadline that a rape kit could remain untested.

Shrinking that timeline further is something Tarr says is essential to combating crime.

However, the one-year time limit for testing kits in HB 49 does not help end the backlog of untested kits in Alaska, as it is not applied retroactively. According to the Department of Public Safety's latest data published online, there are currently 2,568 untested kits across Alaska.

Some kits have sat untested for years and even decades.

To end that backlog, the Alaska Legislature put \$2.75 million in the capital budget in 2018. Part of that appropriation went to hiring more staff at the state Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory.

Tarr says more staff would likely need to be hired to shrink the timeline to six months.

HB 49 also contains timelines for other parts of the process of investigating sexual assaults. The law enforcement agency has to send the kit to an accredited laboratory within 30 days of receiving it.

Sexual assault victims must also be contacted within two weeks of the kit being tested, a process that Tarr says has been proven to give reassurance to survivors that their cases are being taken seriously.

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NEWS

Alleged serial rapist known to authorities roamed Anchorage freely for months

Thursday, September 12th 2019, 5:48 PM AKDT

Updated: Friday, September 13th 2019, 4:23 PM AKDT

By: **Daniella Rivera**

Justice Delayed: Why an alleged serial rapist known to authorities roamed free for ...



1.3K

Graphic Content Warning: This article contains explicit descriptions of sexual assault that might be difficult for some readers.

One woman crawled out from under the trees in Anchorage's Town Square Park, screaming for help. She had been raped.

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A different woman desperately tried to fight off her attacker in the back of a van, ignored by two witnesses in the front seat. She was also raped.

Another woman was raped too, but information about the attack is not included in court documents. That's because she died while waiting for justice.

Connected by sexual assaults that span the last decade, the women don't know each other. They didn't know their attacker either. But police and prosecutors believe they do know the suspect.

They have for some time.

Alphonso Mosley III is linked to the rapes through DNA evidence. A grand jury indicted him on first-degree sexual assault charges in August.

Mosley is in custody now, but he was allowed to roam Anchorage freely for more than eight months after Anchorage police detectives learned his DNA implicated him in three sexual assaults, and forwarded charges to the Department of Law.

During that time, a fourth woman was raped.

A Silent Threat

According to a bail memorandum filed by prosecutors, "There is a common theme among the three charged sexual assaults - the defendant waited until these women were unable to fight him off due to intoxication and took the opportunity to force himself upon them. He is an opportunist who seeks out vulnerable women and has done so repeatedly."

The first known rape in which Mosley, 34, is a suspect occurred in 2009. Little information is available about the case. According to APD, the victim has since died. An open records request filed on Aug. 28 seeking public information about the assault has not been fulfilled by the department.

In 2012, a woman was attacked downtown. According to the bail memo, she got separated from her sober friend during bar break. She was approached by two men. One of them was an African American man. They asked her about her relationship status and where she lived.

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"[The woman's] next memory is waking up in Town Square with the African-American male, who was much larger than her, on top of her and having vaginal intercourse with her. [The woman] began to try to fight him off, but his strength overcame her attempts to end the rape. He held her down, he subdued her, and he forcefully raped her. [The woman] lost consciousness during the rape and awoke to an APD officer standing beside her. Three eyewitnesses called 911 and reported that they observed [the woman] crawling out from underneath the trees in Town Square and yelling "Call 9-1-1, I was just raped." They observed that [the woman] was crying and screaming. [The woman], still under the intoxicating effects of alcohol and the overwhelming effects of trauma, was afraid of the police officer until she realized help had arrived. [The woman] provided a suspect description and underwent a SART exam. No suspect was identified until October of 2018."

The same document describes the third known sexual assault, in September 2017. A woman went to the Alaska Native Medical Center emergency room to report she had been raped, according to the bail memo. She told detectives she had been walking near the Fred Meyer on Northern Lights Boulevard when two men she recognized invited her to drink alcohol in a van with them. She said a third man who she did not know was also in the van. He invited her to the back seat to partake in drugs and alcohol.

"She got in the backseat and he started to grab her breast. He began touching her and kissing her. She tried to get up to get out repeatedly and the Defendant forcefully grabbed her and pulled her down. [The woman] repeatedly told him she did not want to do anything with him. The Defendant told her 'let me feel my high' and forced her head onto his penis in order to get an erection. He then forcefully pulled down her pants, spit into her vagina, and had genital intercourse with her while holding her down. The other two men in the van were high and, as [the woman] described it, did not seem like they wanted to know what was going on. Distraught, [the woman] was able to get out after the sexual assault and went to the emergency room. [The woman] underwent a SART exam."

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According to the document, detectives identified Mosley as a suspect in the 2017 rape and confronted him. Mosley allegedly told police the woman wanted him to have sex with her and had demanded it, saying, "That's how women get."

Detectives collected a DNA sample from Mosley and in October 2018, the Department of Public Safety notified them that the sample linked Mosley to the 2017 rape, along with the two unsolved rapes from 2009 and 2012.

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In an email, APD spokesperson MJ Thim wrote, "On November 29th, 2018, after all three cases had been extensively researched (including the DNA samples collected by our partners at DPS and the Department of Corrections), detectives officially linked the suspect to the 2009, 2012, and 2017 cases and referred charges to our partners at the Department of Law (DOL)."

Despite the charges APD forwarded to the DOL, nothing happened to Mosley at the time.

He continued to roam Anchorage freely — 165 days later, a fourth woman was raped.

"He is an opportunist who seeks out vulnerable women and has done so repeatedly."

In May 2019, a woman reported waking up on Third Avenue near the Anchorage jail after she had been drinking. According to the bail memo, a man was with her and offered her alcohol. She accepted.

"The man asked her if he could have sex with her, she refused. He asked her if he could pay her for sex, she refused. He then began pulling her pants down. She tried to pull her pants up and he took both of her arms and pinned them down with his hand. He used his other hand to force her pants down and force his penis inside of her. [The woman] tried to scream, but he covered her mouth with his other hand. She tried to get out from underneath him, but he was larger than her and she believed she was going to be killed. [The woman] lost consciousness and woke up to him having sex with her again. When she fully regained consciousness, she was naked from the waist down and covered with two jackets. [The woman] got up and walked to Anchorage Safety Patrol where she reported the sexual assault. [The woman] underwent a SART exam and in July of 2019, an investigative lead informed Detectives that the DNA collected from [the woman] presumptively matched Alphonso Mosely."

The document describes the woman as developmentally disabled with a legal guardian. When police located Mosley to ask about the assault, he recognized her as "that 'retarded' girl" and denied having sexual contact with her.

"After being confronted with the possibility that his DNA was found on vaginal swabs, the defendant said that [the woman] was the aggressor and made him have sex with her," the bail memo states.

According to the document, the woman identified Mosley out of a double-blind line up "confidently and immediately."

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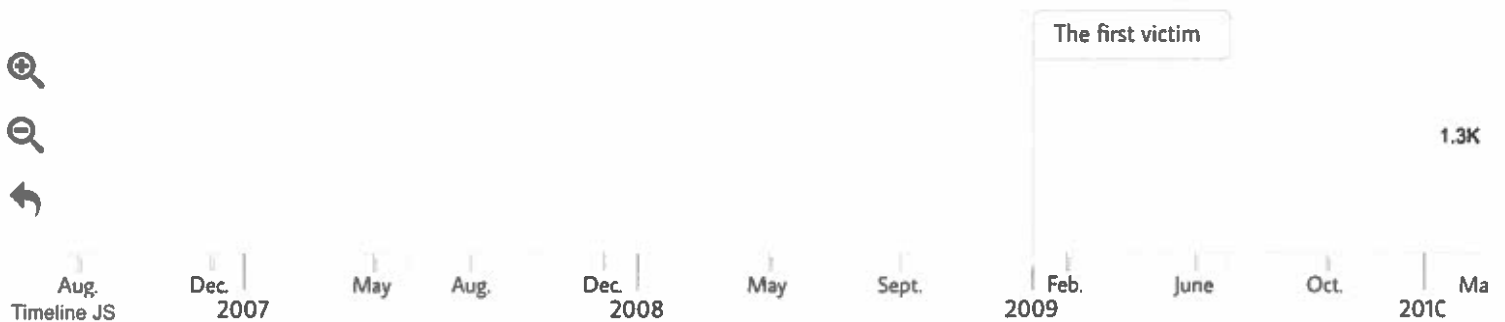
Later the woman said Mosley found her again, approached her, and told her to go express to detectives that she did not want to press charges.

In August 2019, a grand jury indicted Mosley on first-degree sexual assault charges in the 2012, 2017 and 2019 cases.

Once he was in custody, the community learned about the rapes and Mosley for the first time when [APD sent out a Nixle alert](https://local.nixle.com/alert/7467998/) (https://local.nixle.com/alert/7467998/) urging other possible victims to come forward.

Justice Delayed

Alphonso Mosley III was allowed to roam Anchorage freely for more than eight years. In 2012, the Anchorage Police Department learned his DNA implicated him in three sexual assaults. The department forwarded charges to the Department of Law. During that time, a fourth woman was



'Clear and present danger'

The bail memo claims, "Over the past ten years, the Defendant has sexually assaulted at least four women. Nothing suggests that he will stop. He presents a clear and present danger to the citizens, particularly women, of Anchorage."

In an emailed statement regarding the timeline of the investigation into the sexual assaults, APD spokesperson Thim wrote, "Detectives exercised due diligence to ensure the DOL had the strongest case possible to prosecute and reduce the possibility of dismissal in the three complex cases, which could have led to the suspect's immediate release from jail. For that reason, detectives did not make an arrest at that time, pending communication from the DOL. We continued to communicate with the DOL about the status of the case and moving forward with an arrest."

Thim continued, "We are constantly seeking to improve our internal processes and our interaction with our partner agencies. As a result, we have made recent changes such as biweekly case review meetings with the DOL and closer collaboration with both agencies on DNA testing procedures."

Both APD and the DOL refused to provide interviews regarding the timeline of the case against Mosley, or directly answer questions about why the case was not prosecuted in November 2018, after DNA linked Mosley to three sexual assaults, and before a fourth one occurred.

In an email, DOL spokesperson Cori Mills said discussing the case could jeopardize Mosley's right to a fair trial. She pointed to a statement in the bail memo that seems to be an explanation offered by the prosecutor as to why there was a several months-long delay in taking the case to a grand jury.

The bail memo claims that after Mosley's DNA was collected in 2018 and found to be linked to three sexual assaults, "That information had to be confirmed through further DNA analysis. That analysis was not completed until July of 2019."

Mills wrote in an email, "These portions of the bail memorandum refer to collection of Mr. Mosley's DNA sample, which was not obtained until July 2019."

However, according to the Department of Corrections (DOC), the state had already collected Mosley's DNA twice — once in 2012 and again in 2018. 1.3K

Mills did not respond to questions about why a third DNA sample was needed, and it is unclear why the sample was not collected until July of 2019, as Mosley had contact with authorities before then.

According to DOC records, Mosley was arrested on April 5, 2019. He served time in jail and at Cord Center, a halfway house, before being discharged on April 14 — a month before the fourth rape. 11

After KTVA requested information, the DOL sent out a press release to news organizations regarding Mosley's indictment and subsequent bail hearing.

The release included a statement from Deputy Attorney General John Skidmore, explaining that what might appear to be delays to the general public are instead efforts to gather sufficient evidence.

"Before charging a case, the prosecution must have sufficient evidence and be confident the case can be proved to a jury beyond a reasonable doubt," Skidmore explained. "Any lower standard could jeopardize the case and the ability to achieve justice for the victims. Although it is not common, there are instances when new evidence comes to light which enables us to move forward on an earlier case where there may not initially have been enough evidence to prosecute."

However, the state's bail memo reads:

"The state's case is strong with three victims' statements, several eyewitnesses' statements, 911 calls, the double-blind lineup identification, the Defendant's statements to police, and DNA evidence linking the Defendant to these crimes."

Linked by DNA

The Department of Public Safety agreed to an interview regarding Alaska's DNA database, known as CODIS.

Michelle Collins, the administrator of CODIS, said all forensic DNA analyzed in Alaska comes through the doors of the crime lab.

"The purpose of CODIS is to generate investigative leads in cases where law enforcement may not have a suspect that they're looking at," she explained.

The database is comprised of DNA profiles from some of Alaska's convicted offenders and people arrested, as well as forensic samples generated from evidence collected at crime scenes and from victims of crime.

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Sexual assault kits inside Alaska's State Crime Lab. (File / KTVA)

State law calls for DNA samples to be collected from those convicted of and arrested for "people crimes." That includes murder, sexual assault, assault, stalking, robbery and extortion, among other charges.

Collins says offender and arrestee samples typically get entered into the database within 30 to 45 days. By law, reasonable attempts must be made to enter the samples into the database within 90 days.

The process of entering victim DNA samples takes longer. For instance, the current wait time for a rape kit from collection to entry into CODIS is around 11 months to a year.

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"The software is set up to look for what we call moderate stringency matches, which means really close matches," Collins said.

Once a match is identified, the lab uses a rigorous confirmation process.

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"If all the confirmation steps are perfectly affirmed or verified, we then institute a 'hit letter' or notification that is send out to the law enforcement agency who submitted the case advising the of the hit or the match in the database," she explained.

Collins said further testing is done if the case goes to trial.

"If the case is going to go to trial, one of the things that's included in our notification is that the agency should collect an evidentiary sample from that individual and submit that to us at the laboratory, and when we get that sample, we will run a DNA analysis on that and that analysis is what results in us issuing a scientific laboratory report where we're going to say that the profile from that person's sample matches the profile from that evidence, and we're going to issue match statistics which are required for DNA reports to be admissible in court," she explained.

When asked if an evidentiary sample analysis is required to take a case to a grand jury, Collins said no.

"A DNA report isn't even required for grand jury," said Collins. "They will just present the evidence they do have and the grand jury makes the determination of whether that evidence is sufficient, so often cases don't have completed DNA analysis when they go to grand jury."

The difference between the analysis on an evidentiary sample and the analysis performed before law enforcement receives a hit letter, Collins explained, is that the evidentiary sample will have a chain of custody attached to it.

A chain of custody ultimately helped the state prove the integrity of the process when a case is presented to a jury, an event that often comes months, if not years, after a defendant has been charged, indicted and potentially kept in custody.

The image is a promotional graphic for a project titled "JUSTICE DELAYED". It features a woman on the left wearing a red shirt and glasses, and a man on the right wearing an orange shirt. Between them are silhouettes of four people standing in a line. The text "JUSTICE DELAYED" is written in a large, outlined font across the center. On the right side, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Email, along with a "Submit!" button at the bottom right. The background is a mix of blue and white.



Collins said in her 16 years working at the State Crime Lab, the analysis performed on an evidentiary sample for the purposes of admission into court has never contradicted the analysis performed on matching DNA samples sent to law enforcement.

It is possible Alaska's rape kit backlog contributed to Mosley's freedom during the last decade. While he has spent some time in and out of jail, he wasn't charged with sexual assault until now.

His DNA was collected by the state for the first time on March 30, 2012, according to the DOC. That was years after the 2009 rape and months before the 2012 attack, but the match was not made until 2018.

"Ten years ago, as many states were starting to pass those arrestee laws, many of the labs nationwide actually did get pretty severely backlogged because they got a huge influx of samples that they hadn't yet ramped up capacity for," Collins explained.

At that time, the processing time for rape kits could have easily been two to three years, she said.

Today, Collins describes the lab as being on a constant path of improvement.

"Our goal would be that kits coming in are in an analysts hands in under 30 days for processing," she said.

Without a Warning

When APD detectives knew Mosley was linked to three random sexual assaults and felt confident enough in the case to forward charges to the DOL but Mosley remained free, there is no known record of the department making any effort to alert or warn the public about the man they believed was a serial predator.

"...he has freely roamed the streets for years."

None of the rapes are noted on the [community crime map](https://communitycrimemap.com/) (https://communitycrimemap.com/), which has been described as a reliable tool for understanding crime in Anchorage.

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APD spokesperson MJ Thim wrote in an email, "Victim privacy laws prevents us from publishing sexual assault investigations on this platform."

Incidents that are posted on the community crime map do not include names of the parties involved or a specific address, but rather a location accuracy of one and a half to two miles from where the alleged crime occurred. The date, time and type of crime are provided — all are considered public information, including in cases of sexual assault.

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A photo of Alphonso Mosley III included in a Nixle Alert after his arrest in August of 2019. (Photo Courtesy: APD)

The Nixle alert regarding Mosley that called for other potential victims to come forward was only released once Mosley was indicted and in custody.

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When asked multiple times why the department chose not to warn the community about Mosley, Thim did not provide an answer, referring KTVA to the DOL instead — an agency that does not oversee APD's communications with the public.

A Cruel Reality

Prosecutors believe Mosley continues to present a real and substantiated threat to the living victims in the case.

"They are the only thing that stands between him and his freedom. [...] There is significant incentive for him to attempt to force, threaten, or harm these victims in order to stop them from continuing to cooperate with the police in the prosecution. To the Defendant, if only he could get them to go away, the State may drop the charges," the bail memo reads.

"For each of these women, they relive the trauma of the rape..."

The document also describes some of the effects the rapes had on the alleged victims:

"The effect on the victims cannot be overstated. Some of these woman waited years to find out who their assailant was. [One woman] moved back to her hometown out of fear and shame. One of these women, after years of suffering from infertility despite her best efforts with her partner, became pregnant as a result of the rape. The cruel irony of carrying the child of her rapist after years of trying to have a child with her partner had a significant impact on her. For each of these women, they re-live the trauma of the rape and recently endured having to tell a grand jury what happened to them.

The Defendant approached [one woman] and asked her to tell the police that she did not want to press charges. She felt intimidated by his demand since she had obviously already talked to the police. [The woman] had to stand there and listen to her rapist implicitly threaten her by asking her to lie to the police."

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The women are "terrified" of Mosley, according to the bail memo, "because he has freely roamed the streets for years."

For now, Mosley remains in jail. He is being held on a \$100,000 cash bail and the requirement of a court-approved third-party custodian.

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If you or someone you know has been a victim of sexual assault, resources are available on the [Standing Together Against Rape \(STAR\)](http://www.staralaska.com/when-help-is-needed.html) (<http://www.staralaska.com/when-help-is-needed.html>) website or by calling the statewide crisis hotline at (800) 478-8999.

Additionally, Anchorage police ask that anyone who believes they might have been a victim or has information related to these cases call Sgt. Dawn Neer at 907-786-2471.

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[APD: Man tied to multiple sex assault cases might have more victims](http://www.ktva.com/story/40908057/apd-man-tied-to-multiple-sex-assault-cases-might-have-more-victims)

(<http://www.ktva.com/story/40908057/apd-man-tied-to-multiple-sex-assault-cases-might-have-more-victims>)

[APD seeks public's help locating suspect in attempted sex assaults at Chester Creek Trail](http://www.ktva.com/story/40924836/apd-seeks-publics-help-locating-suspect-in-attempted-sex-assaults-at-chester-creek-trail)

(<http://www.ktva.com/story/40924836/apd-seeks-publics-help-locating-suspect-in-attempted-sex-assaults-at-chester-creek-trail>)

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Add a comment...



Brenna Lissette Hughes

If Mosley was already identified by DNA evidence and in a lineup, why was he released and allowed to intimidate his victim? If he engaged in victim intimidation, why is he now being held with the possibility of bail? Was he warned not to contact his victim after the lineup, because that would seem appropriate? It also seems appropriate to deny bail now that he has allegedly attempted to subvert the legal process.

Like · Reply · 6 · 20w



Donna Marie Mills

WOW terrible

Like · Reply · 1 · 20w



Bonnie Callahan

I hope the fourth victim gets help to litigate the State for some kind of

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Scott Gross

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Barrett pleads guilty to second-degree murder in Grunwald killing

(<https://www.ktva.com/story/41664173/barrett-pleads-guilty-to-seconddegree-murder-in-grunwald-killing>)

As part of a plea deal reached with the state, Austin Barrett agreed to be sentenced to serve 45 years.

Sutton seeks feedback on Jonesville management plan

(<https://www.ktva.com/story/41658519/sutton-seeks-feedback-on-jonesville-management-plan>)

The first community meeting is tonight at Sutton Elementary School from 6:30 to 8.

Alaska considers using private ferries for new service areas 1.3K

(<https://www.ktva.com/story/41662956/alaska-considers-using-private-ferries-for-new-service-areas>)

The state of Alaska has issued a call for a private marine vessel charter to provide service between Juneau's Auke Bay terminal and Hoonah, Angoon and Kake.

UAA professor responds to President Trump's State of the Union address

(<https://www.ktva.com/story/41661915/uaa-professor-responds-to-state-of-the-union-address>)

James Muller, professor of political science at the University of Alaska Anchorage, commented on Tuesday's event saying he thinks the address went well for the president and seems like a serious start to his campaign.

DPS: Half of nearly 2,600 sexual assault kits tested

(<https://www.ktva.com/story/41659371/dps-half-of-2568-sexually-assault-kits-tested>)

DPS says half of 2,568 untested sexually assault kits now tested.

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