



Crime Lab Cooperating Department Head Structure

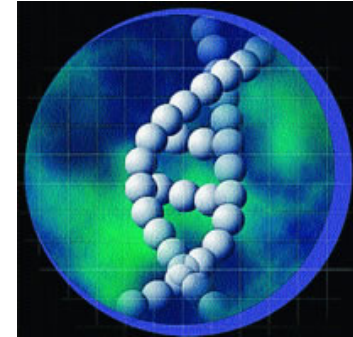
Sandra Hutchens, Sheriff-Coroner

Tony Rackauckas, District Attorney

Thomas G. Mauk, County Executive Officer

February 9, 2010

History



- DNA Stakeholders Meetings
 - Eight Meetings: July 2 - September 18, 2008
- Board Directive – October 27, 2008
 - Created the Cooperating Department Head Structure
 - Recommendations:
 - Rename Sheriff's Crime Lab to OC Crime Lab
 - Hire DNA Laboratory Director
 - Proceed with high-volume crime DNA testing

Cooperating Department Head Structure

- Members include Sheriff, District Attorney and CEO
- Supervise the Crime Lab Director
- Hired a DNA Lab Director
- Oversight of the administrative policies of the entire Crime Lab
- Began bi-weekly meetings on July 31, 2009
- Appointed Thomas Nasser as Acting Crime Lab Director on Jan. 11, 2010

OC Crime Lab & DNA Lab Director

- Hired DNA Lab Director Elizabeth Thompson in June 2009
- Renamed Sheriff's Forensic Science Services to OC Crime Lab in August 2009



Report Preparation Date
9/25/2009

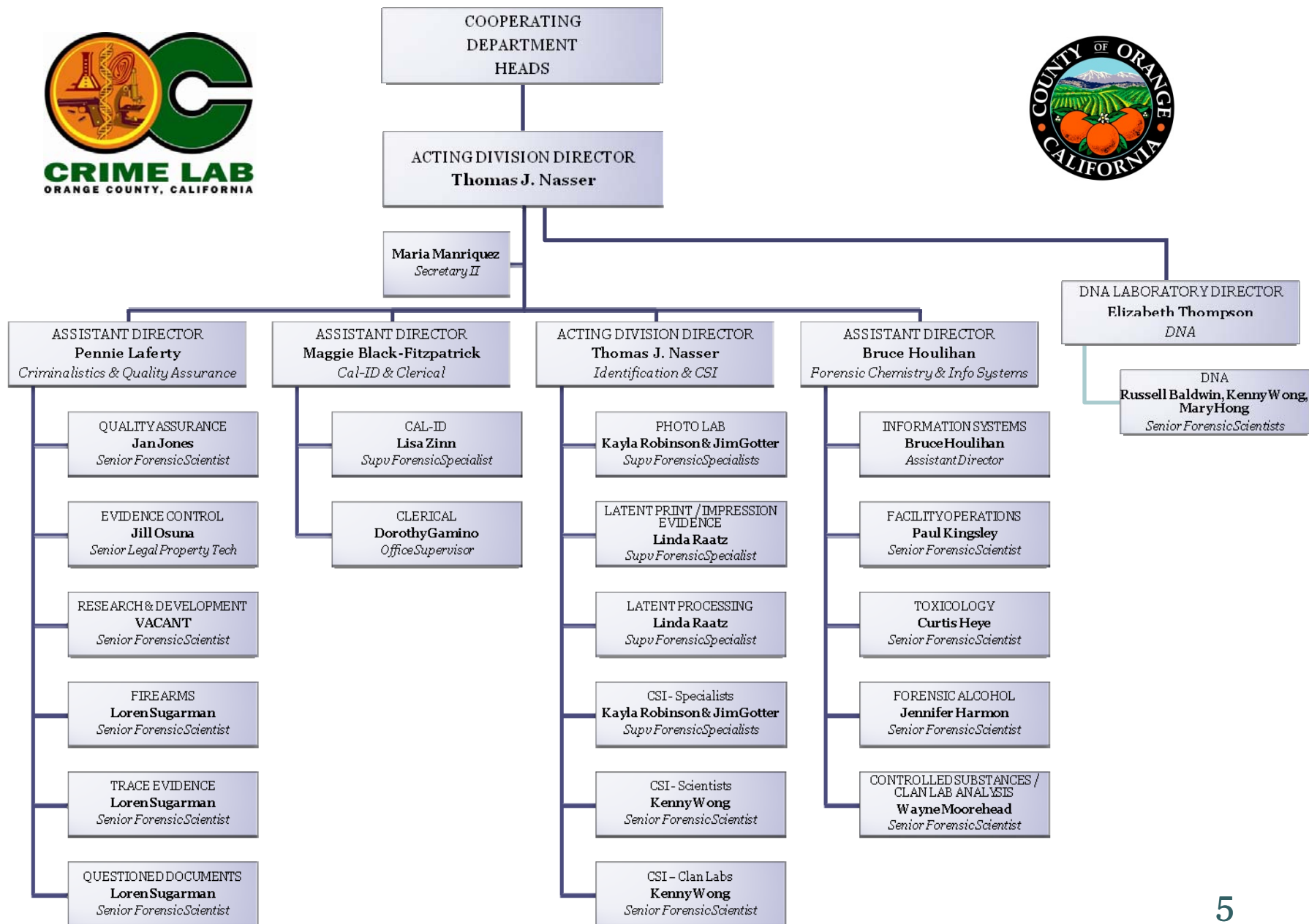


OC CRIME LAB
County Executive Office - District Attorney - Sheriff

FORENSIC ALCOHOL EXAMINATION REPORT



«REPORT»
530159
08-20001
BA



High Volume DNA Testing Progress

- Continued to expand testing and technology in the Crime Lab
 - implemented additional robotics
 - improved DNA analysis software
 - upgrades and improvements to the DNA report writing software

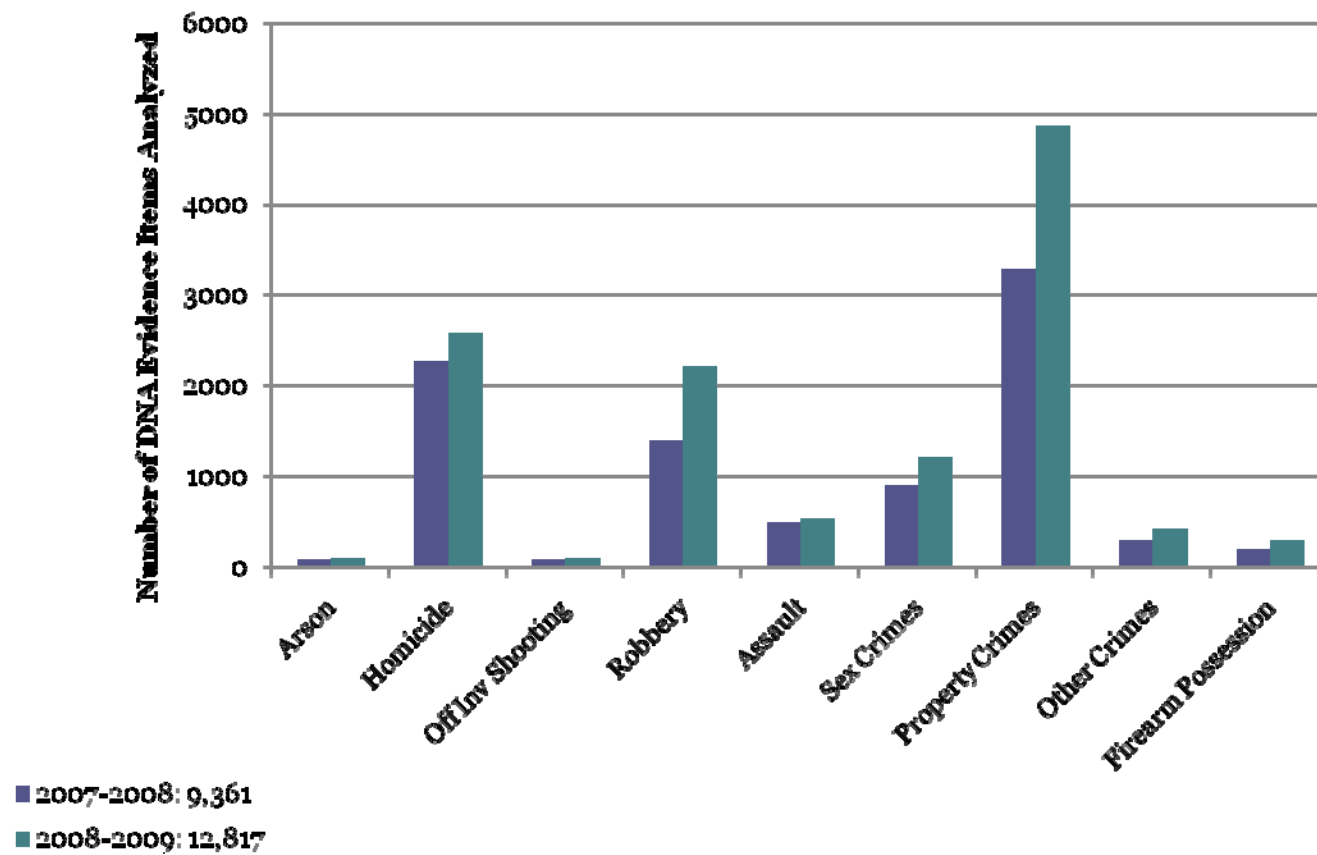


High Volume DNA Testing Progress

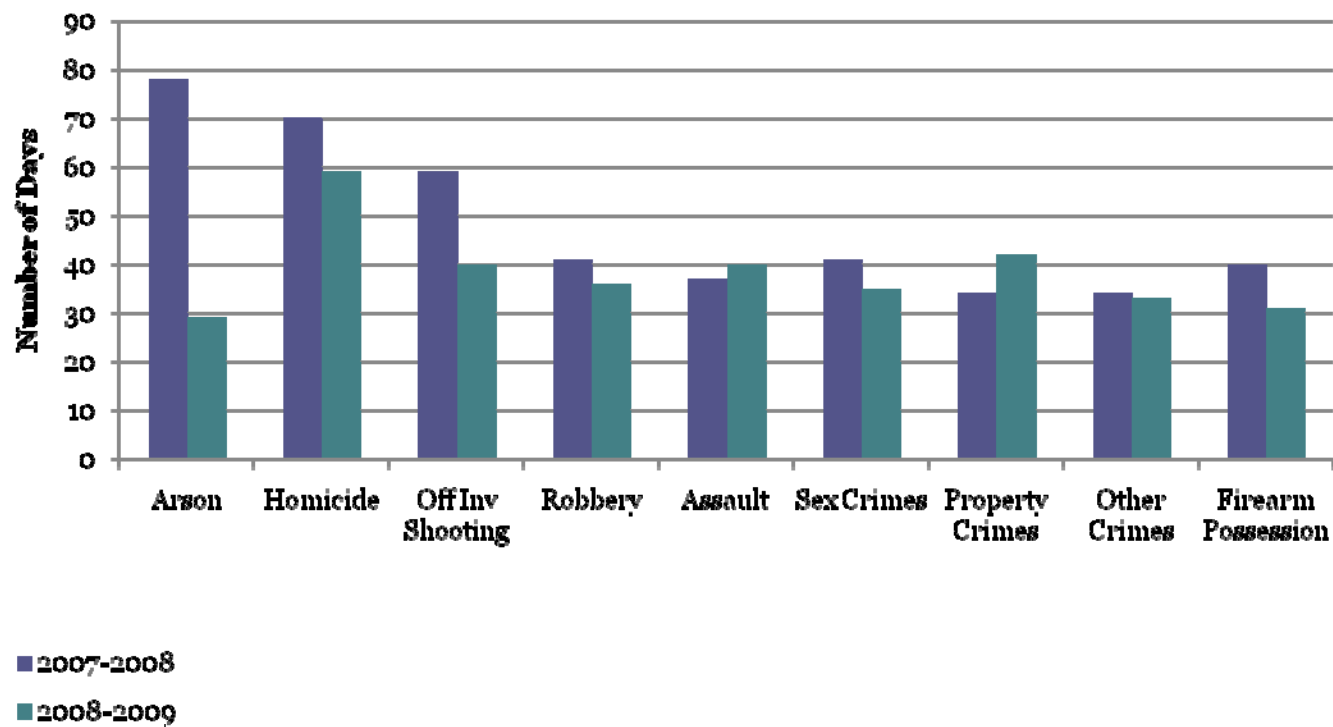
- Implemented DNA Case Triage
 - Joint effort between the DA's office and the Crime Lab's DNA Supervisors
 - Trained OC police agencies from June - August 2009 in DNA submission guidelines, case priority, and triage
 - Helped reduce the number of items that are submitted for property crimes.
- Analyzed more property crime cases and decreased DNA backlog due to the triage process and overtime funded by the 2008 NIJ Backlog Reduction Grant (\$508,212).



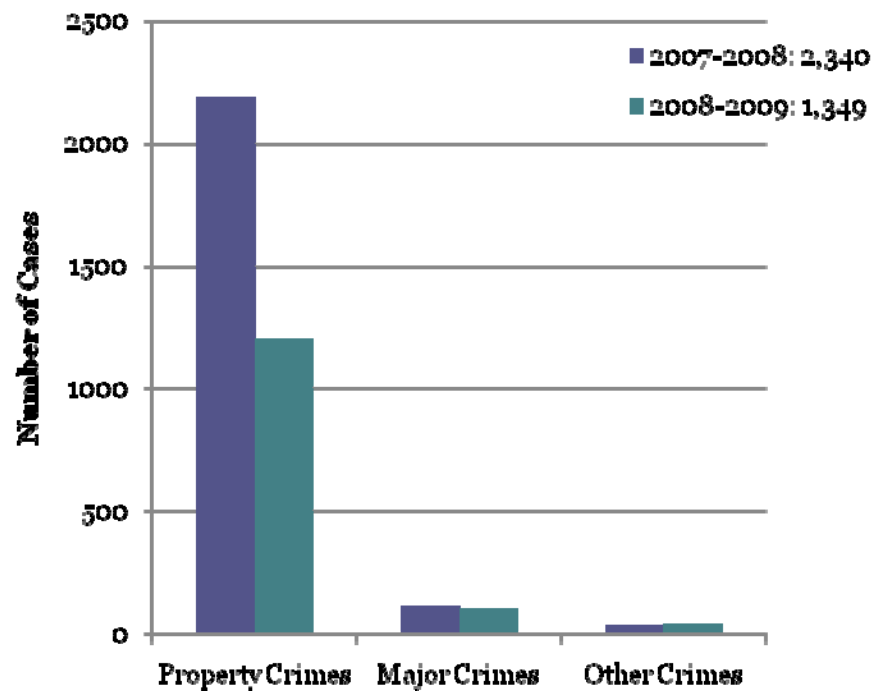
Number of DNA Items Analyzed



Median Turn-Around Times

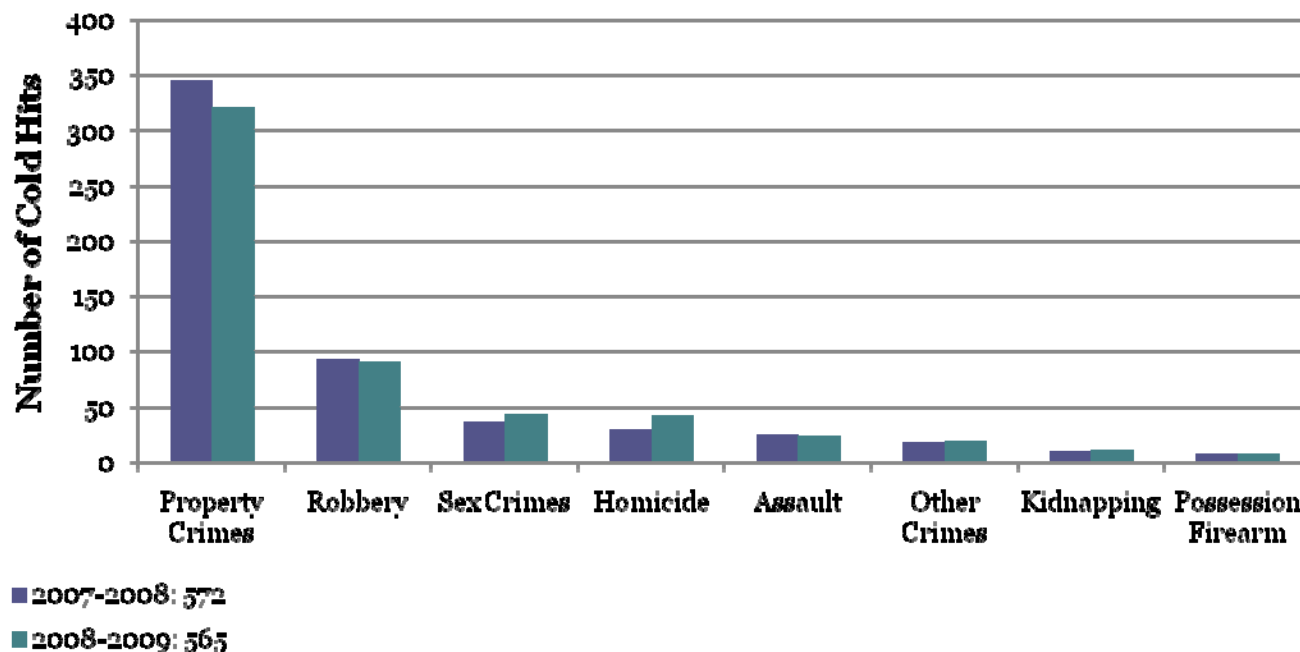


Backlogged DNA Requests



DNA Database Hits

- OC Crime Lab still submits the largest number of DNA profiles and still has the largest number of DNA cold hits than any other California crime lab





Recruitment for Lab Director

- Sheriff's HR to handle the recruitment
- Announcement is being prepared
- Recruitment will be open to the public
- Recruitment to open later this week or early next week.
- Recruitment to remain open until the needs of the Department are met.

Summary

- Coop Dept Head Structure has improved communication and cooperation
- Accreditation status has been maintained
- Budget issues are affecting the Crime Lab like others
- Guidelines and practices to separate policy decision from management and scientific decisions are being monitored and discussed
- There is no interference by the Coop Dept Heads on scientific issues
- **Recommendation** – The Coop Dept Head structure is working and should remain in place until we report back to the Board during the Budget