



**STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**J.B. VAN HOLLEN  
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**Kevin M. St. John  
Deputy Attorney General**

**Steven P. Means  
Executive Assistant**

**17 West Main Street  
P.O. Box 7857  
Madison, WI 53707-7857**

**Kevin E. Jones  
Director  
Wisconsin Crime Laboratory Bureau  
608-267-2224  
joneske@doj.state.wi.us**

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As of September 1, 2013 the Wisconsin Department of Justice's Crime Laboratory Bureau will no longer provide the service of questioned documents and handwriting analysis. We are dedicated to ensuring our criminal justice customers have access to this service and will accomplish that by transitioning these cases to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Crime Laboratory, as many states have already chosen to do. All other Crime Laboratory services will continue to be provided.

This change in policy is a result of the steady decline in questioned documents and handwriting analysis cases submitted to the Wisconsin Crime Laboratory. This is a trend in the field of forensic analysis that is present across the nation and understandable as an increasing amount of documentation is kept in an electronic form not conducive to these forensic examination techniques.

In preparation for this transition the Wisconsin Crime Laboratory has shifted processing of all questioned documents and handwriting analysis cases to the Madison Crime Laboratory. For the past six months the Madison Crime Laboratory has been transferring these cases to the FBI Crime Laboratory with the approval of the submitting agencies. This process has gone well so far and will continue with the Madison Crime Laboratory available as a resource for any questions you may have.

In this field of analysis the FBI Crime Laboratory will accept and analyze evidence from any crime against persons case and any property crime case over \$15,000. There is a short cover letter that the FBI Crime Laboratory requires for case submission. The Madison Crime Laboratory has examples of this letter available and it will be placed on WILENET for your use.

Madison Crime Laboratory Manager, Amy Lautenbach, has been handling the transition of questioned documents and handwriting cases to the FBI Crime Laboratory. Ms. Lautenbach can be reached at 608-261-8122 ext. 2011. Additionally, please feel free to contact me or my Deputy Director, Jana Champion, if you have questions about this process. Ms. Champion can be reached at 414-313-8365. We look forward to continuing to work together to meet Wisconsin's public safety goals and appreciate your participation in that effort.

Sincerely,

Kevin Jones  
Director, Crime Laboratory Bureau  
Division of Law Enforcement Services  
Wisconsin Department of Justice