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As of January 1, 2016, the Wisconsin Crime Laboratory Bureau (part of the Wisconsin Dept. of Justice) will no longer be accepting cases and evidence/standards for Tire Track Analysis. As our ongoing mission to best serve law enforcement agencies in the State of Wisconsin, 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 (FBI) Crime Laboratory in Quantico, VA, as many states have already chosen to do. The FBI Crime Laboratory in Quantico has agreed to work Tire Track Analysis cases that you would normally send to the Crime Labs in Wisconsin.

The change in policy is a result of the steady decline in tire track analysis cases submitted to the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory and pending retirements of trained examiners in this discipline. All pending cases that have been submitted will be processed by the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory. All future cases need to be submitted to the FBI Crime Laboratory.

For information on how to submit evidence to the FBI Crime Lab, please visit https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/lab/scientific-analysis/qdu. In the lower right hand corner under "More About Us", please select "Forensic Services Handbook", which are the submission guidelines for the FBI Crime Lab. In general, the FBI accepts evidence from state and local law enforcement agencies for cases related to violent crime investigations. The FBI does not routinely accept evidence from state and local law enforcement agencies in cases involving property crimes unless there was personal injury or intent to cause personal injury. There is a step-by-step guide on how to submit evidence to the FBI Crime Lab in this handbook.

The Crime Laboratories in Wisconsin are not permitted to be the "middle-man" for submission, or submitters ourselves; thus all evidence needs to be submitted directly to the FBI Crime Lab in Quantico. The FBI Tire Tread Analysis Unit is located within the Questioned Documents Unit, and questions concerning tire tread evidence should be directed to the FBI Crime Lab at 703-632-8444 (after January 1, 2016).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Wisconsin Crime Laboratory Bureau Director Jana Champion at championjl@doj.state.wi.us. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this transition period.