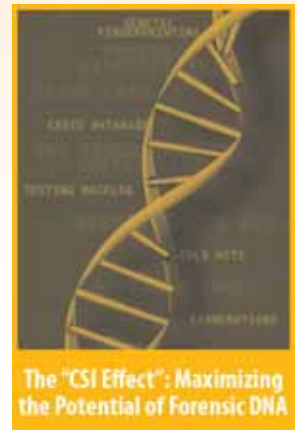


Interacting with Victims in Cold Cases

Chicago, Illinois

Denver Police Department
Victim Assistance Unit
Cold Case and Victim Family Outreach

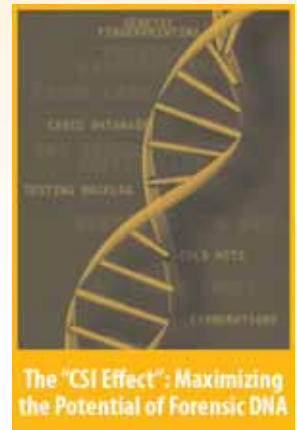
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Overview

- DPD Cold Case Unit
- Who do we serve?
- How do we serve?
- Law enforcement and victim needs
- What we have learned
- Q and A

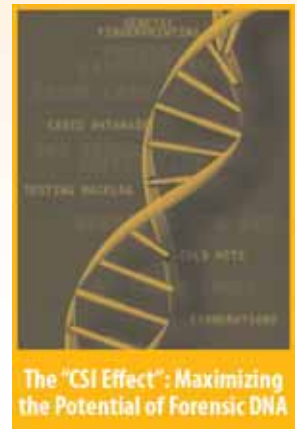
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Denver Police Department Cold Case Unit

- The Beginning
- The Collaborators
- The Unit

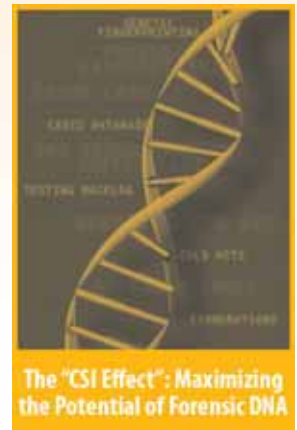
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Who Are the Victims?

- Homicide
 - Co victims and family members
- Sexual Assault
 - Victims and family members
- Felony Kidnapping
 - Victims and family members

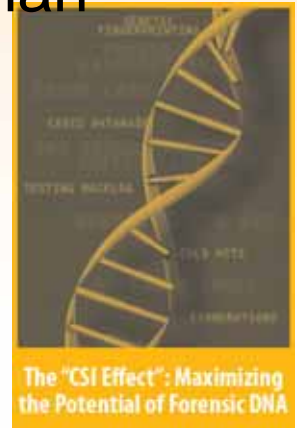
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What Do We Do?

- **C.R.S. 24-4.1-303**

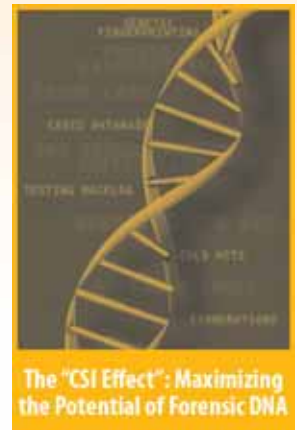
(IV) The law enforcement agency shall provide the victim in a cold case information concerning any change in the status of the case. In addition, upon the written request of the victim, the law enforcement agency shall provide an update at least annually to the victim concerning the status of a cold case involving one or more crimes for which the criminal statute of limitations is longer than three years.



What Do We Do?

- Victim Notification
- Assess Long-Term Stress Reactions
- Assess Grief and Remembering
- Follow up

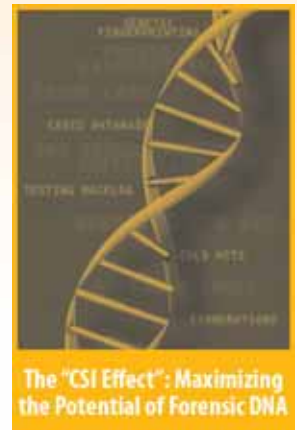
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When Do We Do It?

- Considerations
 - CODIS hit
 - Where is the suspect?
 - Where is the victim?
 - Safety issues
 - Integrity of case

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Why Do We Do It?

- Needs of law enforcement
- Needs of victims

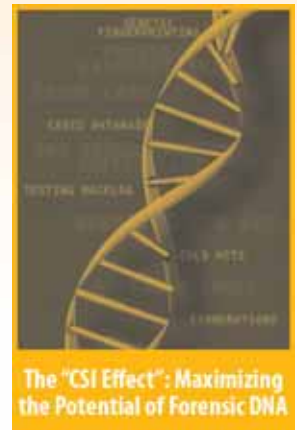
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What We Encounter

- Interaction with victims
 - Sexual Assault vs. Homicide
 - Impact of notification
 - Victim reactions

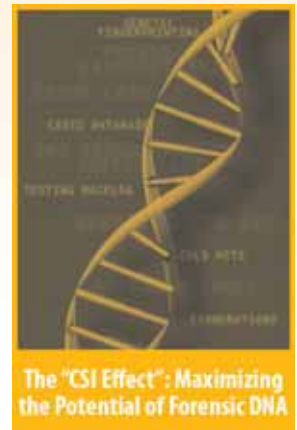
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Lessons Learned

- Case examples
 - “Who’s Case is This Anyway?”
 - “Jumping the Gun”
 - “Media Frenzy”

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Questions?

Contact

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Victim Assistance Unit

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www.denvergov.org/vau

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