Detecting and preventing crime through an innovative new approach

Forensic science is a collaborative field. Detectives, crime scene personnel, laboratory analysts, and attorneys must work together to solve crimes. But too often, communication between these groups is fractured and effectiveness is compromised.

The Rutgers University Crime Lab Unit will address these challenges by establishing a new model for crime detection and prevention. This model will draw on state and county partnerships, the university’s research expertise, and the latest in data-driven forensic science technology to help solve crimes throughout New Jersey, reduce the backlog of unresolved cases, prevent wrongful convictions, and address the state’s most pressing public safety challenges.

As a one-stop shop of forensic services, the Crime Lab Unit aims to build a state-of-the-art facility that will provide real-time testing in the areas of fingerprinting, firearms identification, forensic toxicology and chemistry, trace evidence, DNA identification, and forensic anthropology. By engaging researchers from multiple public agencies and the private sector, the Crime Lab Unit has the potential to influence areas beyond forensic science, informing public policy, social justice, and public health.

Not only will the Crime Lab Unit serve the citizens of New Jersey, it will also fuel research, inform public policy, and provide opportunities for students to learn in a real-world environment—thereby establishing Rutgers as a national leader in forensic science and criminal justice.

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The mission of Rutgers University Crime Lab Unit is a science-driven, community-focused approach to public safety.

–Kimberlee S. Moran

Join us in creating new models for forensic science and public safety.

BIG IDEA CHAMPION

Kimberlee S. Moran
Associate Teaching Professor and Director of Forensics, Rutgers–Camden

LEARN MORE: SUPPORT.RUTGERS.EDU/BIG-IDEAS
The Rutgers University Crime Lab Unit is one of Rutgers’ Big Ideas, which leverage the innovative potential of our world-class university community to improve the human condition. Bringing these Big Ideas to life will require bold thinking, multidisciplinary collaboration, and philanthropic support.

The Crime Lab Unit invites your partnership on six key commitments:

**STUDENT SUPPORT**
Enhance opportunities for student research, access to cutting-edge technology, forensic fellowship programming, and pipelines to employment

**PUBLIC SAFETY**
Solve crime, reduce backlogs, solve cold cases, and prevent future crimes

**TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION**
Develop new approaches to evidence collection and analysis, improved workflows, shortened turn-around times, cost savings, and streamlined service provision

**JUSTICE**
Uplift science in the service of justice, including informed policy making, exonerating the wrongfully convicted, reducing gun crime in communities disproportionately affected, and aiding science-driven criminal investigation

**PROFESSIONALISM AND BEST PRACTICE**
Create new models of forensic scientific support, adherence to internationally recognized standards, and enhanced training for police and crime scene officers

**COMMUNITY**
Connect public safety to the public, thereby restoring trust, building relationships, providing social services and victim/survivor services, and creating a reassuring presence

To learn how you can get involved, please contact:

Akua Asiamah Andrade
Director of Development, Rutgers-Camden
andradea@camden.rutgers.edu
Office: 856.225.6322