

**Media Release:**

In recognition of the important role that forensic science plays in the investigation of crimes throughout the nation, from exonerating the innocent to identifying the guilty, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation is observing National Forensic Science Week from August 8<sup>th</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016, to recognize the scientific and technical professionals that serve our communities in this vital role.

The KBI has four forensic science laboratories across the state of Kansas. Those sites include Great Bend, Kansas City, Pittsburg, and Topeka. The laboratory system provides services in the disciplines of biology/DNA, chemistry, trace evidence, toxicology, firearms and tool marks, latent prints, footwear and tire tracks, documents, and digital evidence.

Recently the Topeka laboratory moved into the newly constructed Forensic Science Center located on the Washburn University campus. In addition to housing the KBI's forensic science operations, the building brings state-of-the-art instrumentation and technology to the state of Kansas and to Washburn's expanded forensic science program. The university offers a forensic chemical science degree which includes an emphasis in forensic chemistry and biology and recently added concentrations in digital forensics and forensic anthropology as well as forensic investigation to the Washburn course offerings.

For more insight about the KBI laboratories and the disciplines provided, you can view our short videos on our website at <http://www.accesskansas.org/kbi/about/forensics.shtml>. For more information on the Washburn forensics programs, you can visit <http://www.washburn.edu/academics/forensics.html>.