DNA Index of Special Concern

The DNA Index of Special Concern (DISC) is a virtual index in CODIS consisting of a subset of Forensic Unknown profiles meeting specific criteria (listed below) that allow for searches against rapidly enrolled arrestee profiles. The purpose of the DISC is to assist in connecting serious crimes with persons who are currently or were very recently in police custody. If a search of the DISC index results in a match (high stringency only) a hit message called an Unsolicited DNA Notification (UDN) is automatically sent by the CODIS software to the investigating agency that submitted the evidence to a CODIS participating laboratory, the arresting agency who uploaded the arrestee, and to the laboratory that generated the forensic profile.

Forensic profiles are eligible for DISC-enabling if they meet the following criteria:

- Serious public safety case type of Sexual Assault, Homicide, Kidnapping, or Terrorism in which timely action by the investigative agency results upon receipt of an UDN after a search of the DISC
- Probative single source profiles with complete results at the original CODIS core 13 loci
- Source ID = No (case is unsolved)
- Profile category of Forensic Unknown
- The profile has been searched at SDIS and NDIS at least once
- The profile has complete metadata fields (metadata form is available for download from the Submission Forms area of the website)

Unsolved cases previously submitted to UNTCHI with specimens in CODIS that meet the above criteria can be DISC enabled upon receipt of the required metadata. An investigating agency can submit the completed metadata form. Upon receipt of the completed form and entry of the metadata into CODIS the specimen will be DISC enabled.

Forensic Unknown specimens that are DISC enabled are subject to annual re-certification by the CODIS participating laboratory. The investigating agency will be contacted to verify that the case is still active and that the profile continues to meet the eligibility criteria for DISC enrollment.