

[<<Back](#)



LA police have backlog of over 5,000 rape kits to test

SACRAMENTO The L-A-P-D has a backlog of over five-thousand rape kits that have not undergone D-N-A-testing because of a lack of resources.

That's according to police and victim advocates who testified yesterday before the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice.

Santa Monica-U-C-L-A Rape Treatment Center director Gale Abarbanel says people continue being sexually assaulted because crime labs lack the resources to effectively use the forensic D-N-A science.

L-A-P-D crime lab chief Yvette Sanchez-Owens says many rape kits go unanalyzed because of resource shortfalls.

She says a budget has been sent to L-A Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to more than double the size of the DNA staff from 29 to 71 over a two-year period.

The L-A Times reported last year that the state's two-year-old D-N-A program had a backlog of 300-thousand unprocessed D-N-A samples.

State forensics chief Lance Gima says that the backlog has been reduced to 175-thousand, thanks to overtime.

Copyright 2007 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.



All content © Copyright 2002 - 2007 WorldNow and KESQ. All Rights Reserved.
For more information on this site, please read our [Privacy Policy](#) and [Terms of Service](#).