

Bureau of Justice Assistance Forensics Unit Programs



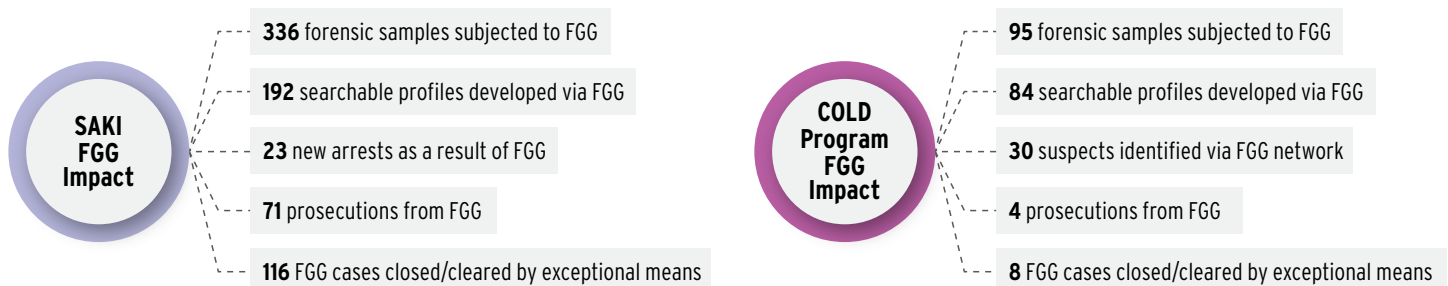
Forensic Genetic Genealogy (FGG) Fact Sheet

BJA recognizes that FGG can be a powerful investigative tool for resolving violent crimes. By combining traditional genealogy research methods with forensic DNA analysis, law enforcement can develop investigative leads that may assist in identifying an unknown perpetrator or an unidentified victim of a violent crime.

BJA Grant Programs that Support the Application of FGG to Violent Crime Investigation

- [National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative \(SAKI\)](#)
- [Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant \(JAG\) Program](#)
- [Emmett Till Cold Case Investigations and Prosecution Program](#)
- [Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Program](#)
- [Missing and Unidentified Human Remains \(MUHR\) Program](#)
- [Postconviction Testing of DNA Evidence \(Postconviction\) Program](#)
- [Project Safe Neighborhoods \(PSN\)](#)
- [Prosecuting Cold Cases Using DNA \(COLD\) Program](#)
- [Upholding the Rule of Law: Wrongful Conviction Review Program](#)

For more information on these funding opportunities, please visit <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding>



Training and Technical Assistance (TTA)

The Forensics TTA Program and the SAKI TTA Program, both led by RTI International, support grantees in applying FGG to violent cold case investigations. Both programs support the areas of case identification and selection, considerations when choosing a forensic laboratory vendor, investigative genealogy (i.e., treebuilding), reference testing, confirmation testing, and prosecutorial considerations. For more information on Forensics TTA and SAKI TTA, please visit <https://forensicstta.org> and <https://sakitta.org>.

Recommended FGG Resources

[SAKI TTA FGG Training](#) : This virtual module teaches jurisdictions best practices and approaches to common challenges, so they may improve the use of FGG in their investigative workflows. This module, also serves as a prerequisite to an annual refresher course presented by our partners from the FBI's Investigative Genetic Genealogy Team. To access this module enter your SAKI TTA account log-in information, or to create a free account, fill out this [online form](#) .

[SAKI TTA FGG Laboratory Considerations and Technology Limitations](#) : This brief provides guidance on evidence submission and considerations when choosing an FGG laboratory vendor.

[U.S. Dept. of Justice Interim Policy – Forensic Genetic Genealogical DNA Analysis and Searching](#): This policy provides general guidance to agencies applying FGG to criminal investigations. *All BJA grantees using federal funding to support FGG must adhere to requirements in this policy.*