

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA) FORENSICS PROGRAMS

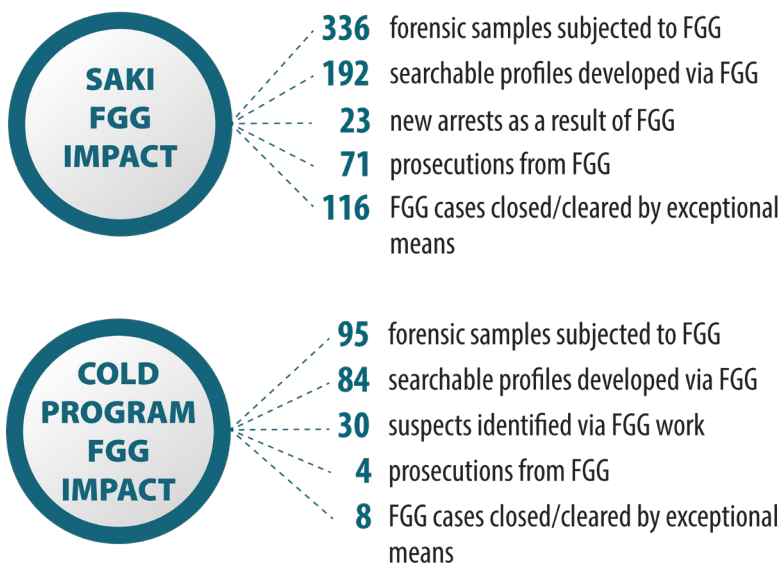
Forensic Genetic Genealogy (FGG) Fact Sheet

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>



considerations. For more information on SAKI TTA and Forensics TTA, please visit <https://sakitta.org> and <https://forensicstta.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.*

Training and Technical Assistance (TTA)

The SAKI TTA Program and the Forensics 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., tree-building), reference testing, confirmation testing, and prosecutorial

This project was supported by Grant No. 2019-MU-BX-K011 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. **For more information, visit <https://sakitta.org>.**