Alternative Sample Processing Techniques for Rootless Hair Shafts and Other Challenging Samples

Research goals include extending the capabilities of forensic geneticists to recover genetic information from rootless hair shafts and additional challenging samples. This project focuses on using novel mitochondrial sequencing techniques, alternative autosomal markers, and advanced software to increase recoverable genetic information. These methodologies are intended to supplement the current short tandem repeat-based testing that is standard for forensic analysis.