THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1338 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, ERICKSON, SOLOBAY, BREWSTER, FERLO, WASHINGTON AND HUGHES, NOVEMBER 10, 2011

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, NOVEMBER 10, 2011

AN ACT

- Amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses), 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) and 44 (Law and Justice) of the 2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for tampering 3 with biological evidence; further providing for expungement; 4 providing for informant testimony, further providing for 5 controlled substance forfeiture, for sovereign immunity and for exceptions to sovereign immunity; providing for wrongful 7 conviction and imprisonment; further providing for 8 preservation of biological evidence; repealing provisions 9 relating to postconviction DNA testing; further providing for 10 jurisdiction and proceedings; providing for postconviction 11 DNA testing; and providing for comparisons with CODIS data, 12 for recording of custodial interrogations, for eyewitness identifications, for forensic laboratories and for powers and 13 14 duties of the board. 15 16 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 17 hereby enacts as follows: 18 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated 19 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read: 20 § 5113. Tampering with biological evidence. 21 A person commits a misdemeanor of the first degree if he 22 knowingly and intentionally destroys, alters or tampers with
- 24 Pa.C.S § 9502 (relating to preservation of biological evidence)

biological evidence that is required to be preserved under 42

- 1 with the intent to prevent that evidence from being subjected to
- 2 DNA testing or prevent the production or use of that evidence in
- 3 an official proceeding.
- 4 Section 2. Section 9122(a) of Title 18 is amended to read:
- 5 § 9122. Expungement.
- 6 (a) Specific proceedings. -- Criminal history record
- 7 information shall be expunded in a specific criminal proceeding
- 8 when:
- 9 (1) no disposition has been received or, upon request
- 10 for criminal history record information, no disposition has
- been recorded in the repository within 18 months after the
- date of arrest and the court of proper jurisdiction certifies
- 13 to the director of the repository that no disposition is
- available and no action is pending. Expungement shall not
- occur until the certification from the court is received and
- the director of the repository authorizes such expungement;
- 17 (2) a court order requires that such nonconviction data
- 18 be expunded; [or]
- 19 (3) a person 21 years of age or older who has been
- 20 convicted of a violation of section 6308 (relating to
- 21 purchase, consumption, possession or transportation of liquor
- or malt or brewed beverages) petitions the court of common
- 23 pleas in the county where the conviction occurred seeking
- 24 expungement and the person has satisfied all terms and
- conditions of the sentence imposed for the violation,
- 26 including any suspension of operating privileges imposed
- 27 pursuant to section 6310.4 (relating to restriction of
- operating privileges). Upon review of the petition, the court
- 29 shall order the expungement of all criminal history record
- 30 information and all administrative records of the Department

1	of Transportation relating to said conviction[.]; or
2	(4) an individual:
3	(i) is found by the Commonwealth Court under 42
4	Pa.C.S. Ch. 85 Subch. D (relating to claims for wrongful
5	conviction and imprisonment) to have been wrongfully
6	<pre>convicted and imprisoned;</pre>
7	(ii) has agreed to a favorable written settlement
8	for a civil claim relating to a wrongful conviction and
9	<pre>imprisonment; or</pre>
10	(iii) has obtained a civil judgment that establishes
11	wrongful conviction and imprisonment.
12	* * *
13	Section 3. Title 42 is amended by adding a section to read:
14	§ 5919.1. Informant testimony.
15	(a) Disclosures In any case in which the prosecution
16	attempts to introduce evidence of incriminating statements made
17	by the accused to an informant or overheard by an informant, the
18	prosecution shall timely disclose all of the following to the
19	<pre>defense:</pre>
20	(1) The intention of the prosecution to introduce the
21	testimony of an informant.
22	(2) The complete criminal history of an informant.
23	(3) Any deal, promise, inducement or benefit which the
24	offering party has made or will make to the informant.
25	(4) The substance of the testimony to be given by the
26	
	informant, including all statements made by the accused and
27	<pre>informant, including all statements made by the accused and heard by the informant.</pre>
27 28	
	heard by the informant.

- 1 $\underline{\text{made.}}$
- 2 (6) Whether, at any time, the informant recanted his
- 3 testimony and, if so, the time and place of the recantation,
- 4 the nature of the recantation and the names of the persons
- 5 who were present at the recantation.
- 6 (7) Other cases in which the informant testified and
- 7 whether the informant received any promise, inducement or
- 8 <u>benefit in exchange for or after that testimony.</u>
- 9 (8) Any other information relevant to the credibility of
- 10 the informant.
- 11 (b) Hearing. -- In any capital case in which the prosecution
- 12 <u>attempts to introduce testimony of incriminating statements made</u>
- 13 by the accused to an informant or overheard by an informant, the
- 14 court shall conduct a hearing before the introduction of the
- 15 testimony to determine whether the testimony is reliable. If the
- 16 prosecution fails to show by a preponderance of the evidence
- 17 that the statement is reliable, the court may not allow the
- 18 testimony to be heard at trial. At this hearing, the court shall
- 19 consider the factors enumerated in subsection (a) as well as any
- 20 other factors relating to reliability. A hearing under this
- 21 subsection is not required if the defendant waives the right to
- 22 the hearing or if an electronic recording was made of the
- 23 statement of the accused.
- 24 (c) Applicability. -- This section applies to informant
- 25 <u>evidence obtained in the course of the investigation of a</u>
- 26 felony.
- 27 (d) Definitions.--As used in this section the following
- 28 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
- 29 <u>subsection:</u>
- 30 "Electronic recording." An audio or audiovisual recording of

- 1 <u>a statement.</u>
- 2 "Informant." An individual whom the prosecution offers as a
- 3 witness to testify about admissions of an accused that were made
- 4 to or overheard by the informant while both the informant and
- 5 the accused were incarcerated in a penal institution.
- 6 Section 4. Sections 6801(f) and (h) and 8521(a) of Title 42
- 7 are amended to read:
- 8 § 6801. Controlled substances forfeiture.
- 9 * * *
- 10 (f) Use of cash or proceeds of property. -- Cash or proceeds
- 11 of forfeited property transferred to the custody of the district
- 12 attorney pursuant to subsection (e) shall be placed in the
- 13 operating fund of the county in which the district attorney is
- 14 elected. The appropriate county authority shall immediately
- 15 release from the operating fund, without restriction, a [like
- 16 amount] portion for the use of the district attorney enforcing
- 17 the provisions of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and
- 18 Cosmetic Act while retaining an adequate balance to preserve
- 19 biological evidence as required under section 9502 (relating to
- 20 <u>preservation of biological evidence</u>). The entity having
- 21 budgetary control shall not anticipate future forfeitures or
- 22 proceeds therefrom in adoption and approval of the budget for
- 23 the district attorney.
- 24 * * *
- 25 (h) Authorization to utilize property. -- The district
- 26 attorney and the Attorney General shall utilize forfeited
- 27 property or proceeds thereof for the purpose of enforcing the
- 28 provisions of The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and
- 29 Cosmetic Act, 18 Pa.C.S. (relating to crimes and offenses) and
- 30 <u>75 Pa.C.S. (relating to vehicles)</u>. In appropriate cases, the

- 1 district attorney and the Attorney General may designate
- 2 proceeds from forfeited property to be utilized by community-
- 3 based drug and crime-fighting programs and for relocation and
- 4 protection of witnesses in criminal cases.
- 5 * * *
- 6 § 8521. Sovereign immunity generally.
- 7 (a) General rule. -- Except as otherwise provided in this
- 8 subchapter and Subchapter D (relating to claims for wrongful
- 9 conviction and imprisonment), no provision of this title shall
- 10 constitute a waiver of sovereign immunity for the purpose of 1
- 11 Pa.C.S. section 2310 (relating to sovereign immunity reaffirmed;
- 12 specific waiver) or otherwise.
- 13 * * *
- 14 Section 5. Section 8522(b) of Title 42 is amended by adding
- 15 a paragraph to read:
- 16 § 8522. Exceptions to sovereign immunity.
- 17 * * *
- 18 (b) Acts which may impose liability. -- The following acts by
- 19 a Commonwealth party may result in the imposition of liability
- 20 on the Commonwealth and the defense of sovereign immunity shall
- 21 not be raised to claims for damages caused by:
- 22 * * *
- 23 (10) Wrongful conviction and imprisonment.--Wrongful
- 24 conviction and imprisonment for which claims may be brought
- 25 <u>under Subchapter D (relating to claims for wrongful</u>
- 26 <u>conviction and imprisonment).</u>
- 27 * * *
- 28 Section 6. Chapter 85 of Title 42 is amended by adding a
- 29 subchapter to read:
- 30 SUBCHAPTER D

- 1 CLAIMS FOR WRONGFUL CONVICTION AND IMPRISONMENT
- 2 Sec.
- 3 8581. Eligibility.
- 4 8582. Statement of claim and basis of award.
- 5 8583. Commonwealth Court.
- 6 8584. Presentation of claim.
- 7 <u>8585. Damages.</u>
- 8 8586. Report and order.
- 9 <u>8587. Notice.</u>
- 10 8588. Statute of limitations.
- 11 § 8581. Eligibility.
- 12 Any person convicted and subsequently imprisoned for one or
- 13 more crimes that the person did not commit and who has been
- 14 <u>released from prison and is not subject to retrial, or the heirs</u>
- 15 of such person if the person is deceased, may present a claim
- 16 for damages against the Commonwealth. Other than credit for time
- 17 served, a claimant is not entitled to compensation under this
- 18 subchapter for any portion of a sentence spent incarcerated
- 19 during which the claimant was also serving a consecutive or
- 20 concurrent sentence for another crime to which this subchapter
- 21 does not apply. The acceptance by the claimant of any judicial
- 22 award, compromise or settlement shall be in writing and shall,
- 23 except when procured by fraud, be final and conclusive on the
- 24 claimant and completely bar any further action by the claimant
- 25 against the Commonwealth for the same subject matter.
- 26 § 8582. Statement of claim and basis of award.
- 27 (a) Evidence of claim. -- To present a claim for wrongful
- 28 conviction and imprisonment, the claimant must establish that:
- 29 <u>(1) He has been convicted of one or more crimes and</u>
- 30 subsequently sentenced to a term of imprisonment and has

1	served all or any part of the sentence.
2	(2) His actual innocence has been established by:
3	(i) being pardoned by the Governor for the crime or
4	crimes for which he was sentenced, and which are the
5	basis for the claim, on the grounds that the crime or
6	crimes were either not committed at all or, if committed,
7	were not committed by the defendant;
8	(ii) having the judgment of conviction of the
9	claimant reversed or vacated and the accusatory
10	instrument dismissed if the judgment of conviction was
11	reversed or vacated or the accusatory instrument was
12	dismissed on grounds consistent with innocence; or
13	(iii) if a new trial was ordered, either being found
14	not guilty at the new trial or not being retried and the
15	accusatory instrument dismissed.
16	(b) Basis of awardTo obtain a judgment in the claimant's
17	favor, the claimant must demonstrate that:
18	(1) The claimant was convicted of one or more crimes and
19	subsequently sentenced to a term of imprisonment and has
20	served all or any part of the sentence.
21	(2) By clear and convincing evidence his actual
22	innocence has been established under subsection (a)(2).
23	§ 8583. Commonwealth Court.
24	Proceedings before the court shall be governed by rules
25	established by the court, which shall emphasize, to the greatest
26	extent possible, informality of proceedings. No claimant shall
27	be required to be represented or accompanied by an attorney.
28	§ 8584. Presentation of claim.
29	All claims of wrongful conviction and imprisonment shall be
30	presented to and heard by the Commonwealth Court. Upon

- 1 presentation of a claim under section 8582 (relating to
- 2 statement of claim and basis of award), the court shall fix a
- 3 time and place to hear the claim. At least 15 days prior to the
- 4 time fixed for the hearing, the court shall mail notice thereof
- 5 to the claimant and to the district attorney in the district
- 6 where the claimant was prosecuted for the crimes which serve as
- 7 the basis for this claim. The district attorney may offer
- 8 <u>evidence and argue in opposition to the claim for damages. If</u>
- 9 the claimant was prosecuted by the Office of Attorney General,
- 10 then that office, rather than the district attorney, must be
- 11 <u>notified that it may oppose the claim under this section.</u>
- 12 <u>§ 8585.</u> Damages.
- 13 <u>If the Commonwealth Court finds that the claimant was</u>
- 14 wrongfully convicted and imprisoned, it may award damages as
- 15 follows:
- (1) A minimum of \$50,000 for each year of incarceration,
- as adjusted annually to account for inflation from the
- 18 effective date of this section, and prorated for partial
- 19 years served.
- 20 (2) In a lump sum or as an annuity as chosen by the
- 21 claimant.
- 22 (3) Compensation for any reasonable reintegrative
- 23 services and mental and physical health care costs incurred
- 24 by the claimant for the time period between his release from
- incarceration and the date of his award.
- 26 (4) Reasonable attorney fees calculated at 10% of the
- 27 <u>damage award plus expenses. Exclusive of expenses, these fees</u>
- 28 may not exceed \$75,000, as adjusted annually to account for
- 29 <u>inflation from the effective date of this section, unless the</u>
- 30 court approves an additional amount for good cause. These

1	fees may not be deducted from the compensation due the
2	claimant nor may his counsel receive additional fees from the
3	client for this matter.
4	(5) Compensation to those entitled to child-support
5	payments owed by the claimant that became due, and interest
6	on child-support arrearages that accrued during the time the
7	claimant served in prison but were not paid. Such
8	compensation is to be provided out of the total cash award to
9	the claimant under paragraph (1).
10	(6) In any case for which compensation is authorized by
11	this subchapter, the payment of compensation may be:
12	(i) to or for the benefit of the claimant; or
13	(ii) in the case of death of the claimant, to or for
14	the benefit of any one or more of the heirs at law of the
15	claimant who at the time of the claimant's demise were
16	dependent upon the claimant for support.
17	(7) To decide damages, the Commonwealth Court shall
18	consider all circumstances surrounding the claim, including,
19	but not limited to, the length of the claimant's wrongful
20	incarceration, any injuries the claimant sustained while
21	incarcerated, any other need for financial aid and any other
22	relevant matters. Insofar as practical, the Commonwealth
23	Court shall formulate standards for uniform application in
24	recommending compensation.
25	(8) The damage award is not subject to any cap
26	applicable to private parties in civil lawsuits.
27	(9) The damage award may not be offset by any expenses
28	incurred by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision of
29	the Commonwealth, including, but not limited to, expenses
3.0	incurred to secure the claimant's custody or to feed clothe

- or provide medical services for the claimant, nor may the
- 2 <u>court offset the value of any services or reduction in fees</u>
- 3 for services or the value thereof to be provided to the
- 4 <u>claimant that may be awarded to the claimant under this</u>
- 5 section.
- 6 (10) The award of damages shall include reimbursement
- for any statutorily mandated and court-assessed costs, fines,
- 8 <u>restitution and fees to the extent that they have been</u>
- 9 <u>collected.</u>
- 10 (11) A decision of the Commonwealth Court on behalf of
- 11 <u>the claimant shall result in the automatic expungement of the</u>
- criminal history record of the claimant as it relates to the
- 13 crimes that form the basis of this claim. As part of its
- 14 decision, the court shall specifically direct the
- Pennsylvania State Police and the prosecuting district
- 16 attorney of the original crimes that form the basis of this
- 17 claim to expunde the record consistent with this paragraph.
- 18 Accordingly, the court shall forward a copy of its decision
- 19 to the Pennsylvania State Police and to the prosecuting
- 20 <u>district attorney</u>.
- 21 (12) The damage award is not subject to any Commonwealth
- 22 taxes.
- 23 § 8586. Report and order.
- The Commonwealth Court shall issue a ruling and order and
- 25 provide the State Treasurer a statement of the total
- 26 compensation due and owing to the claimant from the
- 27 Commonwealth.
- 28 <u>\$ 8587</u>. Notice.
- 29 (a) Court. -- A court granting judicial relief as described in
- 30 section 8582(a) (relating to statement of claim and basis of

- 1 <u>award</u>) shall provide a copy of this subchapter to the individual
- 2 seeking such relief at the time the court determines that the
- 3 claimant's claim is likely to succeed. The individual shall be
- 4 required to acknowledge his receipt of a copy of this subchapter
- 5 <u>in writing on a form established by the Supreme Court. The</u>
- 6 <u>acknowledgment shall be entered on the docket by the court and</u>
- 7 <u>shall be admissible in any proceeding filed by a claimant under</u>
- 8 this subchapter.
- 9 (b) Board of Pardons.--Upon the issuance of a full pardon on
- 10 or after the effective date of this subchapter, the Board of
- 11 Pardons shall provide a copy of this subchapter to an individual
- 12 when pardoned as described in section 8582(a). The individual
- 13 shall be required to acknowledge his receipt of a copy of this
- 14 <u>subchapter in writing on a form established by the board, which</u>
- 15 shall be retained on file by the board as part of its official
- 16 records and shall be admissible in any proceeding filed by a
- 17 claimant under this subchapter.
- 18 (c) Failure to provide notice. -- In the event a claimant
- 19 granted judicial relief or a full pardon on or after the
- 20 effective date of this subchapter shows he did not properly
- 21 receive a copy of the information required by this section, the
- 22 claimant shall receive a one-year extension on the two-year time
- 23 <u>limit provided in section 8588 (relating to statute of</u>
- 24 limitations).
- 25 (d) Notice by Supreme Court.--The Supreme Court shall make
- 26 reasonable attempts to notify all persons who were granted
- 27 <u>judicial relief as described in section 8582(a), prior to the</u>
- 28 <u>enactment of this subchapter</u>, of their rights under this
- 29 <u>subchapter</u>.
- 30 § 8588. Statute of limitations.

- 1 An action for compensation brought by a wrongfully convicted
- 2 person under this subchapter shall be commenced within two years
- 3 after either the grant of a pardon or the grant of judicial
- 4 relief and satisfaction of other conditions described in section
- 5 8582 (relating to statement of claim and basis of award). Any
- 6 action by the Commonwealth challenging or appealing the grant of
- 7 judicial relief tolls the two-year period. Persons convicted,
- 8 incarcerated and released from custody prior to the effective
- 9 <u>date of this subchapter shall commence an action under this</u>
- 10 subchapter within five years of the effective date.
- 11 Section 7. Title 42 is amended by adding a section to read:
- 12 § 9502. Preservation of biological evidence.
- 13 <u>(a) General rule.--Notwithstanding any other provision of</u>
- 14 law, the prosecuting jurisdiction or its designee shall preserve
- 15 biological evidence that was secured in the investigation or
- 16 prosecution of a criminal offense, if criminal proceedings are
- 17 pending or if a defendant is under a sentence of imprisonment
- 18 for that offense. Prosecuting jurisdictions may act jointly to
- 19 comply with this section.
- 20 (b) Applicability. -- Subsection (a) shall not apply if:
- 21 (1) a court has denied a request or motion for DNA
- 22 testing of the biological evidence by the defendant under Ch.
- 23 95, Subch. E (relating to postconviction DNA testing), and no
- 24 appeal is pending;
- 25 (2) after a conviction becomes final and the defendant
- has exhausted all opportunities for direct review of the
- 27 <u>conviction</u>, the defendant, his counsel of record and the
- 28 public defender is notified that the biological evidence may
- 29 <u>be destroyed and the defendant does not file a motion under</u>
- 30 Ch. 95 Subch. E, within one year of receipt of the notice; or

1	(3) the evidence must be returned to its rightful owner,
2	or is of such a size, bulk or physical character as to render
3	retention impractical and:
4	(i) the prosecuting jurisdiction or its designee
5	takes reasonable measures to remove and preserve portions
6	of the material evidence sufficient to permit future DNA
7	testing; or
8	(ii) the biological evidence has already been
9	subjected to DNA testing under Ch. 95 Subch. E and the
10	results included the defendant as the source of the
11	evidence.
12	(c) Other preservation requirement Biological evidence
13	required to be preserved under this section shall be preserved
14	under reasonable conditions designed to preserve the integrity
15	of the evidence and the testing process, which must be
16	consistent with applicable standards promulgated by a nationally
17	recognized accrediting board and approved by the Forensic
18	Advisory Board. Nothing in this section preempts or supersedes
19	any statute, regulation, court order or other provision of law
20	that may require evidence, including biological evidence, to be
21	preserved.
22	(d) RegulationsNot later than 180 days after the date of
23	this section's enactment, the prosecuting jurisdiction shall
24	promulgate rules or regulations to implement and enforce this
25	section, including appropriate disciplinary sanctions to ensure
26	<pre>compliance.</pre>
27	(e) Fee Unless the court finds that undue hardship would
28	result, a fee of \$125 shall automatically be assessed on a
29	person convicted or adjudicated delinquent for a criminal
30	offense requiring preservation of biological evidence under this

- 1 section. All proceeds derived from this fee shall be transmitted
- 2 to the prosecuting jurisdiction. This fee is in addition to any
- 3 other fees imposed by statutory authority and the fee shall be
- 4 <u>assessed per capita rather than per criminal offense or amount</u>
- 5 of biological evidence. This fee shall be collected in
- 6 accordance with section 9728 (relating to collection of
- 7 restitution, reparation, fees, costs, fines and penalties).
- 8 <u>Subsection (a) applies regardless whether a fee under this</u>
- 9 <u>subsection is assessed and collected. If the conviction or</u>
- 10 adjudication of delinquency is reversed or vacated or if the
- 11 sentence is vacated, the prosecuting jurisdiction shall promptly
- 12 refund the fee.
- (f) Definitions. -- As used in this section, the following
- 14 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
- 15 subsection:
- 16 "Biological evidence." The contents of a sexual assault
- 17 examination kit, and any item that contains blood, semen, hair,
- 18 saliva, skin tissue, fingernail scrapings, bone, bodily fluids
- 19 or other biological material that was collected as part of the
- 20 criminal investigation that may be probative of the
- 21 perpetrator's identity or may reasonably be used to incriminate
- 22 or exculpate any person for the offense. This definition applies
- 23 whether that material is cataloged separately, e.g., on a slide
- 24 or swab or in a test tube, or is present on other evidence,
- 25 <u>including clothing</u>, <u>ligatures</u>, <u>bedding or other household</u>
- 26 material, drinking cups or cigarettes.
- 27 "Criminal offense." An act that can be prosecuted under any
- 28 of the following provisions of 18 Pa.C.S. (relating to crimes
- 29 and offenses):
- 30 Chapter 25 (relating to criminal homicide).

- 1 <u>Chapter 27 (relating to assault).</u>
- 2 <u>Chapter 29 (relating to kidnapping).</u>
- 3 <u>Chapter 31 (relating to sexual offenses).</u>

resulted in the judgment of conviction.

- 4 <u>Chapter 37 (relating to robbery).</u>
- 5 <u>"Prosecuting jurisdiction." The county where the criminal</u>
- 6 offense occurred.
- 7 Section 8. Section 9543.1 of Title 42 is repealed:
- 8 [§ 9543.1. Postconviction DNA testing.
- 9 (a) Motion.--

- (1) An individual convicted of a criminal offense in a court of this Commonwealth and serving a term of imprisonment or awaiting execution because of a sentence of death may apply by making a written motion to the sentencing court for the performance of forensic DNA testing on specific evidence that is related to the investigation or prosecution that
- 17 The evidence may have been discovered either prior 18 to or after the applicant's conviction. The evidence shall be 19 available for testing as of the date of the motion. If the 20 evidence was discovered prior to the applicant's conviction, 21 the evidence shall not have been subject to the DNA testing 22 requested because the technology for testing was not in 23 existence at the time of the trial or the applicant's counsel 24 did not seek testing at the time of the trial in a case where 25 a verdict was rendered on or before January 1, 1995, or the 26 applicant's counsel sought funds from the court to pay for 27 the testing because his client was indigent and the court 28 refused the request despite the client's indigency.
- 29 (b) Notice to the Commonwealth.--
- 30 (1) Upon receipt of a motion under subsection (a), the

- court shall notify the Commonwealth and shall afford the Commonwealth an opportunity to respond to the motion.
- 3 (2) Upon receipt of a motion under subsection (a) or
 4 notice of the motion, as applicable, the Commonwealth and the
 5 court shall take the steps reasonably necessary to ensure
 6 that any remaining biological material in the possession of
 7 the Commonwealth or the court is preserved pending the
 8 completion of the proceedings under this section.
- 9 (c) Requirements.--In any motion under subsection (a), under 10 penalty of perjury, the applicant shall:
 - (1) (i) specify the evidence to be tested;
 - (ii) state that the applicant consents to provide samples of bodily fluid for use in the DNA testing; and
 - (iii) acknowledge that the applicant understands that, if the motion is granted, any data obtained from any DNA samples or test results may be entered into law enforcement databases, may be used in the investigation of other crimes and may be used as evidence against the applicant in other cases.
 - (2) (i) assert the applicant's actual innocence of the offense for which the applicant was convicted; and
 - (ii) in a capital case:
 - (A) assert the applicant's actual innocence of the charged or uncharged conduct constituting an aggravating circumstance under section 9711(d) (relating to sentencing procedure for murder of the first degree) if the applicant's exoneration of the conduct would result in vacating a sentence of death; or
- 30 (B) assert that the outcome of the DNA testing

would establish a mitigating circumstance under
section 9711(e)(7) if that mitigating circumstance
was presented to the sentencing judge or jury and
facts as to that issue were in dispute at the
sentencing hearing.

- (3) present a prima facie case demonstrating that the:
- (i) identity of or the participation in the crime by the perpetrator was at issue in the proceedings that resulted in the applicant's conviction and sentencing; and
- (ii) DNA testing of the specific evidence, assuming exculpatory results, would establish:
 - (A) the applicant's actual innocence of the offense for which the applicant was convicted;
 - (B) in a capital case, the applicant's actual innocence of the charged or uncharged conduct constituting an aggravating circumstance under section 9711(d) if the applicant's exoneration of the conduct would result in vacating a sentence of death; or
 - (C) in a capital case, a mitigating circumstance under section 9711(e)(7) under the circumstances set forth in subsection (c)(1)(iv).
- (d) Order.--

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25 (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the court shall
26 order the testing requested in a motion under subsection (a)
27 under reasonable conditions designed to preserve the
28 integrity of the evidence and the testing process upon a
29 determination, after review of the record of the applicant's
30 trial, that the:

- 1 (i) requirements of subsection (c) have been met; 2 evidence to be tested has been subject to a 3 chain of custody sufficient to establish that it has not been altered in any material respect; and 4 5 (iii) motion is made in a timely manner and for the purpose of demonstrating the applicant's actual innocence 6 7 and not to delay the execution of sentence or 8 administration of justice. 9 The court shall not order the testing requested in a 10 motion under subsection (a) if, after review of the record of the applicant's trial, the court determines that there is no 11 12 reasonable possibility that the testing would produce 13 exculpatory evidence that: 14 would establish the applicant's actual innocence of the offense for which the applicant was convicted; 15 16 in a capital case, would establish the 17 applicant's actual innocence of the charged or uncharged 18 conduct constituting an aggravating circumstance under 19 section 9711(d) if the applicant's exoneration of the 20 conduct would result in vacating a sentence of death; or 21 in a capital case, would establish a 22 mitigating circumstance under section 9711(e)(7) under 23 the circumstances set forth in subsection (c)(1)(iv). 24 (e) Testing procedures. --25 Any DNA testing ordered under this section shall be 26 conducted by: 27 (i) a laboratory mutually selected by the 28
 - Commonwealth and the applicant;
- 29 if the Commonwealth and the applicant are unable to agree on a laboratory, a laboratory selected by 30

- 1 the court that ordered the testing; or
- 2 (iii) if the applicant is indigent, the testing
- 3 shall be conducted by the Pennsylvania State Police or,
- 4 at the Pennsylvania State Police's sole discretion, by a
- 5 laboratory designated by the Pennsylvania State Police.
- 6 (2) The costs of any testing ordered under this section 7 shall be paid:
 - (i) by the applicant; or
- 9 (ii) in the case of an applicant who is indigent, by
 10 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
 - (3) Testing conducted by the Pennsylvania State Police shall be carried out in accordance with the protocols and procedures established by the Pennsylvania State Police.
- 14 (f) Posttesting procedures.--

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- (1) After the DNA testing conducted under this section
 has been completed, the applicant may, pursuant to section
 9545(b)(2) (relating to jurisdiction and proceedings), during
 the 60-day period beginning on the date on which the
 applicant is notified of the test results, petition to the
 court for postconviction relief pursuant to section 9543(a)
 (2)(vi) (relating to eligibility for relief).
 - (2) Upon receipt of a petition filed under paragraph
 (1), the court shall consider the petition along with any
 answer filed by the Commonwealth and shall conduct a hearing
 thereon.
 - (3) In any hearing on a petition for postconviction relief filed under paragraph (1), the court shall determine whether the exculpatory evidence resulting from the DNA testing conducted under this section would have changed the outcome of the trial as required by section 9543(a)(2)(vi).

- 1 (g) Effect of motion. -- The filing of a motion for forensic
- 2 DNA testing pursuant to subsection (a) shall have the following
- 3 effect:
- 4 (1) The filing of the motion shall constitute the
- 5 applicant's consent to provide samples of bodily fluid for
- 6 use in the DNA testing.
- 7 (2) The data from any DNA samples or test results
- 8 obtained as a result of the motion may be entered into law
- 9 enforcement databases, may be used in the investigation of
- 10 other crimes and may be used as evidence against the
- 11 applicant in other cases.
- 12 (h) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
- 13 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
- 14 subsection:
- 15 "Applicant." The individual who files a motion under
- 16 subsection (a).
- 17 "DNA." Deoxyribonucleic acid.]
- 18 Section 9. Section 9545(b) of Title 42 is amended to read:
- 19 § 9545. Jurisdiction and proceedings.
- 20 * * *
- 21 (b) Time for filing petition.--
- 22 (1) Any petition under this subchapter, including a
- 23 second or subsequent petition, shall be filed within one year
- of the date the judgment becomes final, unless the petition
- 25 alleges and the petitioner proves that:
- 26 (i) the failure to raise the claim previously was
- 27 the result of interference by government officials with
- the presentation of the claim in violation of the
- 29 Constitution or laws of this Commonwealth or the
- 30 Constitution or laws of the United States;

- 1 (ii) the facts upon which the claim is predicated 2 were unknown to the petitioner and could not have been 3 ascertained by the exercise of due diligence; or
- (iii) the right asserted is a constitutional right
 that was recognized by the Supreme Court of the United
 States or the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania after the
 time period provided in this section and has been held by
 that court to apply retroactively.
- 9 (2) Any petition invoking an exception provided in
 10 paragraph (1) shall be filed within [60 days] one year of the
 11 date the claim could have been presented.
- 12 (3) For purposes of this subchapter, a judgment becomes 13 final at the conclusion of direct review, including 14 discretionary review in the Supreme Court of the United 15 States and the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, or at the 16 expiration of time for seeking the review.
- 17 (4) For purposes of this subchapter, "government 18 officials" shall not include defense counsel, whether 19 appointed or retained.
- 20 <u>(5) This subsection does not apply to a petition filed</u>
 21 <u>under Subchapter E (relating to postconviction DNA testing).</u>
- 22 * * *
- 23 Section 10. Chapter 95 of Title 42 is amended by adding a 24 subchapter to read:
- 25 SUBCHAPTER E
- 26 POSTCONVICTION DNA TESTING
- 27 <u>Sec.</u>
- 28 <u>9581</u>. Short title of subchapter.
- 29 9582. Definitions.
- 30 9583. Right to file petition for DNA testing.

- 1 <u>9584</u>. Form of petition.
- 2 9585. Filing, docketing and effect of petition.
- 3 9586. Counsel for indigent petitioners.
- 4 <u>9587. Dismissal or acceptance for adjudication.</u>
- 5 <u>9588. Proceedings on petition.</u>
- 6 9589. Comparisons with CODIS data.
- 7 <u>9590. Discovery.</u>
- 8 <u>9591. Testing procedures.</u>
- 9 <u>9592. Appeal.</u>
- 10 9593. Procedure after test results.
- 11 § 9581. Short title of subchapter.
- 12 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the
- 13 <u>Pennsylvania Postconviction DNA Testing Act.</u>
- 14 § 9582. Definitions.
- The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter
- 16 shall have the meanings given in this section unless the context
- 17 clearly indicates otherwise:
- 18 "Biological evidence." The contents of a sexual assault
- 19 examination kit and any item that contains blood, semen, hair,
- 20 saliva, skin tissue, fingernail scrapings, bone, bodily fluids
- 21 or other biological material that was collected as part of the
- 22 criminal investigation that may be probative of the
- 23 perpetrator's identity or may reasonably be used to incriminate
- 24 or exculpate any person for the offense. This definition applies
- 25 whether that material is cataloged separately, e.g., on a slide
- 26 or swab or in a test tube, or is present on other evidence,
- 27 <u>including clothing, ligatures, bedding or other household</u>
- 28 material, drinking cups or cigarettes.
- 29 "CODIS." The Federal Combined DNA Index System.
- 30 "DNA testing." Postconviction forensic DNA testing under

- 1 this subchapter.
- 2 <u>"State DNA Data Base." The State DNA Data Base established</u>
- 3 under 44 Pa.C.S. § 2312 (relating to State DNA Data Base).
- 4 "Successive petition." A petition for DNA testing filed by a
- 5 petitioner who has previously filed a petition for DNA testing.
- 6 § 9583. Right to file petition for DNA testing.
- 7 Notwithstanding any other provision of law governing
- 8 postconviction relief, an individual convicted of a crime may
- 9 file a petition for DNA testing under this subchapter. A waiver
- 10 of the right to file a petition for DNA testing is not
- 11 <u>effective</u>, whether the purported waiver is made by itself, as
- 12 part of an agreement resulting in a plea of guilty or nolo
- 13 <u>contendere</u>, or in any other manner.
- 14 § 9584. Form of petition.
- 15 (a) Contents of petition. -- The petition for DNA testing must
- 16 be made under oath by the petitioner and must include the
- 17 following:
- 18 (1) A statement of the facts relied on in support of the
- 19 <u>petition, including a description of the physical evidence</u>
- 20 containing DNA to be tested and, if known, the present
- 21 location or the last known location of the evidence and how
- it was originally obtained.
- 23 (2) A statement that the evidence was not previously
- tested for DNA or a statement that subsequent scientific
- 25 developments in DNA testing techniques would likely produce a
- definitive result establishing that the petitioner is not the
- 27 <u>person who committed the crime.</u>
- 28 (3) A statement that the petitioner is innocent of a
- 29 crime for which the petitioner was sentenced.
- 30 (4) In a successive petition, the person's certification

- that he has not filed a previous petition on similar grounds,
- 2 and a statement of the reason for the petitioner's failure to
- 3 <u>raise the current grounds in the previous petition.</u>
- 4 (5) A statement describing how the requested DNA testing
- 5 <u>will exonerate the defendant of the crime or will mitigate</u>
- 6 the sentence received by the petitioner for the crime.
- 7 (6) The petitioner's consent to provide samples of
- 8 <u>bodily fluid for use in the DNA testing.</u>
- 9 (7) The petitioner's consent that the data from any DNA
- samples or test results obtained as a result of the petition
- 11 may be entered into law enforcement databases, used in the
- investigation of other crimes or used as evidence against the
- 13 <u>petitioner in other cases.</u>
- 14 (b) Form. -- If the Supreme Court promulgates an official form
- 15 for a petition for DNA testing, the Department of Corrections
- 16 shall make the form available to prisoners.
- 17 § 9585. Filing, docketing and effect of petition.
- 18 (a) Filing. -- A request for DNA testing may be filed at any
- 19 time following sentencing, and shall be by written petition and
- 20 be filed with the clerk of courts of the judicial district in
- 21 which the sentence was imposed.
- 22 (b) Notice to the Commonwealth. -- A copy of the petition
- 23 shall be served on the attorney for the Commonwealth. The
- 24 Commonwealth may respond in accordance with the Pennsylvania
- 25 Rules of Criminal Procedure.
- 26 (c) Court rules.--Except as otherwise provided in this
- 27 <u>subchapter</u>, the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure apply
- 28 to a petition for DNA testing, and the petition shall be
- 29 considered a petition for postconviction collateral relief under
- 30 those rules.

- 1 (d) Effect of filing petition. --
- 2 (1) The filing of a petition for forensic DNA testing
- 3 constitutes the petitioner's consent to provide samples of
- 4 <u>bodily fluid for use in the DNA testing.</u>
- 5 (2) The filing of the petition also constitutes the
- 6 consent of the petitioner that the data from any DNA samples
- 7 or test results obtained as a result of the petition may be
- 8 entered into law enforcement databases, used in the
- 9 <u>investigation of other crimes or used as evidence against the</u>
- 10 petitioner in other cases.
- 11 (3) The court shall ensure that the petitioner has filed
- the petition with knowledge of paragraphs (1) and (2) and has
- 13 <u>knowingly and intelligently consented to their provisions.</u>
- Averments in the petition as provided under section 9584(a)
- 15 (6) and (7) (relating to form of petition), or a written
- representation that the petitioner has filed the petition
- 17 with knowledge of paragraphs (1) and (2) and has knowingly
- and intelligently consented to their provisions, filed of
- 19 record and signed by petitioner or counsel for the
- 20 petitioner, is sufficient to establish consent under this
- 21 paragraph.
- 22 (e) Inventory. -- Upon receipt of a petition for DNA testing,
- 23 the Commonwealth shall promptly prepare an inventory of the
- 24 evidence related to the case and serve a copy of the inventory
- 25 to the prosecution, the petitioner, the petitioner's attorney
- 26 and the court.
- 27 § 9586. Counsel for indigent petitioners.
- 28 (a) Request for counsel. -- An indigent, convicted individual
- 29 may request appointment of counsel to prepare a petition for DNA
- 30 testing by sending a written request to the court. The request

- 1 shall include the individual's statement that he was not the
- 2 perpetrator of the crime and that DNA testing is relevant to his
- 3 assertion of innocence. The request also shall include the
- 4 <u>individual's statement as to whether he previously has had</u>
- 5 counsel appointed under this section. If any of the information
- 6 required by this subsection is missing from the request, the
- 7 court shall return the request to the convicted individual and
- 8 advise him that the matter cannot be considered without the
- 9 missing information or, if the Supreme Court has promulgated a
- 10 form for a request for appointment of counsel to prepare a
- 11 petition for DNA testing, the court may send him that form.
- 12 (b) Appointment of counsel. -- Upon a finding that the
- 13 individual is indigent:
- 14 (1) If counsel has not previously been appointed under
- this subsection, the court shall appoint counsel to
- investigate and, if appropriate, to file a petition for DNA
- 17 testing and to represent the individual solely for the
- 18 purpose of obtaining the testing.
- 19 (2) If counsel has been previously appointed under this
- section, the court may appoint counsel to perform the duties
- 21 described in paragraph (1).
- 22 § 9587. Dismissal or acceptance for adjudication.
- 23 (a) General rule.--Unless subsection (c) applies, the court
- 24 shall dismiss a petition on its own motion without requiring the
- 25 Commonwealth to respond to the petition if either of the
- 26 following apply:
- 27 <u>(1) The petition is frivolous.</u>
- 28 (2) In the case of a successive petition, the petition
- fails to meet the requirements of subsection (b).
- 30 (b) Successive petitions. -- The court shall hear a successive

- 1 petition if the petition alleges substantially new or different
- 2 grounds for relief, including factual, scientific or legal
- 3 arguments not previously presented, or the availability of more
- 4 <u>advanced DNA technology that provides a reasonable probability</u>
- 5 of more probative results.
- 6 (c) Interests of justice. -- The court may adjudicate any
- 7 petition under this subchapter if the interests of justice so
- 8 <u>require.</u>
- 9 § 9588. Proceedings on petition.
- 10 (a) Criteria for relief. -- Unless the court dismisses a
- 11 petition under section 9587 (relating to dismissal or acceptance
- 12 for adjudication), the court shall promptly conduct a hearing on
- 13 the petition. The court shall grant the DNA testing requested by
- 14 the petition if it finds all of the following:
- 15 <u>(1) The petitioner has demonstrated a reasonable</u>
- 16 <u>probability that the petitioner would not have been convicted</u>
- or would have received a lesser sentence if favorable results
- had been obtained through DNA testing, under this subchapter
- 19 or under previously applicable law, at the time of the
- 20 <u>original prosecution</u>.
- 21 (2) The evidence to be tested was secured in relation to
- 22 the offense underlying the challenged conviction and one of
- the following applies:
- 24 (i) The evidence was not previously subjected to DNA
- 25 <u>testing under this subchapter or under previously</u>
- applicable law.
- 27 (ii) Although previously subjected to DNA testing
- under this subchapter or under previously applicable law,
- 29 the evidence can be subjected to additional DNA testing
- 30 that provides a reasonable likelihood of more probative

- 1 results.
- 2 (3) At least one item of evidence that the petitioner
- 3 seeks to have tested is in existence.
- 4 (4) The chain of custody of the evidence to be tested
- 5 <u>establishes that the evidence has not been tampered with,</u>
- 6 replaced or altered in any material respect or, if the chain
- 7 of custody does not establish the integrity of the evidence,
- 8 the results of the DNA testing can establish the integrity of
- 9 the evidence. Evidence that has been in the custody of law
- 10 enforcement, other government officials or a public or
- 11 private hospital shall be presumed to satisfy this paragraph,
- 12 <u>absent specific evidence of material tampering, replacement</u>
- or alteration.
- 14 (5) The petition is made to demonstrate factual
- innocence or the appropriateness of a lesser sentence and not
- solely to unreasonably delay the execution of sentence or the
- 17 administration of justice.
- 18 (b) Other orders.--The court may make such other orders as
- 19 may be appropriate in connection with proceedings under this
- 20 subchapter, either on its own initiative or on motion of any
- 21 party to the proceedings.
- 22 § 9589. Comparisons with CODIS data.
- 23 For purposes of supporting a petition under this subchapter,
- 24 a petitioner may request and the court may order a law
- 25 enforcement entity that has access to CODIS or the State DNA
- 26 Data Base to submit the DNA profile obtained from probative
- 27 <u>biological material from crime scene evidence to those databases</u>
- 28 to determine whether that profile matches a profile of a known
- 29 individual or a profile from an unsolved crime. The DNA profile
- 30 submitted to the databases must comply with the Federal Bureau

- 1 of Investigation's requirements for the uploading of crime scene
- 2 profiles to CODIS.
- 3 § 9590. Discovery.
- 4 (a) Court orders. -- At any time after a petition has been
- 5 <u>filed under this subchapter, the court may order the</u>
- 6 Commonwealth to do any or all of the following:
- 7 (1) Locate and provide the petitioner with any reports,
- 8 <u>notes, logs or other documents relating to items of physical</u>
- 9 <u>evidence collected in connection with the case, or otherwise</u>
- 10 assist the petitioner in locating items of biological
- 11 <u>evidence that the Commonwealth contends have been lost or</u>
- 12 <u>destroyed</u>.
- 13 (2) Take reasonable measures to locate biological
- evidence that may be in the custody of the Commonwealth.
- 15 (3) Assist the petitioner in locating evidence that may
- be in the custody of a public or private hospital, public or
- 17 private laboratory or other facility.
- 18 (4) Produce laboratory reports prepared in connection
- 19 with the DNA testing, as well as the underlying data and the
- laboratory notes, if evidence had previously been subjected
- 21 to DNA testing under this subchapter or previously applicable
- 22 <u>law</u>.
- 23 (b) Previous testing.--If the prosecution or the petitioner
- 24 previously conducted DNA testing or other testing of biological
- 25 evidence without knowledge of the other party, that testing
- 26 shall be revealed in the petition for testing or the response.
- 27 <u>(c) Reports and data.--If the court orders new DNA testing,</u>
- 28 the court shall order the production of any laboratory reports
- 29 prepared in connection with the DNA testing. The court may also
- 30 order production of the underlying data or other laboratory

- 1 documents.
- 2 (d) Results. -- The results of the DNA testing shall be
- 3 disclosed to the prosecution, the petitioner and the court.
- 4 § 9591. Testing procedures.
- 5 (a) Court supervision. -- The court may order any or all of
- 6 the following:
- 7 (1) The preservation of some portion of the sample for
- 8 <u>replication of the test.</u>
- 9 (2) Additional DNA testing, if the results of the
- initial testing are inconclusive or additional scientific
- analysis of the results is otherwise required.
- 12 <u>(3) The collection and DNA testing of additional</u>
- 13 <u>reference samples for comparison purposes.</u>
- 14 (b) Selection of laboratory. -- DNA testing shall be conducted
- 15 by a laboratory mutually selected by the Commonwealth and the
- 16 <u>petitioner. If the Commonwealth and the petitioner are unable to</u>
- 17 agree on a laboratory, the testing shall be conducted by a
- 18 laboratory selected by the court. If the petitioner is indigent,
- 19 the testing shall be conducted by the Pennsylvania State Police
- 20 or, at the Pennsylvania State Police's sole discretion, by a
- 21 laboratory designated by the Pennsylvania State Police. A
- 22 laboratory selected under this subsection must be accredited.
- (c) Costs.--The costs of DNA testing shall be paid by the
- 24 petitioner, or in the case of an indigent petitioner, by the
- 25 Commonwealth.
- 26 (d) Testing by the Pennsylvania State Police. -- DNA testing
- 27 conducted by the Pennsylvania State Police shall be carried out
- 28 in accordance with the protocols and procedures established by
- 29 the Pennsylvania State Police and approved by ASCLD/LAB.
- 30 (e) Confidentiality.--DNA profile information from

- 1 biological samples taken from any individual under this
- 2 <u>subchapter is exempt from any law requiring disclosure of</u>
- 3 information to the public.
- 4 (f) Definitions. -- As used in this section, the following
- 5 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
- 6 subsection:
- 7 "Accredited." Accredited by ASCLD/LAB.
- 8 "ASCLD/LAB." The Laboratory Accreditation Board of the
- 9 <u>American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors.</u>
- 10 § 9592. Appeal.
- 11 A petitioner may appeal a decision denying DNA testing under
- 12 the Pennsylvania Rules of Appellate Procedure.
- 13 § 9593. Procedure after test results.
- 14 <u>(a) Results favorable to petitioner.--If the results of DNA</u>
- 15 testing are favorable to the petitioner, the court shall conduct
- 16 <u>a hearing to determine the appropriate relief to be granted.</u>
- 17 Based on the results of the testing and any evidence or other
- 18 matter presented at the hearing, the court shall thereafter
- 19 enter any order that serves the interests of justice. An order
- 20 <u>under this subsection may:</u>
- 21 (1) Set aside or vacate the petitioner's judgment of
- 22 conviction, judgment of not quilty by reason of mental
- 23 <u>disease or defect or adjudication of delinquency.</u>
- 24 (2) Grant the petitioner a new trial or fact-finding
- hearing.
- 26 (3) Grant the petitioner a new sentencing hearing,
- 27 <u>commitment hearing or dispositional hearing.</u>
- 28 (4) Discharge the petitioner from custody.
- 29 (5) Specify the disposition of any evidence that remains
- 30 after the completion of the testing.

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2	related to DNA test results or the conviction or sentence
3	under attack, including documents pertaining to the original
4	criminal investigation or the identities of other suspects.
5	(7) Direct the Commonwealth to place any unidentified
6	DNA profile obtained from DNA testing into CODIS or the State
7	DNA Data Base.
8	(b) Results unfavorable to petitionerIf the results of
9	the tests are not favorable to the petitioner, the court shall
10	dismiss the petition and may make any further orders that are
11	appropriate. An order under this section may:
12	(1) Direct that the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and
13	Parole be notified of the test results.
14	(2) Direct that the petitioner's DNA profile be added to
15	the Commonwealth's convicted offender database.
16	Section 11. Title 44 is amended by adding a section to read:
17	§ 2319.1. Comparisons with CODIS data.
18	For purposes of obtaining exculpatory evidence prior to trial
19	or supporting an application for executive clemency, a court may
20	order that a law enforcement entity that has access to CODIS or
21	the State DNA Data Base to submit the DNA profile obtained from
22	probative biological material from crime scene evidence to
23	determine whether that profile matches a profile of a known
24	individual or a profile from an unsolved crime. The DNA profile
25	submitted to the data bases must comply with the Federal Bureau
26	of Investigation's requirements for the uploading of crime scene
27	profiles to CODIS.
28	Section 12. Title 44 is amended by adding a chapter to read:
29	CHAPTER 83
30	<u>INVESTIGATION</u>

- 1 Subchapter
- 2 A. Recording of Interrogations
- B. Eyewitness Identifications
- 4 SUBCHAPTER A
- 5 RECORDING OF INTERROGATIONS
- 6 Sec.
- 7 8301. Definitions.
- 8 8302. Recording requirement.
- 9 <u>8303</u>. Applicability.
- 10 8304. Wiretap exception to recording.
- 11 8305. Sanctions.
- 12 8306. Handling and preservation of electronic recordings.
- 13 <u>§ 8301. Definitions.</u>
- 14 The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter
- 15 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 16 <u>context clearly indicates otherwise:</u>
- 17 "Custodial interrogation." An interview in which a question,
- 18 statement or other conduct is reasonably likely to elicit an
- 19 incriminating response and occurs while the individual
- 20 interviewed is in custody.
- 21 "Custody." A state of affairs in which the individual who is
- 22 interviewed by a law enforcement officer is physically deprived
- 23 of his freedom in any significant way or is placed in a
- 24 situation in which he reasonably believes his freedom of action
- 25 or movement is restricted.
- 26 "Electronic recording." An audiovisual or audio recording of
- 27 a statement.
- 28 "Interview." A conversation between a law enforcement
- 29 officer and another individual that takes place in the course of
- 30 <u>a criminal investigation.</u>

- 1 "Law enforcement agency." A government entity whose
- 2 responsibilities include enforcement of criminal laws or the
- 3 investigation of suspected criminal activity.
- 4 <u>"Law enforcement officer." An officer or other employee of a</u>
- 5 law enforcement agency whose personal responsibilities include
- 6 <u>enforcement of criminal laws or the investigation of suspected</u>
- 7 criminal activity.
- 8 <u>"Statement." An oral, written, sign language or nonverbal</u>
- 9 communication that takes place during a custodial interrogation.
- 10 § 8302. Recording requirement.
- An electronic recording must be made of any custodial
- 12 interrogation relating to the investigation of the following
- 13 <u>offenses:</u>
- 14 (1) An offense under 18 Pa.C.S. Ch. 25 (relating to
- 15 criminal homicide).
- 16 (2) An offense classified as a felony under 18 Pa.C.S.
- 17 Ch. 31 (relating to sexual offenses).
- 18 (3) An offense under 18 Pa.C.S. Ch. 37 (relating to
- 19 robbery).
- 20 (4) An offense classified as a felony under 18 Pa.C.S. §
- 21 3301 (relating to arson and related offenses).
- 22 (5) An attempt under 18 Pa.C.S. § 901 (relating to
- criminal attempt) or conspiracy under 18 Pa.C.S. § 903
- 24 (relating to criminal conspiracy) to commit an offense
- referred to in paragraph (1), (2), (3) or (4).
- 26 § 8303. Applicability.
- 27 <u>(a) Exceptions.--Section 8302 (relating to recording</u>
- 28 requirement) does not apply if the court finds all of the
- 29 <u>following:</u>
- 30 (1) That the statement is admissible as evidence.

1	(2) That the statement is proven by a preponderance of
2	the evidence to have been made voluntarily and to be
3	<u>reliable.</u>
4	(3) That a law enforcement officer made a
5	contemporaneous record of the reason for not making an
6	electronic recording of the statement, or it was proven by a
7	preponderance of the evidence that it was not feasible to
8	make such a record. The reason provided must be consistent
9	with paragraph (4).
L 0	(4) That it is proven by a preponderance of the evidence
1	that one or more of the following circumstances existed at
_2	the time of the custodial interrogation:
_3	(i) The statement was made spontaneously and was not
_4	made in response to a question.
.5	(ii) The statement was made spontaneously in the
L 6	course of the routine intake processing of the
_7	individual.
8 .	(iii) The law enforcement officer in good faith
_9	failed to make an electronic recording of the custodial
20	interrogation because the officer inadvertently failed to
21	operate the recording equipment properly, or without the
22	officer's knowledge, the recording equipment
23	malfunctioned or stopped operating.
24	(iv) The custodial interrogation took place in
25	another jurisdiction and was conducted by an official of
26	that jurisdiction in compliance with the law of that
27	jurisdiction.
28	(v) The law enforcement officers conducting or
29	contemporaneously observing the custodial interrogation
30	reasonably believed that the making of an electronic

Τ	recording would jeopardize the salety of the individual,
2	a law enforcement officer, a confidential informant or
3	another individual.
4	(vi) The law enforcement officers conducting or
5	contemporaneously observing the custodial interrogation
6	reasonably believed that the crime for which the
7	individual was subjected to custodial interrogation was
8	not among those listed in section 8302.
9	(vii) Exigent circumstances existed which prevented
10	or made infeasible the making of an electronic recording
11	of the custodial interrogation.
12	(viii) Before the custodial interrogation, the
13	individual to be interrogated indicated that he would
14	participate only if the custodial interrogation were not
15	electronically recorded and, if feasible, the agreement
16	to participate without recording were electronically
17	recorded.
18	(b) Exclusions Section 8302 does not apply to a statement
19	if any of the following apply:
20	(1) The statement is offered as evidence solely to
21	impeach or rebut the testimony of the individual interrogated
22	and not as substantive evidence.
23	(2) The custodial interrogation takes place before a
24	grand jury or court of record.
25	§ 8304. Wiretap exception to recording.
26	Notwithstanding 18 Pa.C.S. Ch. 57 (relating to wiretapping
27	and electronic surveillance), a law enforcement officer engaged
28	in custodial interrogation under section 8302 (relating to
29	recording requirement) may record that custodial interrogation
30	without consent or knowledge of that individual being held or

- 1 interrogated. A law enforcement officer may nevertheless obtain
- 2 an individual's consent to recording or inform that individual
- 3 that the custodial interrogation will be recorded.
- 4 § 8305. Sanctions.
- 5 Except as provided in section 8303 (relating to
- 6 applicability), if the statement is obtained in violation of the
- 7 terms of this subchapter and is otherwise admissible, the trial
- 8 court shall instruct the jury that a State statute required the
- 9 recording of the statement to ensure a more reliable
- 10 determination at trial as to the circumstances and substance of
- 11 any statement made by the defendant, that the police failed to
- 12 <u>abide by the terms of the statute and therefore no recording is</u>
- 13 available for the jury and that the jury may take into account
- 14 the failure to record the statement in determining what weight
- 15 to give the statement.
- 16 § 8306. Handling and preservation of electronic recordings.
- 17 (a) Handling. -- The law enforcement agency shall clearly
- 18 identify and catalog all electronic recordings.
- 19 (b) Preservation.--
- 20 (1) If a juvenile or criminal proceeding is brought
- 21 against a person interrogated in an electronically recorded
- 22 custodial interrogation, law enforcement personnel shall
- 23 <u>preserve the electronic recording until all appeals</u>,
- 24 postconviction and habeas corpus proceedings by the
- 25 <u>individual interrogated are concluded or the time within</u>
- 26 which such proceedings must be brought has expired.
- 27 (2) If a juvenile or criminal proceeding is not brought
- against an individual interrogated in an electronically
- recorded custodial interrogation, law enforcement personnel
- 30 shall preserve the electronic recording until all applicable

- 1 Federal and State statutes of limitations bar prosecution of
- 2 the individual.
- 3 SUBCHAPTER B
- 4 <u>EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATIONS</u>
- 5 Sec.
- 6 <u>8311. Short title of subchapter.</u>
- 7 <u>8312. Legislative purpose.</u>
- 8 8313. Definitions.
- 9 8314. Eyewitness identification procedures.
- 10 8315. Trial practice.
- 11 8316. Dissemination of identification procedures.
- 12 § 8311. Short title of subchapter.
- 13 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the
- 14 Eyewitness Identification Improvement Act.
- 15 § 8312. Legislative purpose.
- The purpose of this subchapter is to help solve crime,
- 17 convict the quilty and protect the innocent in criminal
- 18 proceedings by improving procedures for eyewitness
- 19 identification of suspected perpetrators while ensuring that
- 20 police can promptly, safely and effectively investigate crimes.
- 21 § 8313. Definitions.
- The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter
- 23 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 24 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 25 "Administrator." The individual who conducts a live or photo
- 26 <u>lineup.</u>
- 27 "Blind lineup." A lineup where either of the following
- 28 occurs:
- 29 <u>(1) In the case of a live or photo lineup, the</u>
- 30 administrator does not know the identity of the suspect.

- 1 (2) In the case of a photo lineup in which the
- 2 <u>administrator knows the identity of the suspect, the</u>
- 3 administrator does not know which photograph the eyewitness
- 4 <u>is viewing at any given time.</u>
- 5 <u>"Eyewitness." An individual who observes another individual</u>
- 6 <u>at or near the scene of a criminal offense.</u>
- 7 <u>"Filler." An individual who is not suspected of an offense</u>
- 8 and is included in an identification procedure.
- 9 <u>"Identification procedure." An investigative procedure in</u>
- 10 which a law enforcement official requests an eyewitness to
- 11 <u>attempt to identify an individual who perpetrated a criminal</u>
- 12 <u>offense. The term includes a live lineup, a photo lineup or a</u>
- 13 <u>show-up.</u>
- 14 <u>"Law enforcement agency." A governmental entity whose</u>
- 15 <u>responsibilities include enforcement of criminal laws or the</u>
- 16 <u>investigation of suspected criminal activity.</u>
- 17 "Law enforcement officer." An officer or other employee of a
- 18 law enforcement agency whose personal responsibilities include
- 19 enforcement of criminal laws or the investigation of suspected
- 20 criminal activity.
- 21 "Live lineup." An identification procedure in which several
- 22 individuals, including the suspect and fillers, are displayed to
- 23 an evewitness for the purpose of determining whether the
- 24 eyewitness identifies the suspect as the perpetrator.
- 25 "Photo lineup." An identification procedure in which an
- 26 array of photographs, comprising a photograph of the suspect and
- 27 photographs of fillers, is displayed to an eyewitness either in
- 28 hard copy form or via computer for the purpose of determining
- 29 whether the eyewitness identifies the suspect as the
- 30 perpetrator.

- 1 "Show-up." An identification procedure in which an
- 2 eyewitness is presented with a suspect for the purpose of
- 3 determining whether the evewitness identifies the individual as
- 4 the perpetrator.
- 5 <u>"Suspect." The individual believed by law enforcement</u>
- 6 <u>investigators to be the possible perpetrator of the crime.</u>
- 7 § 8314. Eyewitness identification procedures.
- 8 (a) General rule. -- An eyewitness identification procedure
- 9 <u>conducted by a law enforcement agency must comply with this</u>
- 10 section.
- 11 (b) Description of the perpetrator. -- Except as provided in
- 12 <u>subsection (h)(1), the eyewitness's description of the</u>
- 13 perpetrator and the circumstances under which the eyewitness
- 14 observed the perpetrator, in the eyewitness's own words, shall
- 15 be obtained and documented immediately prior to a live or photo
- 16 lineup, unless such a description was recorded or otherwise
- 17 documented by law enforcement personnel before the commencement
- 18 of the identification procedure.
- 19 (c) Blind lineup administration. -- Subject to the exceptions
- 20 in this subsection, a blind lineup shall be conducted. If the
- 21 lineup is not blind, the administrator shall state in writing
- 22 the reason that a blind lineup was not used. A blind lineup need
- 23 not be conducted if any of the following apply:
- 24 (1) A blind lineup is not practicable under the
- 25 <u>circumstances. The administrator shall state in writing the</u>
- reasons that a blind lineup is not practicable.
- 27 (2) The law enforcement agency employs a single lineup
- 28 administrator who conducts all of its lineups, counsel for
- 29 <u>the suspect is present at the lineup, and the identification</u>
- procedure complies with subsections (d), (e), (f), (q), (i)

- 1 and (j).
- 2 (3) The law enforcement agency audiovisually records the
- 3 identification process and that identification procedure
- 4 complies with subsections (d), (e), (f), (g), (i) and (j).
- 5 (d) Prelineup instructions. -- Prior to a live or photo
- 6 <u>lineup</u>, the administrator shall apprise the eyewitness of all of
- 7 the following:
- 8 (1) That the perpetrator may or may not be among the
- 9 <u>individuals presented in the identification procedure.</u>
- 10 (2) That the eyewitness should not feel compelled to
- 11 make an identification.
- 12 (3) That the investigation will continue whether or not
- 13 <u>an identification is made.</u>
- 14 (4) That if an identification is made, the administrator
- will ask the eyewitness to state, in his own words, how
- 16 certain he is of the identification.
- 17 (e) Contact among eyewitnesses. -- If more than one eyewitness
- 18 views a live or photo lineup in a session, the administrator
- 19 shall not permit the evewitnesses to communicate with each other
- 20 until all identification procedures in the session have been
- 21 completed. Reasonable efforts shall be made so that an
- 22 eyewitness does not see or hear the identification or
- 23 nonidentification made by any other witness.
- 24 (f) Lineup composition. -- The administrator shall conduct the
- 25 lineup such that:
- 26 (1) Only one suspect is included in a live or photo
- 27 <u>lineup.</u>
- 28 (2) In a live lineup, the following apply:
- 29 <u>(i) All lineup participants are out of view of the</u>
- 30 eyewitness prior to the identification procedure.

1	(ii) At least five fillers are used.
2	(iii) Any identifying actions, such as speech,
3	gestures or movements, are performed by all lineup
4	participants.
5	(3) In a photo lineup, the following apply:
6	(i) The photograph of the suspect is placed in a
7	different position in the lineup for each eyewitness.
8	(ii) At least five fillers are used.
9	(g) Comment after lineup An administrator or law
10	enforcement officer may not comment or otherwise indicate
11	whether an identification has identified a suspect.
12	(h) Show-ups The following apply to show-ups:
13	(1) When practicable and when safe for the witness and
14	law enforcement officers, the person conducting the show-up
15	shall obtain the eyewitness's description of the perpetrator
16	and shall record or otherwise document the description before
17	commencing the show-up. If compliance with this paragraph is
18	not practicable or safe, the person conducting the show-up
19	shall state in writing the reasons for the failure to comply.
20	(2) When practicable and when safe for the witness and
21	the law enforcement officers, the person conducting the
22	show-up shall apprise the eyewitness of all of the following
23	before commencing the show-up:
24	(i) That the perpetrator may or may not be the
25	individual presented to the eyewitness.
26	(ii) That the eyewitness should not feel compelled
27	to make an identification.
28	(iii) That the investigation will continue whether
29	or not an identification is made.
30	(iv) That if an identification is made, the

Τ	administrator will ask the eyewithess to state, in his
2	own words, how certain he is of the identification.
3	(3) When performing a show-up, law enforcement personnel
4	shall take reasonable measures to preclude the eyewitness
5	from drawing inferences prejudicial to the suspect, including
6	the following:
7	(i) Refraining from suggesting through statements or
8	nonverbal conduct that the suspect is or may be the
9	perpetrator of the crime.
10	(ii) When practicable and when safe for the witness
11	and the law enforcement officers, removing handcuffs from
12	the suspect and having the show-up take place at some
13	distance from a squad car.
14	(4) If there are multiple eyewitnesses to a criminal
15	offense under investigation, police shall make reasonable
16	efforts to prevent an eyewitness from seeing or hearing the
17	identification or nonidentification made by any other
18	<u>witness.</u>
19	(5) If an eyewitness is requested to make an
20	identification of more than one suspect at a show-up, the
21	suspects shall be separated and the person conducting the
22	show-up shall perform a separate show-up for each suspect
23	when practicable and when safe for the witness and the law
24	enforcement officers.
25	(i) Confidence statement If an eyewitness identifies an
26	individual as the perpetrator at an identification procedure,
27	the administrator shall immediately request a statement from the
28	eyewitness, in the eyewitness's own words, as to the
29	eyewitness's confidence level that the individual he identified
30	is the perpetrator. The eyewitness must not be permitted to see

- 1 or hear any information concerning the identified individual
- 2 until after the administrator obtains the eyewitness's
- 3 confidence statement.
- 4 (j) Record. -- The administrator shall make a record of the
- 5 <u>identification procedure. The record must include all</u>
- 6 <u>identification and nonidentification results obtained during the</u>
- 7 <u>identification procedure as well as any confidence statement.</u>
- 8 § 8315. Trial practice.
- 9 <u>(a) Suppression.--The trial court may consider evidence of</u>
- 10 failure to comply with this subchapter in adjudicating a motion
- 11 to suppress an eyewitness identification.
- 12 (b) Misidentification. -- Evidence of failure to comply with
- 13 this subchapter may be admitted at trial in support of a claim
- 14 of eyewitness misidentification.
- 15 (c) Jury instruction.--
- 16 (1) If sufficient evidence of failure to comply with
- this subchapter is presented at trial, the trial court shall
- instruct the jury that it may consider the evidence of
- 19 <u>noncompliance as a reason to view the identification evidence</u>
- 20 with caution.
- 21 (2) At the request of either party, the trial court may
- instruct the jury as to the requirements of this subchapter
- 23 <u>and how compliance or failure to comply with those</u>
- 24 requirements may affect the reliability of the
- 25 identification.
- 26 § 8316. Dissemination of identification procedures.
- 27 <u>(a) Training. -- The Pennsylvania State Police and the</u>
- 28 Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission
- 29 <u>shall develop and conduct a training program for law enforcement</u>
- 30 officers and recruits regarding the method of conducting

- 1 identification procedures under this subchapter and the
- 2 scientific findings supporting the methods prescribed by this
- 3 subchapter.
- 4 (b) Adoption of procedures. -- Each law enforcement agency
- 5 <u>shall adopt a written protocol for eyewitness identification</u>
- 6 procedures consistent with this subchapter.
- 7 Section 13. Title 44 is amended by adding a part to read:
- 8 PART V
- 9 FORENSIC LABORATORIES
- 10 Chapter
- 11 91. Preliminary Provisions (Reserved)
- 12 <u>93. Accreditation</u>
- 13 <u>95. Oversight</u>
- 14 <u>CHAPTER 91</u>
- 15 <u>PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS</u>
- 16 (RESERVED)
- 17 CHAPTER 93
- 18 ACCREDITATION
- 19 Subchapter
- 20 A. Public Laboratories
- B. (Reserved)
- 22 SUBCHAPTER A
- 23 PUBLIC LABORATORIES
- 24 Sec.
- 25 9301. Definitions.
- 26 9302. Technical peer review system.
- 27 <u>9303</u>. <u>Proficiency testing program</u>.
- 28 <u>9304. Accreditation.</u>
- 29 9305. External investigation.
- 30 § 9301. Definitions.

- 1 The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter
- 2 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 3 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 4 <u>"Forensic laboratory." A laboratory operated by the</u>
- 5 Commonwealth or a municipality whose experts perform forensic
- 6 tests and provide opinion testimony in a court of law.
- 7 <u>"Forensic test." A medical, chemical, toxicological,</u>
- 8 <u>ballistic or other expert examination or test performed on</u>
- 9 physical evidence, including DNA evidence, to determine the
- 10 association of evidence to a crime.
- "Nationally recognized accreditation standards." Standards
- 12 <u>adopted by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors</u>
- 13 <u>Laboratory Accreditation Board</u>, the American Board of Forensic
- 14 Toxicology or a similar board that covers a forensic test or
- 15 examination done by a forensic investigator or scientist.
- 16 <u>"Physical evidence." A tangible object or substance relating</u>
- 17 to a crime.
- 18 "Proficiency testing program." A program whereby the
- 19 competency of analysis and the quality of performance of a
- 20 laboratory is evaluated by external testing.
- 21 "Technical peer review system." A system whereby the
- 22 casework by an employee of a forensic laboratory is reviewed for
- 23 <u>administrative and technical correctness by a qualified</u>
- 24 administrator or peer or both.
- 25 § 9302. Technical peer review system.
- 26 All forensic laboratories shall have a technical peer review
- 27 system sufficient to meet or exceed nationally recognized
- 28 accreditation standards.
- 29 § 9303. Proficiency testing program.
- 30 All forensic laboratories shall have a proficiency testing

- 1 program sufficient to meet or exceed nationally recognized
- 2 accreditation standards.
- 3 § 9304. Accreditation.
- 4 (a) General rule. -- All forensic laboratories shall be
- 5 <u>accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting board for the</u>
- 6 <u>forensic tests performed by the forensic laboratory.</u>
- 7 (b) Exception. -- A forensic laboratory may be exempt from the
- 8 <u>accreditation required under subsection (a) if independent</u>
- 9 <u>accreditation by a nationally recognized accrediting board is</u>
- 10 <u>unavailable or inappropriate for the forensic laboratory or the</u>
- 11 <u>applicable forensic test.</u>
- 12 § 9305. External investigation.
- 13 <u>The Commonwealth and municipalities with forensic</u>
- 14 <u>laboratories shall have a governmental entity with an</u>
- 15 appropriate process in place to independently, externally
- 16 investigate allegations of serious negligence or misconduct
- 17 committed by employees or contractors of the forensic laboratory
- 18 that substantially affect the integrity of forensic results.
- 19 SUBCHAPTER B
- 20 (RESERVED)
- 21 CHAPTER 95
- 22 OVERSIGHT
- 23 Subchapter
- A. Advisory Board
- 25 B. (Reserved)
- 26 SUBCHAPTER A
- 27 <u>ADVISORY BOARD</u>
- 28 Sec.
- 29 9501. Establishment.
- 30 9502. Powers and duties.

- 1 <u>9503</u>. Cooperation.
- 2 <u>9504</u>. Report.
- 3 9505. Investigations.
- 4 § 9501. Establishment.
- 5 (a) Membership. -- There is established a Forensic Advisory
- 6 Board, which shall consist of:
- 7 (1) The director of the Pennsylvania State Police's
- 8 Bureau of Forensic Services, ex officio.
- 9 (2) A forensic scientist employed by the Pennsylvania
- 10 State Police's Bureau of Forensic Services.
- 11 (3) Two forensic scientists employed by accredited,
- 12 <u>privately operated forensic laboratories.</u>
- 13 <u>(4) A director of a forensic laboratory operated by a</u>
- 14 <u>municipality</u>.
- 15 <u>(5) The Attorney General, ex officio.</u>
- 16 (6) A full-time, sworn chief of police.
- 17 (7) A district attorney.
- 18 (8) A public defender.
- 19 (9) A criminal defense attorney who is not a public
- defender.
- 21 (10) A judge from a court of common pleas.
- 22 (11) A criminal justice or forensic science faculty
- 23 <u>member from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher</u>
- 24 Education.
- 25 (12) A board-certified forensic pathologist who is a
- 26 coroner or medical examiner.
- 27 (b) Terms. -- The members under subsection (a) (1) and (5)
- 28 shall serve ex officio. The member under subsection (a)(2) shall
- 29 serve at the pleasure of the director of the Pennsylvania State
- 30 Police's Bureau of Forensic Services. All other members shall

- 1 <u>serve a term of three years, except the members initially</u>
- 2 appointed under subsection (a) (7), (9) and (12), whose initial
- 3 term shall be one year and the members initially appointed under
- 4 <u>subsection (a)(8) and (11) and one of those appointed under</u>
- 5 subsection (a)(3), whose initial term shall be two years.
- 6 <u>Vacancies shall be filled by the appointing authority for the</u>
- 7 remainder of the vacated term.
- 8 (c) Appointments. -- The member under subsection (a) (2) shall
- 9 be appointed by the director of the Pennsylvania State Police's
- 10 Bureau of Forensic Services. The ex officio members may
- 11 designate a substitute to serve on the Forensic Advisory Board.
- 12 The member appointed under subsection (a) (4) may designate a
- 13 <u>subordinate who is a forensic scientist to substitute for and</u>
- 14 <u>serve on the Forensic Advisory Board. The chief justice shall</u>
- 15 appoint the member under subsection (a) (10). All other members
- 16 shall be appointed by the Governor. Members may be reappointed.
- 17 The board may annually select a chairman and vice chairman, who
- 18 shall be selected from the members under subsection (a)(3),(10),
- 19 (11) and (12).
- 20 (d) Quorum. -- Seven members of the Forensic Advisory Board
- 21 constitute a quorum.
- 22 § 9502. Powers and duties.
- 23 (a) Recommendations. -- The Forensic Advisory Board shall
- 24 review and make recommendations as to how best to configure,
- 25 fund and improve the delivery of State and municipal forensic
- 26 laboratory services. To the extent feasible, the review and
- 27 <u>recommendations shall include, but are not limited to,</u>
- 28 addressing the following issues:
- 29 (1) If the existing mix of Commonwealth and municipal
- 30 forensic laboratories is the most effective and efficient

_	medily to meet carreine and projected needs.
2	(2) Whether publicly operated forensic laboratories
3	should be consolidated. If consolidation occurs, who should
4	have oversight of forensic laboratories.
5	(3) Whether all publicly operated forensic laboratories
6	should provide similar services or if certain services should
7	be centralized.
8	(4) Consideration of how other states manage and oversee
9	their forensic laboratories.
10	(5) With respect to staff and training, consideration of
11	the following:
12	(i) How to address recruitment and retention of
13	forensic laboratory staff.
14	(ii) Whether educational and training opportunities
15	are adequate to meet projected staffing requirements of
16	publicly operated forensic laboratories.
17	(iii) Whether continuing education is available to
18	ensure that forensic science personnel are up-to-date in
19	their fields of expertise.
20	(iv) If forensic laboratory personnel should be
21	certified and if so, the appropriate certifier.
22	(v) Whether continuing education available to the
23	bar and judiciary adequately serves the needs of the
24	criminal justice system.
25	(6) With respect to funding, consideration of the
26	<pre>following:</pre>
27	(i) Whether the current method of funding publicly
28	operated forensic laboratories is predictable, stable and
29	adequate to meet future growth demands and to provide
30	accurate and timely testing results.

1	(ii) The adequacy of salary structures at publicly
2	operated forensic laboratories to attract and retain
3	competent analysts and examiners.
4	(iii) Whether publicly operated forensic
5	laboratories are appropriately maximizing their
6	opportunities to receive grants and other supplements.
7	(7) With respect to performance standards and equipment,
8	consideration of the following:
9	(i) Whether workload demands at publicly operated
10	forensic laboratories are being prioritized properly to
11	deal with backlogs and whether there are important
12	workload issues not being addressed.
13	(ii) If existing publicly operated forensic
14	laboratories have the necessary capabilities, staffing
15	and equipment.
16	(iii) Whether publicly operated forensic
17	laboratories are compliant with Chapter 93 (relating to
18	accreditation).
19	(b) Reporting system The Forensic Advisory Board shall
20	develop and implement a reporting system through which a
21	publicly operated forensic laboratory reports professional
22	negligence and misconduct.
23	(c) Standards The Forensic Advisory Board shall promulgate
24	standards it approves under 42 Pa.C.S. § 9502(c) (relating to
25	preservation of biological evidence).
26	(d) Training The Forensic Advisory Board may coordinate,
27	offer and collect a fee to train or otherwise provide continuing
28	education relating to forensic science and its applications to
29	criminal investigators, crime scene investigators, prosecutors,
30	defense attorneys, judges, forensic nurses, coroners, medical

- 1 examiners, forensic scientists and others involved in criminal
- 2 justice who would benefit from these educational opportunities.
- 3 § 9503. Cooperation.
- 4 <u>Forensic laboratories operated by the Commonwealth and</u>
- 5 <u>municipalities shall cooperate with and assist the Forensic</u>
- 6 Advisory Board. Administrative support for the Forensic Advisory
- 7 Board shall be provided by the Governor's Office.
- 8 <u>§ 9504.</u> Report.
- 9 The Forensic Advisory Board shall periodically report its
- 10 recommendations and basis for its recommendations as well as the
- 11 results of any investigations to the investigated entity or
- 12 party, the Governor and the General Assembly. The
- 13 <u>recommendations shall be made publicly accessible.</u>
- 14 § 9505. Investigations.
- 15 (a) Professional negligence; misconduct.--For an
- 16 investigation under section 9305 (relating to external
- 17 investigation), the Forensic Advisory Board shall timely
- 18 investigate any allegation reported under section 9502(b)
- 19 (relating to powers and duties) and may investigate other
- 20 allegations of professional negligence or misconduct that would
- 21 substantially affect the integrity of the results of forensic
- 22 analyses.
- 23 (b) Costs.--Any costs incurred by the board shall be borne
- 24 by the laboratory, facility or entity being investigated.
- 25 (c) Assistance.--If necessary, the board may contract with a
- 26 qualified person or ask any publicly employed forensic scientist
- 27 to assist the board in fulfilling its duties under this section.
- 28 In obtaining assistance under this subsection, the board may
- 29 neither ask nor accept assistance from a forensic scientist
- 30 employed by a publicly operated forensic laboratory that is the

- 1 subject of the investigation.
- 2 (d) Recusal. -- Any member of the board associated with a
- 3 publicly operated forensic laboratory that is the subject of an
- 4 <u>investigation under this section must recuse himself from any</u>
- 5 <u>deliberation and action the board might take in the matter.</u>
- 6 (e) Duties.--The board shall:
- 7 (1) Prepare a written report that identifies and
- 8 <u>describes all methods and procedures used to discover the</u>
- 9 <u>alleged actions</u>, whether the allegations are founded and any
- 10 <u>corrective actions taken or suggested.</u>
- 11 (2) Conduct retrospective examinations of other forensic
- 12 <u>analyses to determine if a pattern of negligence or</u>
- 13 <u>misconduct exists and to perform follow-up examinations to</u>
- make certain any and all corrective actions were properly
- implemented.
- 16 (3) Ensure compliance with established retention and
- 17 preservation of evidence regulations.
- 18 SUBCHAPTER B
- 19 (RESERVED)
- 20 Section 14. This act shall take effect as follows:
- 21 (1) The following provisions shall take effect
- 22 immediately:
- 23 (i) This section.
- 24 (ii) The addition of 44 Pa.C.S. § 9301 and Ch. 95.
- 25 (2) The addition of 42 Pa.C.S. § 5919.1 shall take
- 26 effect in 60 days.
- 27 (3) The following provisions shall take effect in 180
- 28 days:
- 29 (i) The amendment of 18 Pa.C.S. § 9122(a).
- 30 (ii) The amendment of 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 8521(a) and

- 1 8522 (b).
- 2 (iii) The addition of 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 85 Subch. D.
- 3 (4) The addition 44 Pa.C.S. Ch. 83 Subch. A shall take
- 4 effect in one year.
- 5 (5) The addition of 44 Pa.C.S. § 9302 shall take effect
- 6 in three years.
- 7 (6) The addition of 44 Pa.C.S. § 9303 shall take effect
- 8 in five years.
- 9 (7) The addition of 44 Pa.C.S. § 9304 shall take effect
- in seven years.
- 11 (8) The addition of 44 Pa.C.S. § 9305 shall take effect
- in two years.
- 13 (9) The remainder of this act shall take effect in 120
- 14 days.