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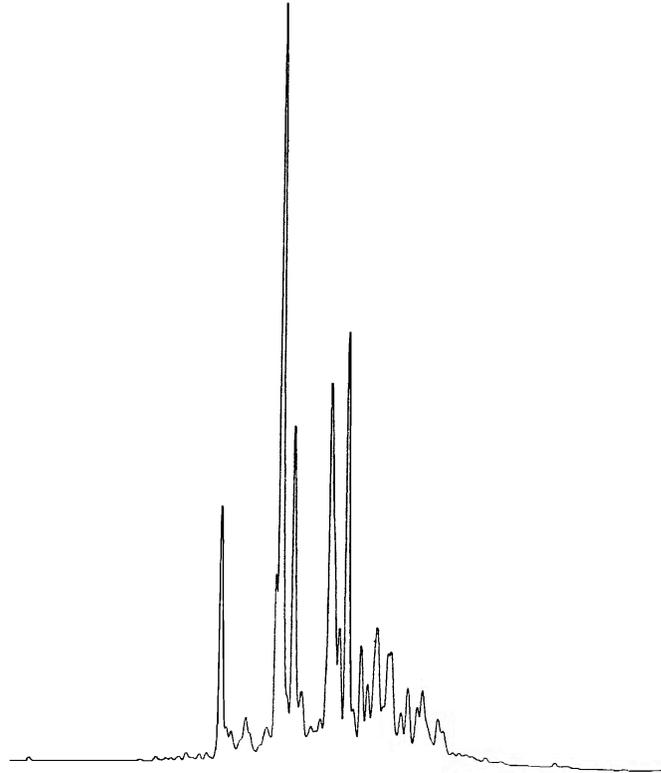
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Administrator

# Arson Laboratory Improvement Program (ALIP) - 2014 Report

## 12 Month Analysis

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## Section 1 - INTRODUCTION

The annual Arson Laboratory Improvement Program [ALIP] Report tracks several data elements including a five-year comparison of total fire debris cases completed, the number of samples examined and the percentage of positives of each. For each laboratory data is further illustrated for their case work, including comparison samples, samples submitted as discovered by a K9 Unit and fire debris samples submitted as related to vehicle cases. Additional data elements include a breakdown by category of ignitable liquids identified and case processing times. For 2014, the number of submitted samples increased by 17% statewide with the suspect fire debris samples for positive for ignitable liquids at a statewide average of 51%.

An additional element of the ALIP is the interaction provided through a Technical Working Group [TWG-Fire] which is made up of representatives from each crime lab conducting fire debris analysis along with participants from the NYS Office of Fire Prevention and Control and the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services. The TWG-Fire meets twice annually to foster valuable feedback from the laboratories relative to their casework as well as conduct special projects as related to the discipline of fire debris analysis.

The crime Laboratories participating in ALIP also receive financial support through a grant program coordinated by the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control's Inspection and Investigation Branch. This program provides laboratories with annual funding specific to supporting the cost of fire debris analysis.

# Arson Laboratory Improvement Project

## Participating Laboratories

### 2014

<p>Erie County Dept. of Central Police Services Forensic Laboratory Public Safety Campus Building 45 Elm Street Buffalo NY 14203 John Simich, Ph.D., Director</p>	<p>New York City Police Department Forensic Investigations Division 150-14 Jamaica Avenue Jamaica NY 11432 Dr. Scott O'Neill, Assistant Commissioner / Director</p>
<p>Monroe County Crime Lab 85 West Broad St 150 Plymouth Avenue So. Rochester NY 14614 John Clark, Administrator</p>	<p>Niagara County Crime Lab P.O. Box 496 5526 Niagara Extension Lockport NY 14095 Al Mack, Director</p>
<p>Nassau County Crime Lab Currently Off-Line for Fire Debris Analysis and under re-development</p>	<p>Onondaga County Crime Lab Center for Forensic Sciences 100 Elizabeth Blackwell Street Syracuse NY 13210 Dr. Kathy Corrado, Director</p>
<p>New York State Police Forensic Investigation Center Building 30 1220 Washington Avenue Albany NY 12226-3000 Ray Wickenheiser, Director</p>	<p>Suffolk County Crime Lab Forensic Sciences Building #487 725 Veterans Memorial Highway P.O. Box 6100 Hauppauge NY 11787-0099 Robert Genna, Director</p>
<p>New York State Police Western Regional Crime Lab 722 Homer Street Olean NY 14760-1130 Lt. David Gresham, Supervisor</p>	<p>Westchester County Crime Lab 10 Dana Road Valhalla NY 10595 Robert Adamo, Director</p>

## Section 2 – Statistical Summaries

This report reflects the annual summary of the laboratories analysis of fire debris evidence.

### Statewide Annual Averages 2010 - 2014

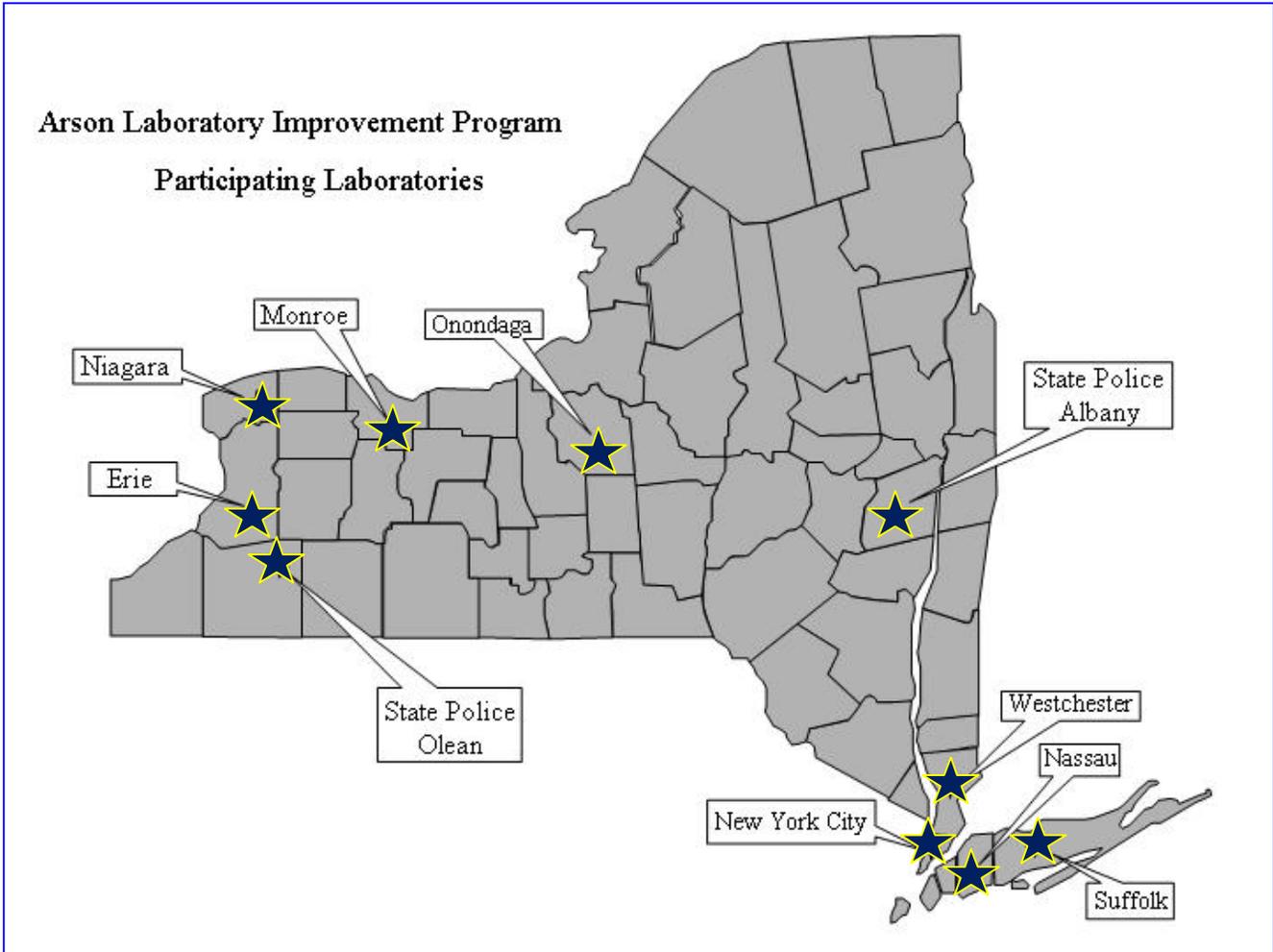
Year	Suspect Samples Examined	% Samples Positive
2014	1587	51%
2013	1362	50%
2012	1722	49%
2011	1810	49%
2010	2535	46%
<b>5 Yr. Average</b>	<b>1803</b>	<b>49%</b>

### 2014 ALIP Summary Data by Laboratory

Laboratory	Suspect Samples Received	Suspect Samples Examined	% of Samples Positive	Comparison Samples Examined	% Comparison Samples Positive
<b>State Police</b>					
Headquarters - Albany	233	197	51%	16	13%
Western Region - Olean	288	228	31%	49	24%
<b>City Labs</b>					
New York City	289	343 *	61%	40	13%
<b>Counties</b>					
Erie	203	235 *	51%	8	38%
Monroe	112	299 *	46%	26	4%
Niagara	85	70	43%	15	13%
Onondaga	52	56 *	63%	8	13%
Suffolk	107	128 *	74%	19	63%
Westchester	23	31 *	32%	6	0%

\* represents a carryover of samples submitted the previous year

### Section 3 – INDIVIDUAL LABORATORY DATA



# State Police Laboratory Summary

Laboratory: **Headquarters, Albany**

Reporting Year	Number of Months Reported	Grand Jury or Trial Testimony	Deposition Testimony
2014	12	2	3

<b>Suspect Samples Received</b>	<b>Suspect Samples Examined</b>	<b>Suspect Samples Positive</b>	<b>% of Positive Suspect Samples</b>
233	197	101	51%
<b>Comparison Samples Examined</b>	<b>Comparison Samples Positive</b>	<b>% of Positive Comparison Samples</b>	
16	2	12.5%	
<b>K9 Suspect Samples</b>	<b>% of Positive K9 Suspect Samples</b>	<b>Vehicle Suspect Samples</b>	<b>% of Positive Vehicle Suspect Samples</b>
103	74%	33	55%

<b>Case Submission Time From Time of Collection</b>		<b>Case Turn Around Time</b>	
Completed 1-15 days	47.2%	Completed 1-15 days	65.7%
Completed 16-30 days	46.2%	Completed 16-30 days	29.1%
Completed > 30 days	1.7%	Completed > 30 days	9.4%

**Comment Section**

## Laboratory: **Western Regional Crime Lab, Olean**

Reporting Year	Number of Months Reported	Grand Jury or Trial Testimony	Deposition Testimony
2014	12	1	0

Suspect Samples Received	Suspect Samples Examined	Suspect Samples Positive	% of Positive Suspect Samples
288	228	70	31%
Comparison Samples Examined		Comparison Samples Positive	% of Positive Comparison Samples
49		12	24%
K9 Suspect Samples	% of Positive K9 Suspect Samples	Vehicle Suspect Samples	% of Positive Vehicle Suspect Samples
56	43%	30	50%

Case Submission Time From Time of Collection		Case Turn Around Time	
Completed 1-15 days	71.5%	Completed 1-15 days	97.3%
Completed 16-30 days	11.5%	Completed 16-30 days	03.0%
Completed > 30 days	14.9%	Completed > 30 days	00.0%

**Comment Section**

# City Laboratory Summary

Laboratory: **New York City**

Reporting Year	Number of Months Reported	Grand Jury or Trial Testimony	Deposition Testimony
2014	12	0	0

Suspect Samples Received	Suspect Samples Examined	Suspect Samples Positive	% of Positive Suspect Samples
289	343*	208	61%
Comparison Samples Examined	Comparison Samples Positive	% of Positive Comparison Samples	
40	5	12.5%	
K9 Suspect Samples	% of Positive K9 Suspect Samples	Vehicle Suspect Samples	% of Positive Vehicle Suspect Samples
0	0%	17	71%

Case Submission Time From Time of Collection		Case Turn Around Time	
Completed 1-15 days	98.9%	Completed 1-15 days	25.5%
Completed 16-30 days	00.0%	Completed 16-30 days	20.0%
Completed > 30 days	01.1%	Completed > 30 days	54.5%

## Comment Section

\*Laboratory data submitted for annual report includes back log.

# County Laboratory Summary

Laboratory: **Erie**

Reporting Year	Number of Months Reported	Grand Jury or Trial Testimony	Deposition Testimony
2014	12	0	0

Suspect Samples Received	Suspect Samples Examined	Suspect Samples Positive	% of Positive Suspect Samples
203	235*	120	51%
Comparison Samples Examined	Comparison Samples Positive	% of Positive Comparison Samples	
8	3	38%	
K9 Suspect Samples	% of Positive K9 Suspect Samples	Vehicle Suspect Samples	% of Positive Vehicle Suspect Samples
2	67%	45	79%

Case Submission Time From Time of Collection		Case Turn Around Time	
Completed 1-15 days	97.5%	Completed 1-15 days	12.2%
Completed 16-30 days	01.0%	Completed 16-30 days	51.1%
Completed > 30 days	01.5%	Completed > 30 days	36.7%

## Comment Section

\*Laboratory data submitted for annual report includes back log.

## Laboratory: **Monroe**

Reporting Year	Number of Months Reported	Grand Jury or Trial Testimony	Deposition Testimony
2014	12	0	0

Suspect Samples Received	Suspect Samples Examined	Suspect Samples Positive	% of Positive Suspect Samples
112	299*	137	46%
Comparison Samples Examined	Comparison Samples Positive	% of Positive Comparison Samples	
26	1	4%	
K9 Suspect Samples	% of Positive K9 Suspect Samples	Vehicle Suspect Samples	% of Positive Vehicle Suspect Samples
00	00%	08	25%

Case Submission Time From Time of Collection		Case Turn Around Time	
Completed 1-15 days	97.3%	Completed 1-15 days	88.5%
Completed 16-30 days	02.7%	Completed 16-30 days	12.5%
Completed > 30 days	00.0%	Completed > 30 days	00.0%

### Comment Section

\*Laboratory data submitted for annual report includes back log.

## Laboratory: **Niagara**

Reporting Year	Number of Months Reported	Grand Jury or Trial Testimony	Deposition Testimony
2014	12	0	0

Suspect Samples Received	Suspect Samples Examined	Suspect Samples Positive	% of Positive Suspect Samples
85	70	30	43%
Comparison Samples Examined	Comparison Samples Positive	% of Positive Comparison Samples	
15	2	13%	
K9 Suspect Samples	% of Positive K9 Suspect Samples	Vehicle Suspect Samples	% of Positive Vehicle Suspect Samples
00	0%	6	50%

Case Submission Time From Time of Collection		Case Turn Around Time	
Completed 1-15 days	100.0%	Completed 1-15 days	78.8%
Completed 16-30 days	00.0%	Completed 16-30 days	21.2%
Completed > 30 days	00.0%	Completed > 30 days	00.0%

### Comment Section

**Laboratory: Onondaga**

Reporting Year	Number of Months Reported	Grand Jury or Trial Testimony	Deposition Testimony
2014	12	0	0

Suspect Samples Received	Suspect Samples Examined	Suspect Samples Positive	% of Positive Suspect Samples
52	56*	35	63%
Comparison Samples Examined	Comparison Samples Positive	% of Positive Comparison Samples	
8	1	12.5%	
K9 Suspect Samples	% of Positive K9 Suspect Samples	Vehicle Suspect Samples	% of Positive Vehicle Suspect Samples
0	0%	5	40%

Case Submission Time From Time of Collection		Case Turn Around Time	
Completed 1-15 days	88.1%	Completed 1-15 days	29.7%
Completed 16-30 days	00.0%	Completed 16-30 days	44.2%
Completed > 30 days	11.9%	Completed > 30 days	26.1%

**Comment Section**

\*Laboratory data submitted for annual report includes back log.

## Laboratory: **Suffolk**

Reporting Year	Number of Months Reported	Grand Jury or Trial Testimony	Deposition Testimony
2014	12	0	0

Suspect Samples Received	Suspect Samples Examined	Suspect Samples Positive	% of Positive Suspect Samples
107	128*	95	74%
Comparison Samples Examined		Comparison Samples Positive	% of Positive Comparison Samples
19		12	63%
K9 Suspect Samples	% of Positive K9 Suspect Samples	Vehicle Suspect Samples	% of Positive Vehicle Suspect Samples
20	85%	29	59%

Case Submission Time From Time of Collection		Case Turn Around Time	
Completed 1-15 days	81.3%	Completed 1-15 days	12.5%
Completed 16-30 days	10.3%	Completed 16-30 days	12.5%
Completed > 30 days	08.4%	Completed > 30 days	75.0%

### Comment Section

\*Laboratory data submitted for annual report includes back log.

# County Laboratory Summary

Laboratory: **Westchester**

Reporting Year	Number of Months Reported	Grand Jury or Trial Testimony	Deposition Testimony
2014	12	0	0

Suspect Samples Received	Suspect Samples Examined	Suspect Samples Positive	% of Positive Suspect Samples
23	31*	10	32%
Comparison Samples Examined		Comparison Samples Positive	% of Positive Comparison Samples
6		0	0%
K9 Suspect Samples	% of Positive K9 Suspect Samples	Vehicle Suspect Samples	% of Positive Vehicle Suspect Samples
15	20%	4	25%

Case Submission Time From Time of Collection		Case Turn Around Time	
Completed 1-15 days	95.7%	Completed 1-15 days	0.0%
Completed 16-30 days	0.0%	Completed 16-30 days	0.0%
Completed > 30 days	4.3%	Completed > 30 days	100.0%

## Comment Section

\*Laboratory data submitted for annual report includes back log.

New York State Executive Law Article 6 C Section 156 directs the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control to advise and assist in the coordination and strengthening of activities, programs, services, rules and regulations relating to arson suppression, detection, investigation to include matters to improve arson evidence analysis and testing.

Through the Arson Laboratory Improvement Program the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Office of Fire Prevention and Control remains committed to supporting arson evidence analysis while working with the Division of Criminal Justice Services and New York Crime Laboratory Advisory Committee to maintain and improve such services aimed at combating the crime of arson.

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