

The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) submits the following information in response to a question from the Joint Committee on Kansas Security at a meeting on October 13, 2023.

**Senator Mary Ware**

QUESTION: *What is the status of processing any rape kit backlog?*

ANSWER: In March of 2017 the KBI, through the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) project (funded by a \$2,000,000 US Department of Justice grant), identified a statewide inventory of 2,220 Sexual Assault Kits (SAKs) that had NOT been submitted for examination. Over the course of the next three years those SAKs were submitted to the KBI Laboratory for analysis.<sup>1</sup> On March 22, 2021, the KBI completed all testing on the identified backlog.

During the pendency of that project and as a result of the 2022 amendments to KSA 65-448, a KBI memo was sent to affected agencies and partners encouraging them to submit ALL SAKs for testing. As a result, the KBI began to receive SAKs that would previously not have been submitted for testing. The KBI classifies those as 2B submissions.

The current snapshot of the testing backlog is 326 total, with 200 of those being classified as 2B and the remaining 126 being active SAKs submitted during the normal course of business. Additionally, in the past 12 months the KBI initiated an improved process that streamlines the testing of SAKs. We believe this will be a much more efficient way to work these items while maintaining the level of quality to which we hold all of our analytical work.

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<sup>1</sup> The Johnson County Crime Laboratory tested approximately 100 of the backlogged SAKs.