

**ATTORNEY GENERAL**  
STATE OF MONTANA

Tim Fox  
Attorney General



Department of Justice  
Joseph P. Mazurek Justice Building  
215 North Sanders  
P.O. Box 201401  
Helena, MT 59620-1401

December 9, 2015

Dear Sheriff/Chief,

Last month, I organized a task force to gather information and develop a plan to address the issue of unsubmitted, untested sexual assault evidence kits. The response to the creation of the task force has been very positive as law enforcement, prosecutors, victims, victim advocates, legislators and healthcare providers all recognize that this is an important issue.

Before the task force gathers to discuss plans and exchange ideas, my office is conducting a comprehensive assessment of the status of sexual assault evidence kits in our state. We understand there are kits in the possession of city and county law enforcement, which will be the focus of the task force.

That is why I am writing to you today – to request a complete assessment of unsubmitted sexual assault evidence kits in your possession. As part of that assessment, we would ask that you also provide the date each kit was done and, if possible, describe the general reason the kit was not submitted for testing. I understand that there are many likely reasons why each kit may not be submitted, and such information will be helpful as the task force makes recommendations on future testing or disposal of any unsubmitted kits.

Please provide the results of your assessment on or before January 31, 2016. This time frame is important because it will allow the task force to move forward early in the year at a pace that will ensure these issues are addressed in a timely fashion. If you feel you may have a problem meeting this deadline, please contact my office and ask for assistance. If you do not have any kits in your possession, please respond accordingly for tracking purposes.

You can email the results of your assessment to Deputy Attorney General Jon Bennion, who is heading up this task force on behalf of my office ([jonbennion@mt.gov](mailto:jonbennion@mt.gov)). If you have any questions, or need assistance in your assessment of kits in your possession, you can call Mr. Bennion at 406-444-5880.

TELEPHONE: (406) 444-2026    FAX: (406) 444-3549    E-MAIL: [contactdoj@mt.gov](mailto:contactdoj@mt.gov)    WEB: [www.dojmt.gov](http://www.dojmt.gov)

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Legal Services Division \* Division of Criminal Investigation \* Highway Patrol Division \* Forensic Science Division  
Gambling Control Division \* Motor Vehicle Division \* Information Technology Services Division \* Central Services Division

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I greatly appreciate your help in this important project. Working together, we can ensure that we have taken all steps necessary to hold sexual assault offenders accountable and bring justice to victims of sexual assault.

Best Wishes and Happy Holidays,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Fox', with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

Tim Fox  
ATTORNEY GENERAL  
State of Montana