



Jurisprudence Section – 2003

E21 Trial Preparation: Evaluation of Digital and Paper Discovery in STR/DNA Cases

Brian Walsh, JD, and Ingrid Gill, BS, JD*, Cook County Public Defender's Office, 69 West Washington Street, 17th Floor, Chicago, IL*

Upon completion of this presentation, attendees will learn about the types of information available for review from forensic testing; the methods forensic laboratories use to record digital data in STR/DNA cases; the preservation and production of such evidence in the discovery process; how such evidence is used in case evaluation and litigation in review with the forensic expert who has performed the testing, independent review by consulting experts who may or may not be called to testify in court; and review and preparation needed by the litigation team.

Once the paper and digital data is obtained by counsel through discovery, the review and trial preparation begins. The data can be analyzed by an independent expert, or by members of the litigation team. The preparation of demonstrative exhibits and the need to consider use of all forms of data received in discovery will be discussed and demonstrated with case examples

STR/DNA, Digital Information, Discovery