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STATE OF MAINE
Maine State Police Crime Laboratory
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A Nationally Accredited Laboratory



Lt. Michael Zabarsky
Director

January 7, 2026

Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and
Public Safety
c/o Legislative Information
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

RE: Maine State Police, Crime Laboratory DNA Post Conviction Report (15 MRS §2138, sub-15)

Senator Anne Beebe-Center and Representative Tavis Hasenfus, Chairs of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, and the Honorable Members of the Committee, please accept the following annual report of the Department of Public Safety regarding post-conviction (“post-judgment”) DNA analyses at the Maine State Police Crime Laboratory, pursuant to 15 MRSA §2138, sub-15, in 2024. This report provides a description of the Crime Lab’s work or its designees, associated costs, and available results for DNA post judgment work.

During 2025, there were two cases pending: State v. Dennis Dechaine, KNO-CR-89-126 (Knox, ss.) and State v. Daniel Roberts, AUBSC-CR-2005-01019 (Androscoggin, ss.). According to the Office of the Attorney General, the Law Court denied Dechaine a certificate of probable cause to appeal dated June 17, 2025; a certificate to appeal was also denied Roberts dated January 29, 2025.

To our knowledge, no new post-conviction reviews or analyses were requested and the Crime Lab provided no further DNA analyses or conducted any casework related to post conviction reviews in 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Lieutenant Michael Zabarsky
Director, Maine State Police, Crime Laboratory

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