



North Carolina State Crime Laboratory

Department of Justice
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North Carolina State Crime Laboratory Statutory Fees

The following information, background and descriptions are provided with the intent to be helpful in regards to State Crime Laboratory dedicated fees. These fees are used to pay for certain designated positions within the State Crime Laboratory. They are also used to pay critical non salary operating costs (e.g. scientific supplies, court travel, training, utilities and related costs).

- *Crime Lab Report* – NCGS 7A-304(a)(7) allows for a \$600 fee to be assessed against a defendant only in cases in which, as part of the investigation leading to the defendant's conviction, the NC State Crime Laboratory has performed DNA analysis of the crime scene; tests of bodily fluids of the defendant for the presence of alcohol or controlled substances; or analysis of any controlled substance.
 - During FY2011-2012 collections were \$1,404,407. During FY 2013-2014 total receipts were \$952,250. FY2014-2015 fees are projected to be \$841,338.
- *Crime Lab Expert Witness* – NCGS 7A-304(a)(11) allows for a \$600 fee to be assessed against a defendant only in cases in which an expert witness from the State Crime Lab provides testimony about the chemical or forensic analysis in the defendant's trial. This fee is separate and in addition to the \$600 fee collected under 7A-304(a)(7)
 - The fee began being collected August 1, 2013. For FY2014-2015, fees are projected to be \$56,906.
- *DNA on Arrest Court Cost* – NCGS 7A-304(a)(9) allows for the court to assess a \$2.00 fee against defendants upon conviction in criminal cases to help support the DNA on Arrest initiative.
 - During FY 2014-2015 the projected total amount collected is \$439,369
 - The FY2012-2013 total amount was \$494,027.
 - This fee applies only to criminal cases, not infractions.

