



MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

John D. Pelletier, Esquire
Executive Director

January 8, 2016

Dear Inmate/Probationer:

I am writing to tell you about a problem with DNA evidence that might have been used in your case. The mistake was in FBI statistics that the Maine State Crime Lab used to make DNA reports between June 1, 2005 and July 1, 2015. **If your case had DNA evidence and you were found guilty or pled guilty after June 1, 2005, you should read this letter carefully.**

If your case had a DNA report based on the incorrect statistics, you can ask for a new report from the crime lab to see how the new report could affect your case. Due to the type of mistake involved, the new report could help your case or could hurt your case.

If you think that your case had DNA evidence and you were found guilty or pled guilty after June 1, 2005, you should contact the lawyer who represented you on that case. If your lawyer was court-appointed, the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services will pay that lawyer to find out if the DNA report in your case was based on the incorrect statistics. If it was, you and your lawyer can decide whether to ask for a new report. If you get a new report, you and the lawyer can then decide whether to take court action based on the new report.

If your lawyer has retired or moved away, or if you had a retained lawyer who will not work with you on this because you cannot afford the lawyer fee, you should contact the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services at 287-3257. The Commission will find a lawyer to help you.

There are time deadlines that could prevent you from taking court action based on any new report, so if you think that your case had DNA evidence and you were found guilty or pled guilty after June 1, 2005, you should contact your lawyer or the Commission immediately.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John D. Pelletier".

John D. Pelletier, Esq.
Executive Director
(207) 287-3257