



**COUNTY OF OAKLAND**  
**OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF**  
**Michael J. Bouchard**  
**Forensic Science Laboratory**

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February 16, 2021

Dear Law Enforcement Partner,

Since its inception within the Oakland County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Laboratory in 2017, the Biology Unit has utilized the probabilistic genotyping software tool STRmix™ in assisting with the interpretation of DNA profiles and for calculating statistical weights in the form of likelihood ratios.

On June 30, 2020 the developers of STRmix™ publicly disclosed that part of the method used in the software for determining likelihood ratios was underperforming. Reported likelihood ratios, although still conservative, may not have been estimated as the lowest possible values.

From this point forward, report conclusions with listed likelihood ratios will include the wording change from "at least ### times more likely" to "approximately ### times more likely". This will adequately address the updates as explained by STRmix™ developers, while still presenting a conservative statistical calculation. The Biology Unit performed internal validation of the STRmix™ software prior to implementation in casework and demonstrated that the software performs as expected. This update to reporting does not nullify our validation of the software nor does it affect conclusions regarding the inclusion or exclusion of an individual.

Please note that this reporting change will not apply retroactively. Should you have any questions or feel you require an amended report in response to this information, please contact DNA Technical Leader and Supervisor Dorothy Catella at 248-452-9109 or [catellad@oakgov.com](mailto:catellad@oakgov.com).