Cybergenetics

Winter Newsletter

Better Justice Through Better Science ™

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Cybergenetics News

DNA Innovation in Science and Law in 2025

As we wrap up the year, Cybergenetics remains at the forefront of DNA forensics innovation. As the original trailblazers of probabilistic genotyping, we've continued advancing TrueAllele software with a sharp focus on accuracy, speed, and usability. Every day, we help transform complex, often unsolvable DNA evidence into clear, reliable answers—and this year, that commitment powered nearly twice as much casework as last year.

Winter Case Highlights

"Ghost Gun" DNA Witness

In the March 2023 fatal shooting of 21-year-old Naim Bayete in Erie, Pennsylvania, investigators recovered the discarded firearm—a "ghost gun"—and submitted it for DNA analysis. Although the Pennsylvania State Police Crime Lab generated DNA data from the weapon, traditional methods could not interpret the complex mixture containing DNA from five different people.

Cybergenetics' TrueAllele software was then applied to the same DNA data and successfully separated the five-person mixture. TrueAllele produced a highly significant match statistic linking the DNA on the firearm to Torrance Norris — a result that conventional analysis could not provide.

On October 9, 2025, a Cybergenetics analyst testified before an Erie County jury about the TrueAllele results. After just one hour of deliberation, the jury found Norris guilty on all counts, including criminal homicide.

This case underscores the value of advanced DNA interpretation tools in modern forensic investigations — transforming previously uninterpretable evidence into definitive, scientifically supported results that contribute directly to justice.

Ghost Gun Story

Major 2025 Milestones

New: Short Form Video Content
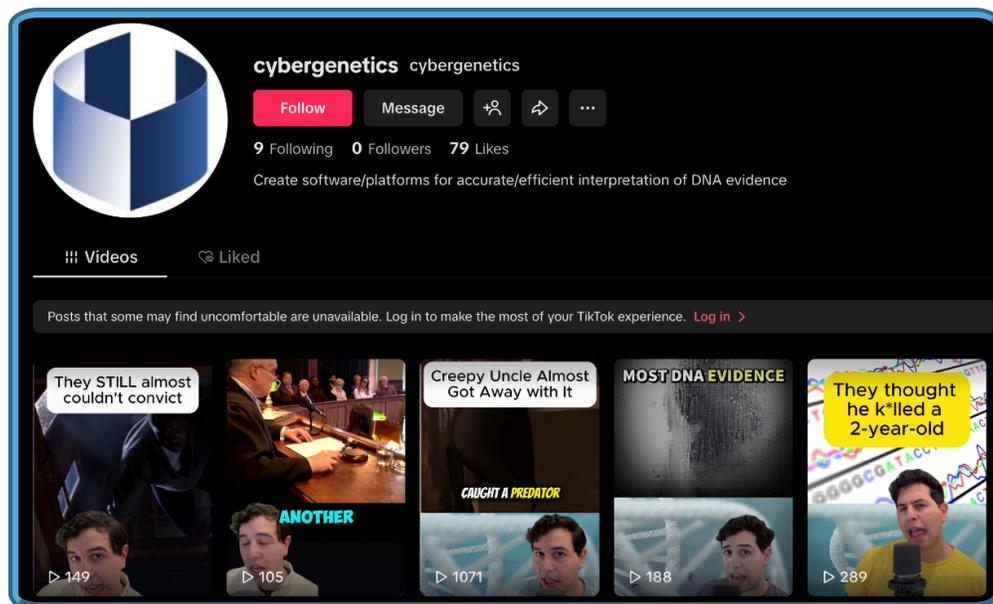
We recently launched a new outreach initiative to make our work easier to understand and more widely accessible. As part of that effort, we're publishing short-form case breakdowns highlighting the science and the impact behind real investigations.

Our most popular video follows the case of Henry Lewis Jr. He sexually abused his 10-year-old niece, and DNA recovered from her training bra became the evidence that secured his conviction. Watch [here](#).

Looking ahead, we'll also be sharing short, plain-language explainers on our core services, along with overviews of newer methodologies. These include Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) and the TrueAllele

Investigative Database (TAID).

For those who want to go deeper, a longer-form video is already in production—pulling back the curtain on the procedures, the science, and how the work is done step by step.

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Short Form Content

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## *Dateline DNA: The Bucket Hat Mystery*.

Cybergenetics first appeared on Dateline in 2019. For the second time, Cybergenetics has made it onto Dateline NBC. The Honolulu "Bucket Hat" case captured America's attention with a love triangle involving childhood sweethearts.

Cybergenetics is hosting a webinar about this case for attorneys in January 2026. The presentation will introduce Cybergenetics TrueAllele Casework services using this case recently featured on Dateline. Registration information will be coming soon.

In 2022, acupuncturist Jon Tokuhara was killed in Hawaii. Eric Thompson's wife was having an affair with Tokuhara. Thompson became the prime suspect. The first trial ended in a hung jury. In the

second, key DNA evidence was pulled. But Cybergenetics' TrueAllele software reanalyzed the DNA on the hat and linked it to Thompson, with overwhelming statistical support. This time, the jury convicted. Thompson was sentenced to life in prison.

Dateline DNA
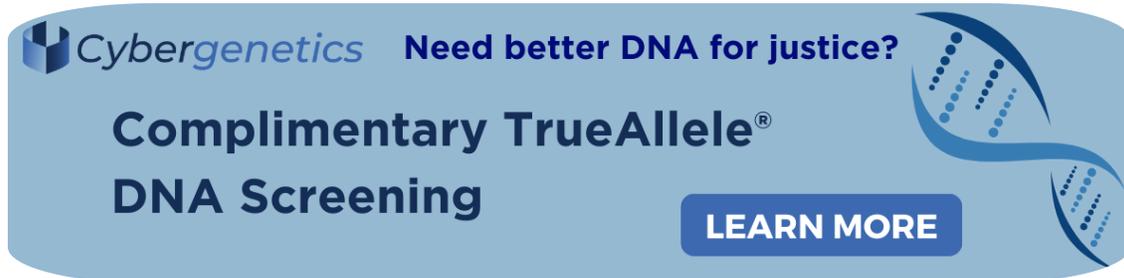
Made in USA

This year we officially achieved "Made in USA" certification. This distinction is unique among advanced probabilistic genotyping software. Since our founding, we are proud to be the only probabilistic genotyping software made, developed, and distributed within the US.

Cybergenetics invented the pioneering TrueAllele probabilistic genotyping technology 25 years ago.

This Made in USA milestone underscores Cybergenetics' commitment to American innovation, scientific integrity, and public safety. TrueAllele is trusted by law enforcement agencies, crime labs, and legal professionals nationwide. The technology has assisted on tens of thousands of complex

DNA cases—delivering objective and reliable results that uphold the standards of American justice.

AAFS 2026 Conference

2026 Presentations

Cybergenetics will be presenting novel TrueAllele technology innovations in three talks at the upcoming 78th *American Academy of Forensic Sciences* annual conference in New Orleans, Louisiana in February 2026.

Cybergenetics will deliver three presentations showcasing new work with RapidHIT™ DNA identification, next-generation TrueAllele Investigative Databasing (TAID) solutions, and Next Generation Sequencing (NGS). Together, these advances expand what labs and law enforcement can do with in-house technology powered by TrueAllele. Read more about our presentations in the AAFS presentation section

Computer interpretation of RapidHIT™ mixtures for DNA match information
Speakers: Baron Andrus, MS, Mark Perlin, PhD, MD, PhD

The widespread RapidHIT™ DNA typing machines lets investigators generate a DNA profile from evidence in about 1.5 hours. Those fast results can be difficult to interpret with traditional methods, especially for

complex samples.

Cybergenetics' TrueAllele software enhances RapidHIT™ results by interpreting even the most challenging DNA evidence—such as mixtures or low-level samples—and turning them into clear, scientifically supported match statistics.

This presentation features a Louisiana State Police study showing how adding TrueAllele to RapidHIT™ workflows can quickly deliver useful, defensible answers—supporting both rapid investigative decisions and robust, courtroom-ready reporting.

RapidHIT™ Mixtures

Turning unsearchable mixtures into actionable intelligence for reliable DNA evidence
Speakers: Edward Schikel, MBA, Terrance Lewis MA, Mark Perlin, PhD, MD, PhD

Cybergenetics' TrueAllele Investigative Database (TAID) helps agencies unlock the value of difficult DNA evidence—especially mixtures that older CODIS approaches often can't search.

This presentation shows how TAID, combined with high-volume DNA testing, can quickly turn property-crime evidence into meaningful investigative leads and cross-case connections.

In a Montgomery County (PA) pilot study reviewing 1,234 evidence items, TAID generated many new links between items and produced new leads from many samples that had previously yielded no searchable result. The outcome: faster case progress, earlier intervention, and stronger, report-ready results when it's time to go to court.

Actionable Intelligence

Solving complex DNA mixtures with Next Generation Sequencing
Speakers: Kari Danser, MS, Mark Perlin, PhD, MD, PhD

Cybergenetics' TrueAllele software can be paired with Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) to interpret especially challenging DNA evidence—such as complex mixtures with many contributors—where traditional approaches often fall short.

NGS can capture more information from difficult samples. Combined with TrueAllele's powerful statistical analysis, labs can better separate contributors, identify unknowns, and support cold case work.

In this presentation, the speakers walk through a real Cleveland homicide case involving a seven-person mixture. They recreate the scenario using NGS validation data, demonstrating how the combined NGS–TrueAllele approach delivers clearer, stronger DNA associations.

The takeaway: using NGS and TrueAllele together expands what labs can reliably conclude from complex mixture evidence—and can ultimately strengthen case outcomes.

TrueAllele NGS

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