

**Georgia Bureau of Investigation
April Monthly Report
FY2023**



**Presented to the Board of Public Safety
No Meeting Held in June 2023**

**Michael J. Register
Director**

Table of Contents

Noteworthy Cases & Operational Support	3 – 4
Trainings and Projects	4 – 5
Personnel Matters	5 – 6
Facilities Updates	6
Employment Opportunities	7
Division Updates	7 – 15
Administration/Open Records	7
Investigative Division	7
Crime Lab	8 – 11
Georgia Crime Information Center	12 – 15

Noteworthy Cases & Operational Support

- Region 10 – Updates for the Trooper Officer Involved Shooting from January 18th – On April 28th, a citizen in Carroll County, GA, observed a white van on the roadway near their residence. The occupants of the van were distributing flyers related to a “neighbor murdered a peaceful protester.” A Massachusetts tag was provided, and check of Flock cameras showed that the van had recently been near the site of the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center, and a picture of the van was also captured by the camera. Upon review, agents recognized the van as one previously seen and photographed at Intrenchment Creek Park approximately a year ago. Three subjects were later arrested by the Bartow County Sheriff’s Office for Stalking (Misdemeanor) and Intimidating a Law Enforcement Officer (Felony). The van was impounded and GBI executed a search warrant on the van on May 9th, along with 3 cell phones and a laptop that were seized at the time of the arrests. Evidence seized from the van included numerous documents, 2 cameras, a computer, and a map. Forensic examinations are being done on all of the seized digital devices.

On May 30th, the GBI, along with the Atlanta Police Department, arrested three people on charges stemming from the ongoing investigation of individuals responsible for numerous criminal acts at the future site of the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center and other metro Atlanta locations. Marlon Scott Kautz, age 39, of Atlanta, GA, Savannah D Patterson, age 30, of Savannah, GA, and Adele Maclean, age 42, of Atlanta, GA, were all charged with money laundering and charity fraud. Agents and officers executed a search warrant and found evidence linking the three suspects to the financial crimes. All three charged will be booked into a local jail and will have a bond hearing scheduled soon. This case is being jointly prosecuted by the Georgia Attorney General’s Office and the DeKalb County District Attorney’s Office.

- CEACC -- Operation Golden Eagle -- As a result of a proactive online undercover investigation coordinated by the Georgia Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation’s Child Exploitation and Computer Crimes Unit (CEACC) and the Bartow County Sheriff’s Office Special Operations, 12 people were arrested over a three-day period beginning Thursday, May 4, 2023. “Operation Golden Eagle” took several months of planning and involved the collaboration of 12 law enforcement agencies. The arrestees, ranging in age from 24-64, traveled from areas around Bartow County, GA, with the intent to meet a child for sex. Eleven of those arrested believed they were going to a location to meet with a child and engage in prearranged sex acts. One was arrested for possession of child sexual abuse material found during a search warrant execution. GBI digital forensic investigators were on hand at the operation to forensically process 16 electronic devices that were seized as evidence during the operation. The goal of “Operation Golden Eagle” was to identify persons who engage in sexually explicit communication with children on the internet, arrange to engage in a sex act with the child, and then travel to meet the child for the purpose of having sex. Additionally, the operation targeted those that are willing to exploit children by purchasing sex with a minor.
- From January 1 to May 31, 2023, the GBI has investigated a total of 44 Officer Involved Shootings (OIS). OIS number 44 was on May 27, 2023, Region 10 responding to OIS at the request of DeKalb Co PD to investigate an officer involved shooting which occurred after a stand-off with DeKalb Co SWAT. DKPD officers responded to a 911 call about a burglary in progress. Later, responding officers were informed the burglary in progress was

actually a domestic dispute involving a gun. The 911 caller indicated they were communicating by text with one of the residents who had locked himself inside his bedroom. The caller further stated he was told by the resident he could hear his mother's boyfriend yelling at her and believed he was going to shoot her. Once on scene, responding officers were able to get the resident out of the home to safety. DKPD SWAT was called to the scene. As SWAT officers arrived, they were able to get a woman that was in the home to safety. As SWAT officers went into the home, they saw a subject in an upstairs bedroom armed with a handgun. Officers ordered the subject to drop the gun. The subject pointed the gun towards the officers and was shot by one officer. The subject was taken to the hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Trainings and Projects

Legal Division

- Attorney Ari Passas attended the National Association for Forensic Lab Counsel (NAFLC) in Missouri.
- Legal Division Director Laura McDonald and Attorney Lindsay Gardner attended the Attorney General's Anti-Gang Networking session in Savannah.
- Legal Division Director Laura McDonald and Attorney Philip Curtis attended the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Legal Officers Section annual training.
- Attorney Philip Curtis successfully completed the Force Science analyst certification course having attended the requisite training in Ft. Lauderdale and passed all required examinations.

Division of Forensic Sciences

- Mercer, GBI Medical Examiner's Office (MEO), & Finance have put together final estimates on costs for the GBI/Mercer Forensic Scholar's Program. Mercer has asked if GBI might be able to fund scholarships for the next academic year (FY24) to get the program off the ground – this request was taken to Finance.
- MEO received their Match results for two 2024-2025 fellows. Both have expressed interest in staying with GBI after fellowship.
- MEO was approved for a temporary complement increase for Fellowship year 2024-2025 to host a military applicant.
- Division of Forensic Sciences (DOFS) Director Cleveland Miles attended the Forensic Laboratory Needs Technology Working Group held in Durham, NC.
- DOFS completed the ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) Reassessment – conforming with 183 of 186 applicable accreditation requirements.

Georgia Crime Information Center

- GBI has been approved to extend the Georgia Applicant Processing Service (GAPS) contract with Fieldprint for one year until 6/30/2024.
- GBI and Fieldprint continue to have weekly project calls to discuss issues GAPS users are experiencing.
- NCJ Help Desk is gathering agencies' information daily and sending spreadsheets for Fieldprint to create and send users their credentials to access the system.

Investigative Division

- Twenty-five Special Agent applicants have accepted conditional offers and have started the final phase of hiring (medical exam, psychological evaluation, drug test, PAT for non-certified applicants) with projected hire date of June 16, 2023.
- Inspector Terry Howard will graduate from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, on June 8, 2023.

Personnel Matters

- After 30 years of service with the GBI, Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC) Criminal Justice Information Services Specialist 4 Amy Curtis retired on May 1, 2023
- After 22 years of service with the GBI, Child Exploitation and Computer Crimes Unit (CEACC) Special Agent Tony Banks retired on June 1, 2023.
- After 33 years of service with the GBI, Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC) Assistant Deputy Directory Marsha O'Neal retired on June 1, 2023.
- Inspector Eve Rodgers was nominated for and won the 2023 International Association of Women Police (IAWP) Mentoring and Coaching Award. She will be presented with the award during a formal ceremony at the 60th IAWP Annual Training Conference in September 2023 in Auckland, New Zealand.
- Special Agent Crime Scene Specialist Elaina Honea recently talked with POLICE Magazine and provided "10 Tips for Securing a Crime Scene" which can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/4mwwn97r>.
- The GBI Director's Awards Ceremony was recently held at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth, GA. Individual awards were presented to the following:
 - Southeastern Regional Drug Enforcement Office (SRDEO) Assistant Special Agent in Charge Bobby Banks received the Stephen B. Robertson Award.
 - CEACC Assistant Special Agent in Charge Renea Green received the Bob Kirk Award.
 - Forensic Artist Kelly Lawson received GBI's Exceptional Investigative Contribution Award.

Promotions Effective May 2023

- Sara Lue was promoted to Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the GBI Georgia Cyber Crime Center (G3C) in Augusta, GA.

Promotions Effective June 2023

- Jamie Skelton was promoted to Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) of the Region 7 Field Office in Thomson, GA.
- Melissa Casto-Mefferd was appointed to Assistant Deputy Director in the Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC).

Facilities Update

- GBI-77 New Region 1 Field Office – Project schedule: Contractor bid solicitation in August 2023, Construction beginning in September 2023, and project completion October 2024. Received three qualified bidders via GSFIC qualification process.
- GBI-81 HQ Medical Examiner Building Addition – Programming and Schematic Design in progress.
- Region 10 Field Office – Programming complete. Concept drawings reviewed. Conceptual design continues over the next several weeks.
- Facility Hardening Projects – Region 10 Field Office – The security fencing material delivery is currently scheduled for the first part of June with installation following soon after. Investigative Office lobby access controls have been ordered and awaiting material delivery (4 - 6 weeks).
- Mausoleum – Completed punch list items but must replace some of the stainless-steel doors. Currently designing a canopy cover.
- GBI Training Storage Building – Received updated quote from Georgia Power for GBI, GSP and DNR (\$64,661.43). Received estimate for metal building.
- HQ Main Building – Main Building Switchgear replacement quotes are expected in the first week of June.
- HQ Complex – Fire Alarm System replacement quotes are expected in the first week of June.
- HQ Complex – Building HVAC and Lighting Automation System replacement design documents complete. Bids have been received and awaiting approval.
- Organization and restructuring of Headquarters card access clearance levels underway.

GBI Employment Opportunities FY2023

	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
DOFS	41	44	43	43	45	45	44	34	34	38		
Scientist Positions	15	18	19	19	21	21	36	19	20	20		
Investigative Division	44	45	40	42	43	30	36	38	38	42		
Sworn Agent Positions	27	28	28	30	32	32	33	29	30	34		
GCIC	4	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
Admin	8	10	9	9	9	8	8	7	6	7		

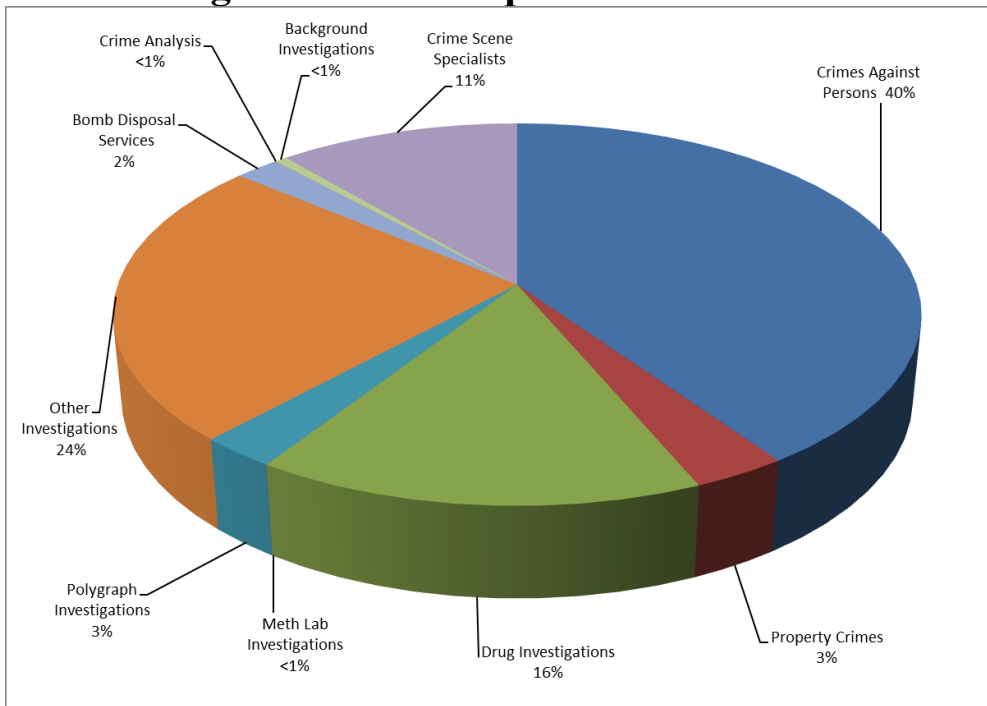
GBI Administration

Office of Privacy & Compliance/Open Records

	<u>April 2023</u>	<u>Total FY2023</u>
Open Records Request	422	4,928
Archives	13	231

Investigative Division

Investigative Hours Expended - YTD FY2023



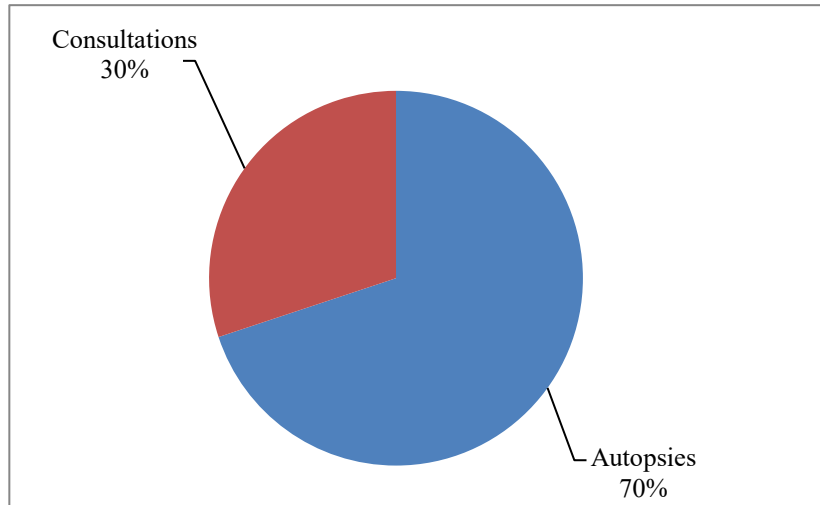
Crime Lab

Medical Examiners (includes all laboratories)

	April 2023	FY2023 YTD
Autopsies	399	3,249
Consultations	180	1,398
Total ME Cases Managed	579	4,647

Percentage of Cases Released in 90 days: 37.2%

Medical Examiner Activity, FY2023



Confirmed CODIS Hits for April 2023

State Offender Hits	111
State Forensic Hits	16
National Offender Hits	25
National Forensic Hits	0
Total	152

Samples entered CODIS for April 2023 – 1,661

Profiles in CODIS

Forensic Casework Profiles	28,575
Convicted Offender Profiles	426,668
Missing Person/Unidentified Human Remains Profiles	12
Staff/QC File	629
Total	455,884

Report Turnaround for April 2023

	# Released in 45 Days	Total Released	% Released in 45 Days
Laboratory			
Headquarters - Atlanta	2,212	3,915	57%
Central Regional - Macon	15	84	18%
Coastal Regional - Savannah	319	1,000	32%
Eastern Regional - Augusta	196	445	44%
Northeastern Regional	891	1,387	64%
Southwestern Regional - Moultrie	35	145	24%
Western Regional - Columbus	28	93	30%
System-wide Totals	3,696	7,069	52%

Note: 65.7% Casework Reports were released within 90 days.

Report Turnaround for Year-to-Date, FY2023

	# Released in 45 Days	Total Released	% Released in 45 Days
Laboratory			
Headquarters - Atlanta	22,486	45,332	50%
Central Regional - Macon	100	1,108	9%
Coastal Regional - Savannah	2,729	9,231	30%
Eastern Regional - Augusta	2,351	5,067	46%
Northeastern Regional	9,904	20,877	47%
Southwestern Regional - Moultrie	305	1,638	19%
Western Regional - Columbus	375	1,405	27%
System-wide Totals	38,250	84,658	45%

Crime Lab Reports Processed for April 2023

Department	Requested	Total Released
Chemistry (includes Drug ID)	3,064	1,808
Firearms	274	292
Forensic Biology	2,153	1,872
Impressions	3	1
Latent Prints	182	126
Medical Examiners	534	579
Operations Support	0	0
Toxicology	3,061	2,867
Trace Evidence	81	103
Total	9,352	7,648

Crime Lab Reports Processed FY2023

Department	Requested	Total Released
Chemistry (includes Drug ID)	30,839	23,946
Firearms	2,986	2,500
Forensic Biology	24,866	27,699
Impressions	21	44
Latent Prints	1,495	1,465
Medical Examiners	5,517	4,673
Operations Support	0	0
Toxicology	28,540	28,176
Trace Evidence	891	828
Total	95,155	89,331

DOFS Backlog Chart – FY 2023
Unworked Reports over 30 Days Old

Discipline	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Chemistry	29,289	30,075	31,096	30,982	31,503	31,992	32,540	31,997	33,631	33,473		
Data Conversion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Firearms	2,928	2,979	3,013	2,967	3,003	2,984	2,901	2,878	2,994	2,922		
Forensic Biology	5,340	4,243	5,588	6,282	5,470	4,968	4,751	3,292	3,858	2,962		
Impressions	32	24	21	21	18	15	13	11	10	9		
Latent Prints	61	51	56	50	41	46	41	30	36	53		
Misc. Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Operations Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Toxicology	989	1,149	1,341	1,158	1,254	1,725	1,734	1,836	1,870	1,480		
Trace Evidence	497	478	490	469	491	476	511	486	479	461		
Total	39,136	38,999	41,605	41,929	41,780	42,206	42,491	40,530	42,878	41,360		

MEO Backlog Chart - FY2023

(Medical Examiner data is calculated as >90 days from the date of examination in accordance with National Association of Medical Examiner accreditation standards.)

Discipline	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Medical Examiners	387	397	476	545	593	641	749	831	957	916		

Total DOFS & MEO	39,523	39,396	42,081	42,474	42,373	42,847	43,240	41,361	43,835	42,276		
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Georgia Crime Information Center

April 2023

NCIC SERVICES

CJIS Network Statistics

System Uptime: 100%

Messages Processed: 91,179,982

CJIS Operations

1. Sex Offender Registry

	Month	FY2023	Database Totals
Records Added	122	1,272	37,424

2. Protection Order Registry

	Month	FY2023	Database Totals
Records Added	2,538	27,107	172,208

3. Off-Line Search Requests

Type of Request	Month	FY2023
Administrative (Criminal Justice Agency)	15	121
Open Records	1	4
Subpoena	0	2
Media	0	0
Possible CJIS Security Violations	0	29

CJIS Audits

	Month	FY2023
CJIS Audits	38	274

INFORMATION SERVICES
Criminal History Identification Services

1. Criminal Fingerprint Transactions Received

	Month	FY2023
Submissions	36,307	351,892
Submissions w/Palms	16,341	160,389
Submissions w/Photos	12,154	115,780

Transactions processed within 2 hours of receipt: 95%

2. Applicant Fingerprint Transactions Received

	Month	FY2023
Submissions	35,843	398,004

Transactions processed with 24 hours of receipt: 100%

3. Final Dispositions Received

	Month	FY2023
Local Agency	72,854	658,032
GCIC	369	3,761
TOTAL	73,223	661,793

4. Rapid Identification (Rapid ID) Transactions

	Month	FY2023
Submissions	1,177	11,323
AFIS Hits	44%	45%
NCIC Hits	52%	51%
FBI RISC Hits	13%	11%

5. Non-Criminal Justice Audits, Visits and Trainings

	Month	FY2023
In Compliance	26	199
Out of Compliance	17	118
TOTAL AUDITS	43	317
Agency Visits	4	87
Training Attendees	2,592	2930
Trainings	20	91

6. Rap Back Activity

	Month	FY2023
Subscriptions Created	4231	48,733
Triggering Events	543	6,371

7. Latent Print AFIS Activities

	Month	FY2023
Latent Hits	20	330

PLANS AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

CUSTOMER SUPPORT & TRAINING

Project Description - The Customer Support Training group provides training in GCIC programs, GCIC applications, and GCIC/FBI compliance to criminal justice agencies in the State of Georgia. The group extends the option to receive classroom training or training within an e-Learning environment. The LMS platform transitioned to a new Learning Management System during the dates of April 3-24, 2023. During that time, user access to the system and their transcripts was limited.

CJ Training Tasks

Training Staff Tasks	Month	FY 2023
Emails	535	10,761
Phone Calls	204	915
Agency Visits	0	1
Virtual/Classroom Trainings	0	38
Individuals Trained	0	1,214

GBI Learning Management System (LMS)

Course	Month	FY 2023
Georgia Criminal Street Gang Database	0	171
Human Trafficking Awareness Training	0	17
Protective Order Registry	0	262
Sexual Harassment for Employees	0	91
Security Awareness Training and Awareness Statement	0	42,781
CJIS Network Operator Certification	0	17,637

GEORGIA APPLICANT PROCESSING SERVICE (GAPS) PROJECT

Project Description - The Information Services section of GCIC is seeking to obtain the services of a qualified and experienced vendor to provide an applicant fingerprinting solution that will electronically capture and submit applicant fingerprints to the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) and provide Rap Back services. The selected vendor shall also manage receiving fingerprint search results and disseminating results to the requestor.

Monthly Update - GBI User Acceptance Testing (UAT) continued with daily updates to review issues as they occur for resolution. DECAL and DCH also continued to perform UAT. A soft launch is scheduled April 24 through April 28 and this launch will provide helpful insight into system or operational issues prior to Go-Live. The plan transitioning from Thales to Fieldprint has finalized, and notification dates confirmed. All users will receive notice that the switchover will

begin on April 28th. Thales will go down at 11:59PM on April 28th and Fieldprint would start at 12:00 AM April 29th. May 1 is the Go-Live date for FieldPrint to begin as the new Georgia Applicant Processing Service (GAPS) vendor.

GEORGIA LAW ENFORCEMENT MESSAGE SWITCH (GLEMS)

Project Description - The message switch provides a means of communication between federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies throughout the state of Georgia, the United States, and other countries, and to take advantage of new features and advances in technology. GCIC is looking to upgrade or replace this system.

Monthly Update - GCIC continues to evaluate operations and work with Datamaxx on migrating data to the development environment and preparing the production environment for Go-Live.

HUMAN RESOURCE (HR) TIMESHEET PROJECT

Project Description - Enhancement of the application used by non-sworn units of the GBI for tracking time.

Monthly Update - The developer is awaiting feedback from GBI HR for additional updates.

NATIONAL SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY (NSOR) NOTIFICATION PROJECT

Project Description - The NSOR project will provide Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) the ability to receive NSOR responses as a part of the criminal history background check, in compliance with Federal, state, and local laws to make complete/accurate fitness determinations.

Monthly Update - There are no updates this reporting period.

RAP BACK PROJECT

Project Description - The Rap Back (RB) project will provide the ability to receive ongoing status notifications of criminal history activity reported on individuals holding positions of trust. Georgia's Rap Back System will include the retention of applicant fingerprints, the implementation of an FBI Rap Back Subscription on such prints, and the creation of a validation process for authorized entities to manage such subscriptions.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) is requesting proposals for the Georgia Applicant Processing Service (GAPS) with the Federal Rap Back Subscription Service. The objective of this procurement is to obtain the services of a qualified and experienced vendor to provide real-time, end-to-end, on-line submission of fingerprint images and data. GBI is seeking a program designed to ensure high performance combined with high availability and reliability to the GBI Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS).

Monthly Update - GTA staff reviewed the eRFP and provided risk recommendations to include and GBI included the applicable recommendations. GTA will review the eRFP again before releasing it to DOAS for their review.