

Process and Pricing

The DNA Doe Project accepts unidentified human remains cases from medical examiners, coroners, law enforcement agencies, and other authorized parties for identification using investigative genetic genealogy. We will work on cases involving living Jane or John Does on a case by case basis.

Our team will work with you to understand the details of your case and to guide you through the process described below.

We contract with independent laboratories to develop DNA profiles, generally utilizing whole genome sequencing (WGS). This approach allows us to work with degraded, contaminated, and low input DNA samples. We upload the resulting data to the third-party databases GEDmatch Pro, FamilyTreeDNA, and DNA Justice for genealogical analysis.

It can take weeks to months from the receipt of a DNA sample to produce a file to upload to GEDmatch Pro to begin the genealogical analysis. Turnaround time depends on the nature of the sample and the laboratory schedule for sample runs. There may be additional delay and expense if the initial sample fails quality control.

The time required to identify a candidate once the case reaches the genealogical research stage is hard to predict. Some cases can be resolved immediately while others may take months, or even years. To be able to assist with all of these scenarios, we structure our analysis to include an initial evaluation once the DNA has been sequenced and uploaded to GEDmatch Pro, along with long-term investigative assistance if a case does not appear to be solvable in the near term.

DNA Doe Project provides pro bono investigative genealogy whether a case takes 1 hour or 1000 hours, and we never give up on a case. Upon request, we will provide raw DNA sequencing data and genotype files. We may also transfer GEDmatch Pro, FTDNA, and DNA Justice kit ownership to the agency or their designee if they want to cease work with DDP.

Procedures

DNA Extraction:

Depending on the biological sample available, we will help you decide the right lab pathway for your case. Our lab partners are currently able to extract DNA from bone, teeth, blood, tissue, fingernails, and hair, including rootless hair.

Quality Control and Whole Genome Sequencing:

Once DNA is either extracted by the lab, or DNA extract is made available to the lab, initial quality control (QC) is performed to ensure that the DNA is of sufficient quality and quantity suitable for processing and then is processed for whole genome sequencing.

If we are unable to obtain enough DNA from a sample, or if DNA extract fails to pass QC, you will be

notified and we will work with you to determine if it's possible to obtain another sample or if the lab can use an enrichment process to attempt to make the sample usable. We will help you arrange to have unused samples and/or extract returned to you if you decide not to move forward.

Bioinformatics:

After processing is complete, the lab will make the raw data available to our bioinformatician for analysis to create derivative files, including those we need to upload to GEDmatch Pro, FTDNA, and DNA Justice.

Upload to DNA Database sites and Genealogical Research:

Once we have created a DNA profile, we will upload files to GEDmatch Pro, FTDNA, and DNA Justice, as appropriate. Our team of volunteers will then begin investigative genetic genealogy. While we cannot guarantee a successful identification, we work on a best effort basis. The databases we use are constantly expanding, making it possible for new DNA relatives to be discovered at any point that could indicate a candidate. While your case is in the research phase, you will receive regular updates on the progress of our work.

Identification of a Candidate:

Our investigative genetic genealogists work diligently to research the DNA relatives of your Doe in order to build family trees. This work, combined with traditional research in public databases, newspaper archives, and social media, is used to identify a likely candidate. Once a candidate is identified, you will be notified and provided with a brief report outlining our findings. Confirmation of the identity is the responsibility of your agency - usually accomplished by DNA testing a close relative and matching through CODIS.

Case Management:

Our case management fee helps cover our operational expenses such as staff salaries, insurance, platforms and security, outreach to help identify your Doe, as well as volunteer recruitment, training, and support. Case management costs are also underwritten by our supporters, who provide donations to our organization, so the fee you are charged does not reflect our actual costs.

Billing and Funding Support

Once all case expenses have been determined, DNA Doe Project will invoice you for the actual laboratory costs, upload fees, and the case management fee. There is no charge for the investigative genetic genealogy work performed by our volunteers. Prepayment is acceptable if you have budgetary constraints or the timing of our work crosses multiple fiscal years. All invoices are issued with NET 30 terms.

If your sample fails quality control prior to sequencing and you decide not to proceed, you will be charged the cost incurred up to that point.

Sample Fee Schedule

(your pricing will depend on the needs of your case and costs at the time of service)

Extraction	\$65-666
Library Prep / QC Sequencing	\$95-483
Whole Genome Sequencing	\$165-1,514
Bioinformatics	\$400
Upload to Databases	\$700-1,400
<u>Case Management fee</u>	<u>\$1000</u>

Total **\$2,425-5,463**

Funding Support Options

The DNA Doe Project is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Our generous donors provide support for cases and our operations. Cases receiving funding support from the DNA Doe Project will have a donation button on our website and our development team will fundraise on our social media platforms. We encourage agency partners to promote this opportunity for community support of our work on your case through your own social media and events.

If your agency cannot afford any of the cost of our work, we may set up a fundraiser for your case prior to beginning any work or incurring any expenses on your behalf. These Pre-Funding cases will appear as a special category on our website and we will begin work once the funds needed to cover the case management fee and a portion of the lab costs are raised. We will continue to fundraise for the case until the entire costs are covered.

Questions? Please email us at admin@dnadoeproject.org for more information or to discuss the details of your case.