The challenges related to efficiently storing rape kits and other DNA samples are seemingly becoming an epidemic. With proper storage of this critical evidence, law enforcement officers are taking substantial steps towards locking down the chain of custody.

Evidence Storage

Whether an evidence storage facility chooses static shelving, high-density compact shelving or even pass-through evidence lockers, it’s critical to recognize that the type of storage product selected is only half the story. Proper evidence storage and maintenance, as well as adhering to strict chain of custody rules and regulations, are integral to ensuring the long-term value of accumulated items. And now with the added pressure of securing sexual assault kits, effective high-density storage solutions are even more crucial.

Cold Storage

When it comes to handling and storing biological evidence, cold storage is becoming essential to your storage arsenal. Refrigerated evidence lockers, a variation on standard non-pass-thru evidence lockers, have manual temperature settings designed to lengthen the time DNA evidence can be kept without fear of degradation. High-density mobile systems can be adapted specifically for cold storage as well.

With the growing focus on the importance of entering all DNA evidence into a nationwide database, proper storage and testing protocols have never been more pertinent. The difference between diligence and negligence in this regard affects not only verdicts but lives. Examination of biological evidence – including that of sexual assault kits – only became widespread a decade ago. The tools are available today to engender better organization and action. Don’t wait.