

Forensic Genetic Genealogical DNA Analysis and Search (FGGS) Sub-Panel Virtual Meeting

March 4, 2026



Welcome



Deliverables

Assigned Tasks



Deliverables

- Reach out to the bill sponsors to gather more insight about the licensing board requirement, and share the provided insight with the group.
- Research other states for similar models.

Deliverables

Outcome



Statutory Regulations

- Maryland (2021) implemented forensic investigative genetic genealogy regulations into statute; specified conditions for its use; and requires genetic genealogists to be licensed through an established program.
- Montana (2021) enacted a limited statute to require law enforcement to obtain a search warrant before a database is used; and without specified conditions of use or any practitioner licensing requirements.
- Utah (2023) implemented regulations into statute; and specified conditions regarding its use and the steps required during its process.
- Florida (2024) established a forensic investigative genetic genealogy grant program into statute; and specified reporting requirements.

[Home](#)

▼ How to Use

To filter the map, select your desired combination of genetic privacy regulations. You will notice the map change based on your combination of radio button and checkbox inputs. The scrollable list of linked regulations will also change according to your selections. Press the reset button to return to the general coverage map.

▼ Filter Map by Regulation Type

- ☐ Regulates Law Enforcement Directly
- ☐ Regulates Consumer Genetics Platforms

Reset

► Explore Protective Features

► Compare State Laws

▼ Read the State-by-State Laws

Florida

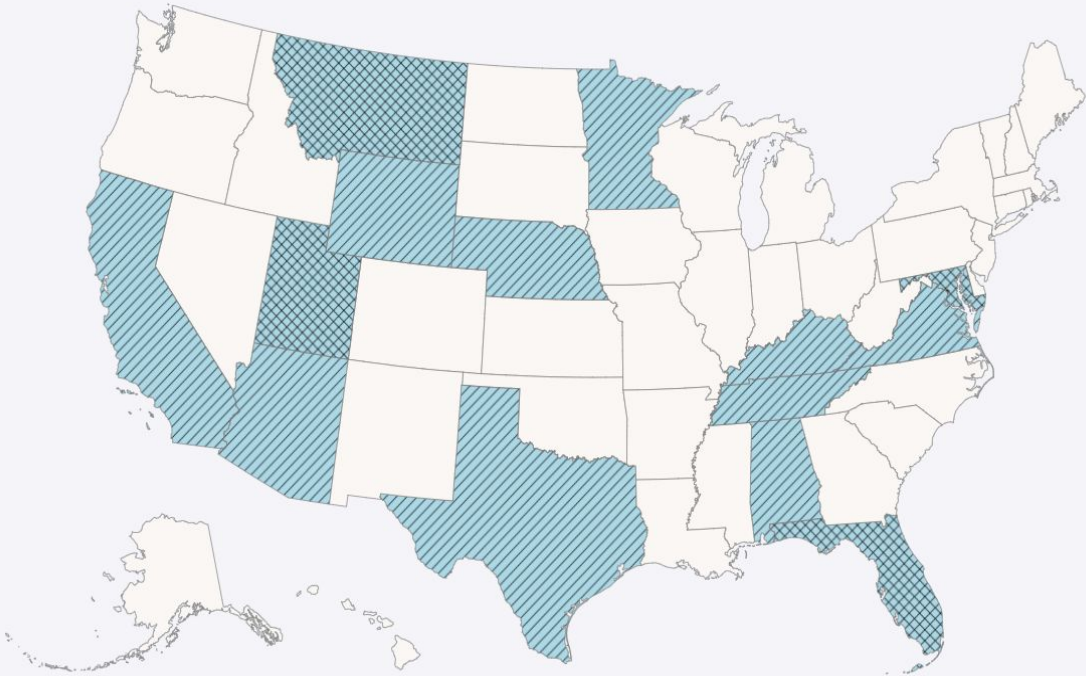
Florida Statutes § 119.071(2)(r)	N/A
Florida Statutes § 943.327	Reporting/Review
Florida Statutes § 760.40	N/A

Existence of Legal Coverage

-  Regulates Companies
-  Regulates Law Enforcement
-  Regulates Both
-  Absent

State Regulation of Genetics and Law Enforcement

The United States government, every state, and the District of Columbia collect, store, and share genetic data for law enforcement use through the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), which is the subject of legislation in each jurisdiction. However, federal law does not regulate law enforcement use of consumer genetic data, known as forensic investigative genetic genealogy ("FIGG"). There are a variety of laws that states have adopted in this area. This map charts these laws.



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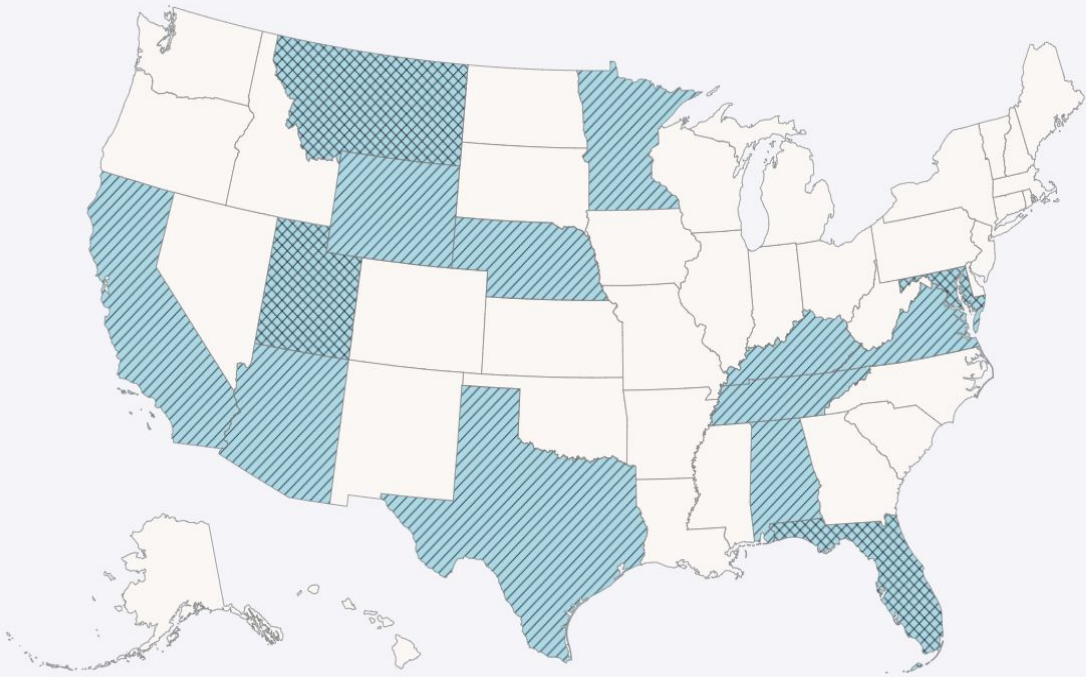
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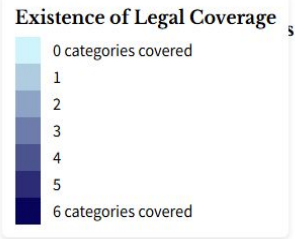
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- ☒ Regulates Law Enforcement Directly
- ☐ Ex-Ante Judicial Supervision of FIGG
- ☐ Individual Control Over Genetic Data
- ☐ Protections for Non-Suspect Third Parties
- ☐ FIGG Available to Prove Innocence
- ☐ Authorizes Private Lawsuits
- ☐ Annual Public Reporting and Review
- ☐ Regulates Consumer Genetics Platforms

Reset

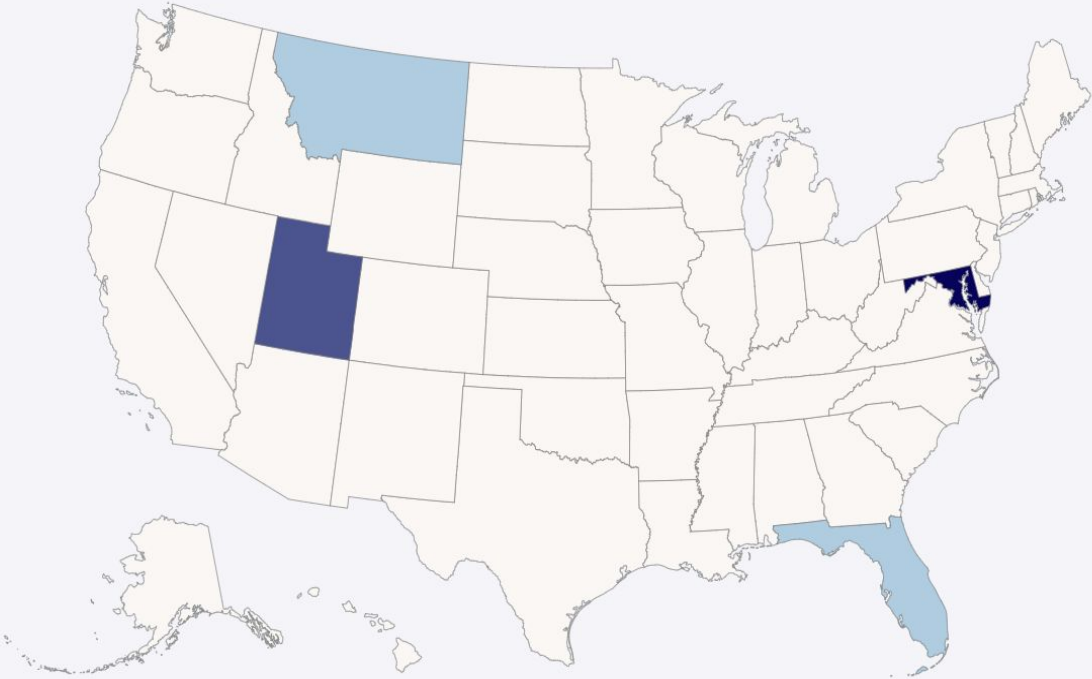
► Explore Protective Features

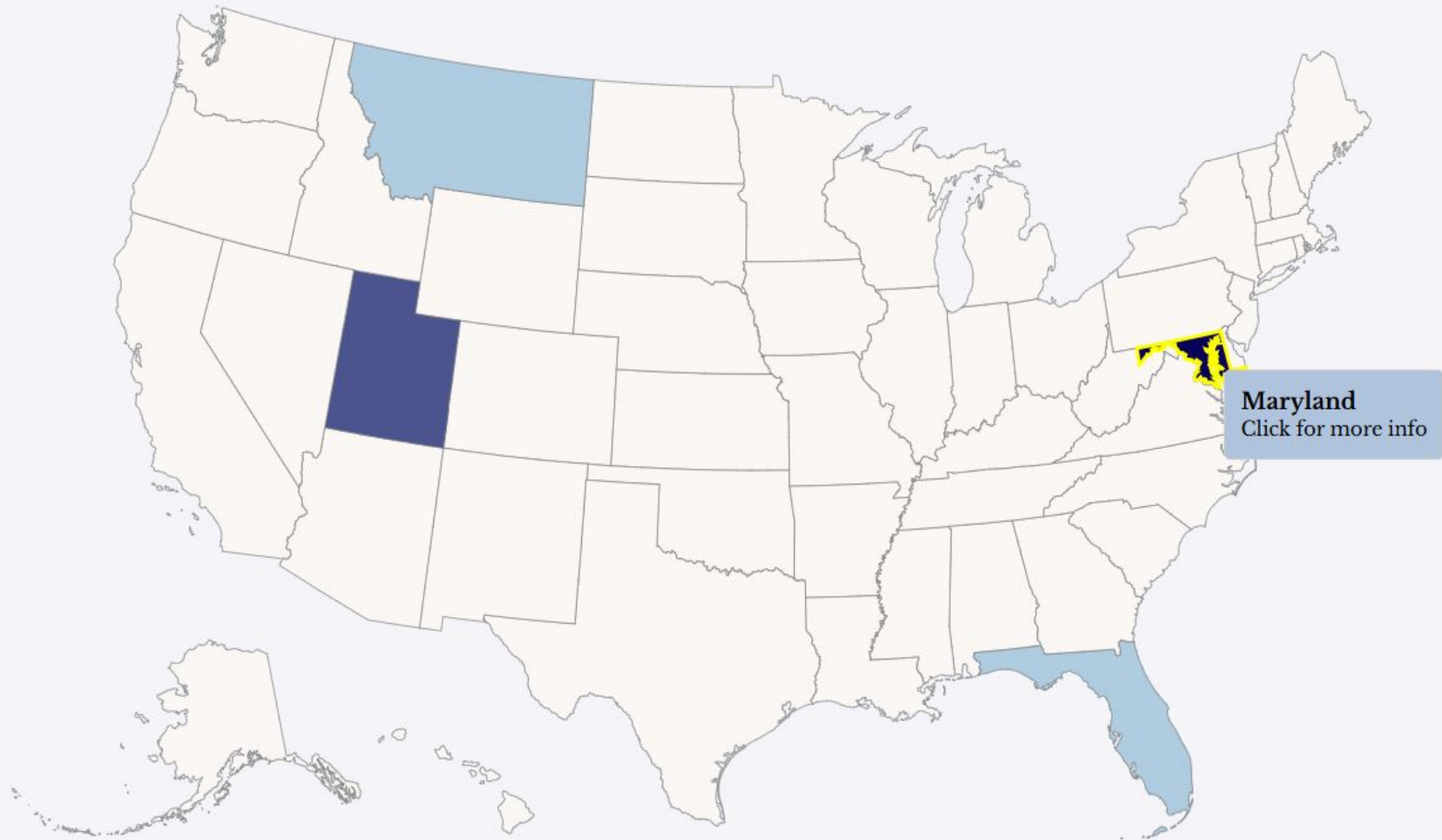
► Compare State Laws



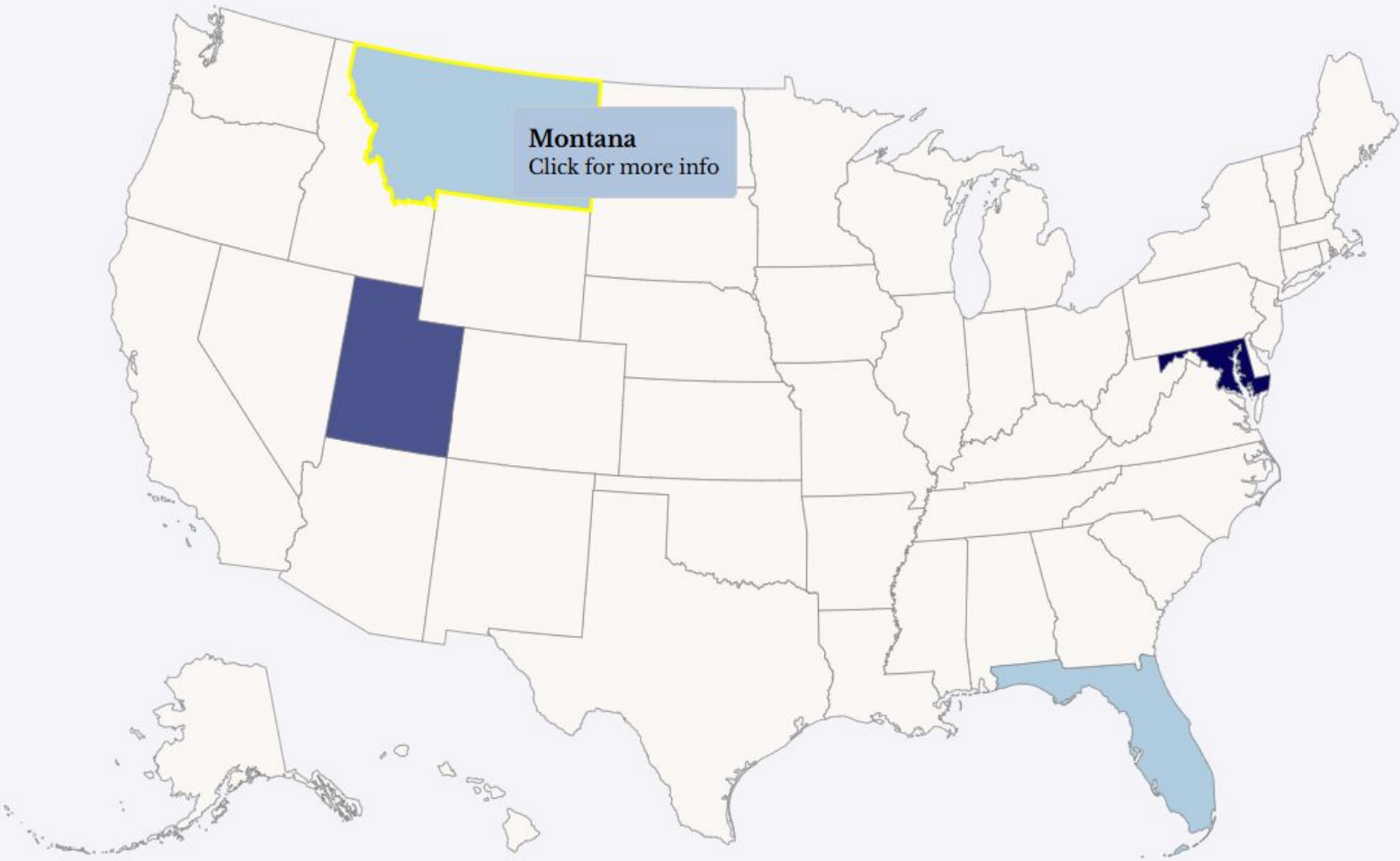
State Laws Regulating Law Enforcement Directly

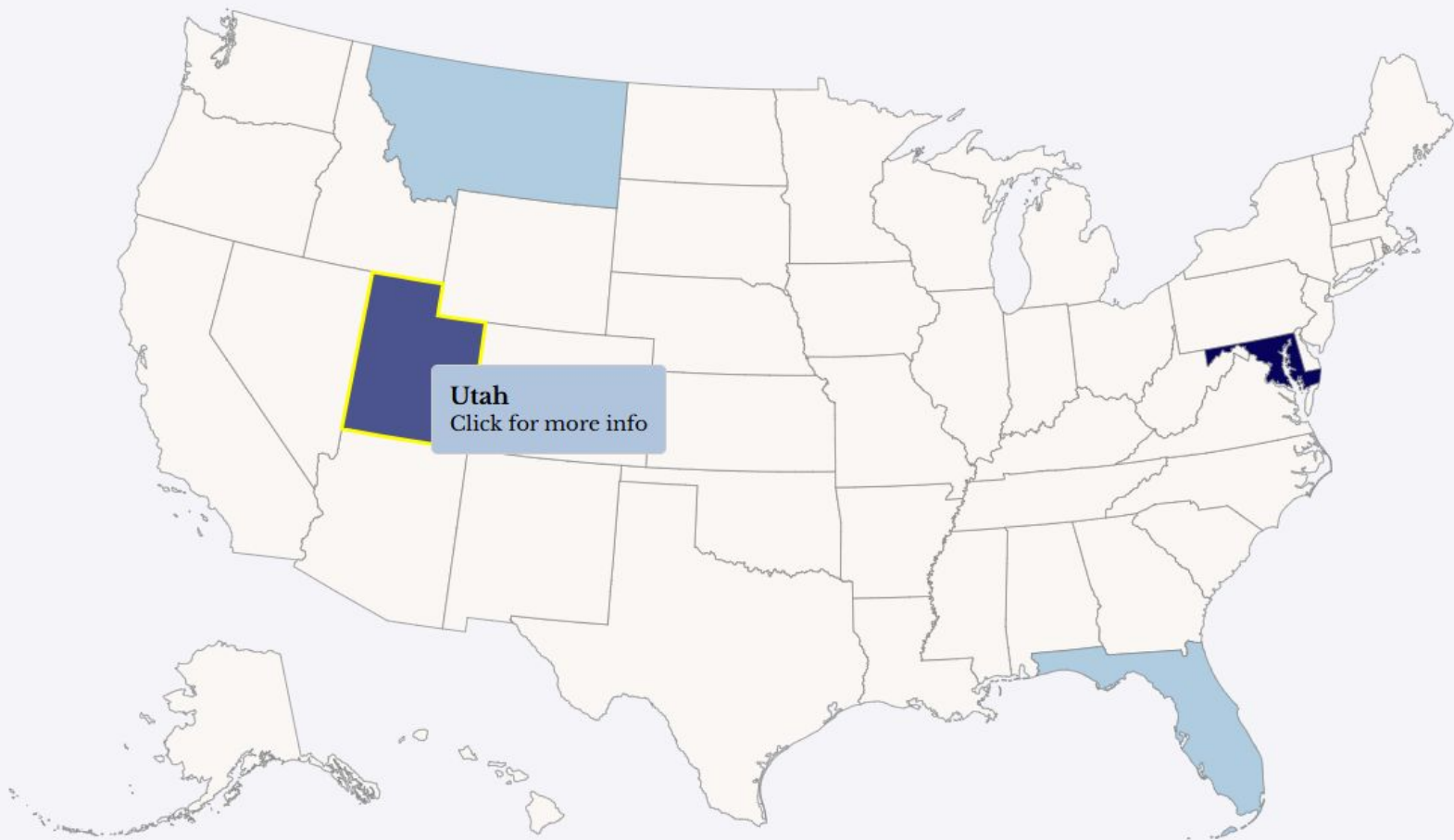
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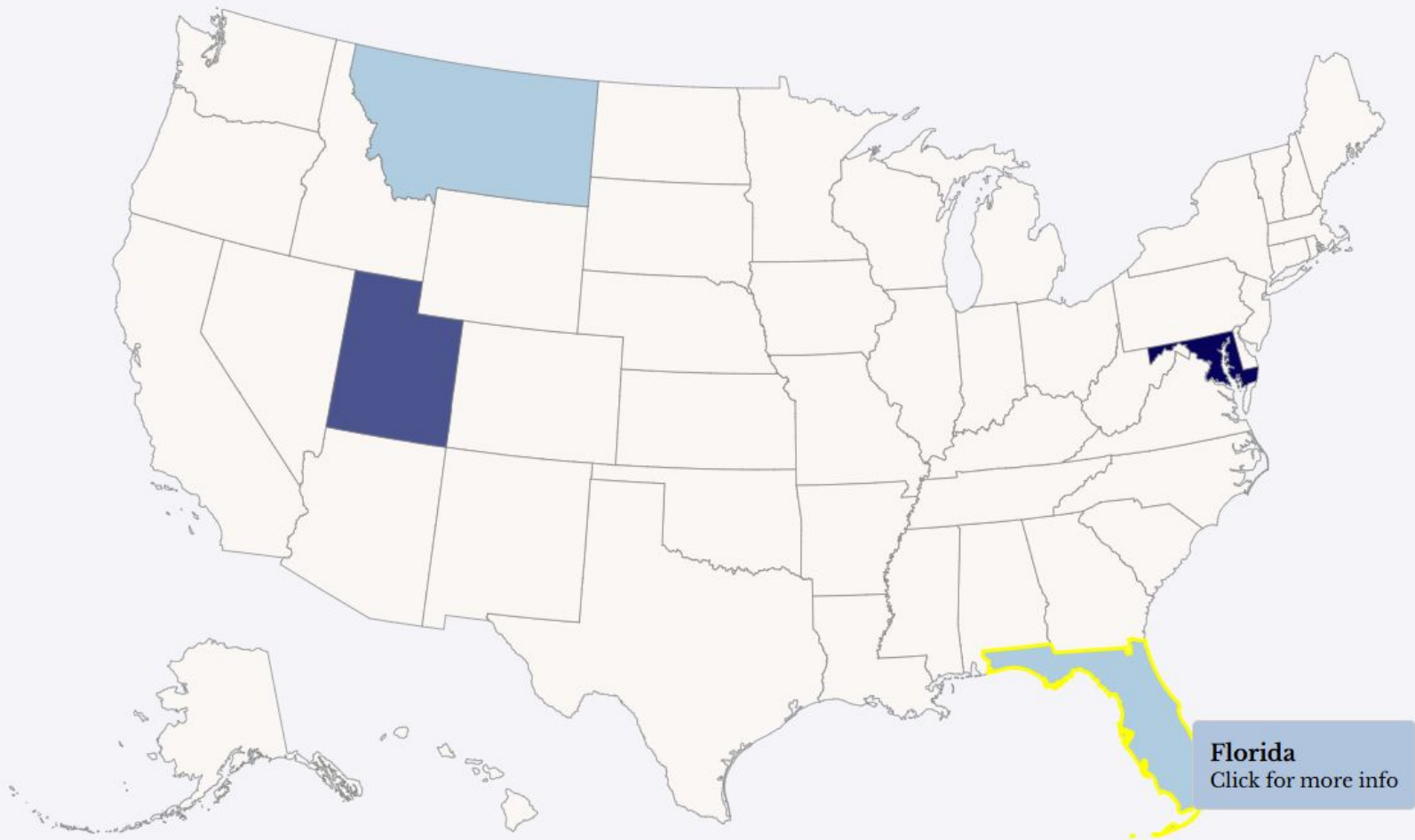


Maryland
[Click for more info](#)





Utah
Click for more info



Florida
Click for more info

Statutory Regulations

State Enacted Regulation of Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy				
	Maryland	Montana	Utah	Florida
Statute	<u>§§ 17-101 to 17-105</u>	<u>§ 44-6-104</u>	<u>§ 53-10-403.7</u>	<u>§ 943.327</u>
Effective Date(s)	October 1, 2021 October 1, 2024	October 1, 2021	May 3, 2023	July 1, 2024

Statutory Regulations

State Regulation of Genetics and Law Enforcement				
	Maryland	Montana	Utah	Florida
Ex-Ante Judicial Supervision of FIGG	Yes	Yes	-	-
Individual Control Over Genetic Data	Yes	-	Yes	-
Protections for Non-Suspect Third Parties	Yes	-	Yes	-
FIGG Available to Prove Innocence	Yes	-	Yes	-
Authorizes Private Lawsuits	Yes	-	-	-
Annual Public Reporting and Review	Yes	-	Yes	Yes

Licensing Board Requirement: Maryland

Because the licensing board requirement was not modeled after another state, efforts occurred to examine options to ensure compliance with [§ 17–104\(a\) of the Criminal Procedure Article](#).

- Budget appropriation request
- Legislative change to remove the requirement
- Alternative option to receive the Forensic Laboratory Advisory Committee's (FLAC's) recommendations on the draft regulations

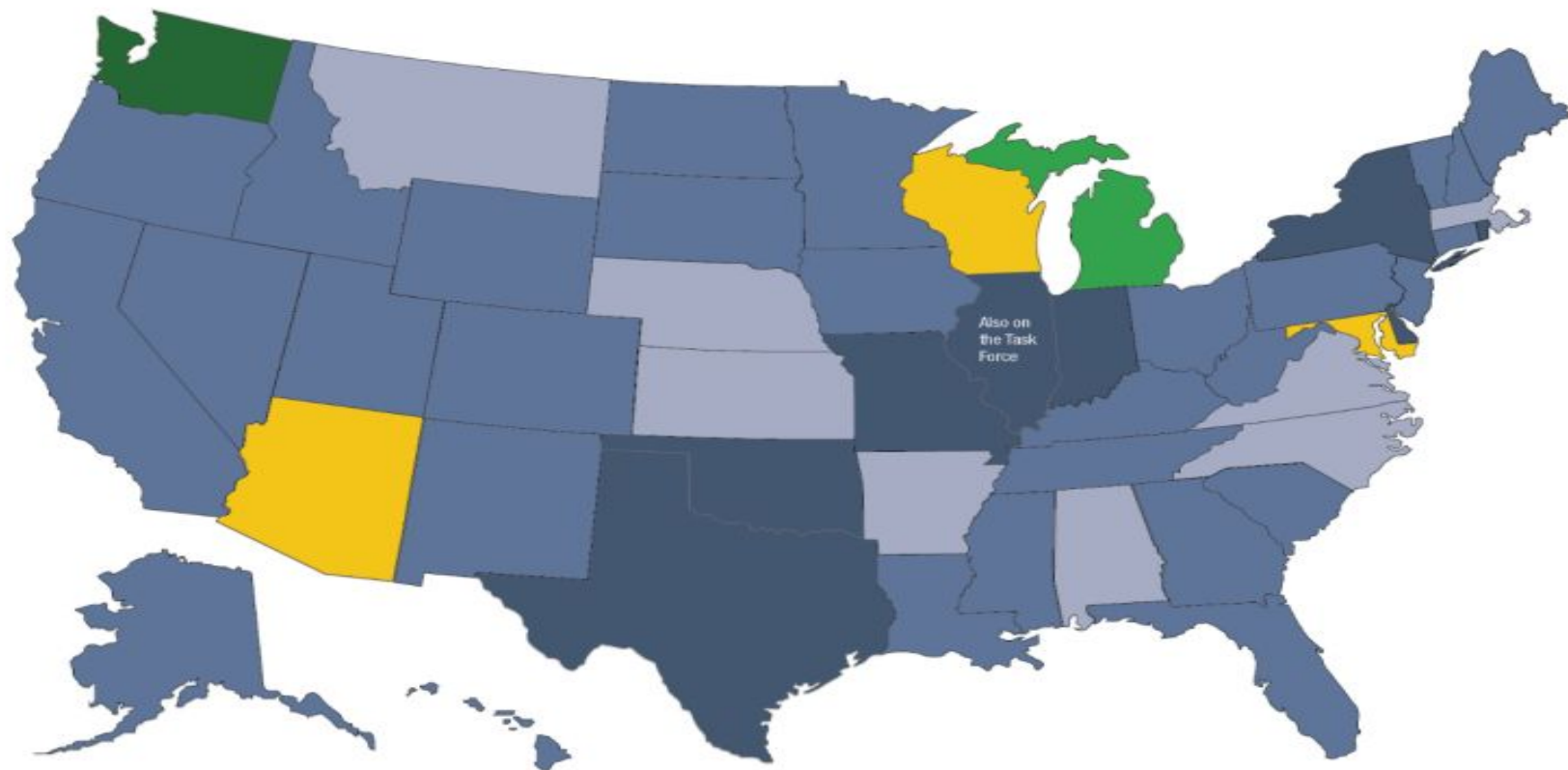
Licensing Board Requirement: Maryland

Collaborative efforts are underway to ensure compliance with [§ 17–104\(a\) of the Criminal Procedure Article](#).

- Identify estimated cost to establish the licensing board
- Request funding through a budget appropriation

Licensing Board Requirement: Other States

Forensic Science v. Forensic Genetic Genealogy



■ No Commission

■ Commission

■ Advisory/Oversight Board

■ Comittee

■ Council

■ Task Force

*Not pictured:
District of Columbia

*Not pictured:
District of Columbia

State	Prescribe Qualifications, Duties of Lab Director	Fiscal Oversight	Guidance/ Programs/ Protocols	Reviews Complaints	Accreditation/ Licensing
Alabama	X	X			
Arizona			X		
Arkansas	X	X			
Delaware			X		
District of Columbia			X	X	
Illinois		X	X	X	
Indiana		X	X	X	
Kansas	X		X		
Maryland					X
Massachusetts	X	X	X	X	X
Michigan			X	X	
Missouri				X	
Montana			X	X	
New York					X
Nebraska			X	X	
North Carolina			X	Ombudsman	
Oklahoma		X			
Rhode Island		X			
Texas			X	X	X
Virginia		X	X		
Washington	X	X	X		
Wisconsin			X		

Licensing Board Requirement: Other States

On February 16, 2026, the Investigative Genetic Genealogy Accreditation Board provided an update on efforts made since the initial sub-panel meeting; and offered assistance.

- Compile a list of interactions with other states, to include action plans
- Provide any information available

IGGAB Updates

- Following the public launch of the Investigative Genetic Genealogy Accreditation Exam in April 2025, 34 individuals were accredited and added to the [Accredited Investigative Genetic Genealogy Registry](#).
- Promotes the use of investigative genetic genealogy in both criminal and unidentified remains cases, with the emphasis on standards and ethics.
- Established an Ethics Committee to ensure ethical conduct accountability of Accredited Investigative Genetic Genealogists (AIGGs).

IGGAB Updates

- Formed an [Investigative Genetic Genealogy Association](#) to provide a network for genetic genealogists, investigative genetic genealogy practitioners, aspiring candidates, and other professionals to foster education, community, and professionalism.
- Added educational requirements as a qualifier for testing to allow early practitioners who pioneered the field without formal training to qualify for accreditation.
- Implement requisites for initial qualification and/or re-accreditation as the field moves forward with more educational opportunities.

Resources

Glynn, C. L. (2022). Bridging Disciplines to Form a New One: The Emergence of Forensic Genetic Genealogy. *Genes*, 13(8), 1381. <https://www.mdpi.com/2073-4425/13/8/1381>

Investigative Genetic Genealogy Accreditation Board. (2026). *Resources*. <https://www.iggab.org/resources.html>

Pires, H., Growette Bostaph, L., & King, W. R. (2025). *Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy: An Analysis of Current Usage and Regulations*. <https://isp.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/>

Ropero-Miller, J. D., & Jones, N. (2022). *Forensic Science State Commissions and Oversight Bodies—A 2022 Update*. Washington, DC: Forensic Technology Center of Excellence. U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice, Office of Investigative and Forensic Sciences. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/>

University of Iowa College of Law, University of Iowa University Libraries, & University of Maryland Carey School of Law. (2025). *State Regulation of Genetics and Law Enforcement*. <https://geneticprivacy.lib.uiowa.edu/criminal-law.html>

Discussion

Recommendations



Recommendation for Next Steps

- Consider submitting a letter of support with amendments for Senate Bill 678 (2026).
- Consider inviting the Investigative Genetic Genealogy Accreditation Board to a future meeting to discuss progress.

Recommendation for Next Steps

Senate Bill 678 (2026) proposes to allow samples to be considered for forensic genetic genealogy even if the samples are not CODIS eligible; and requires a 15-year waiting period.

- Should the panel submit a letter of support with amendments to encourage the Committee to remove the 15-year waiting period?

Recommendation for Next Steps

Investigative Genetic Genealogy Accreditation Board offered to meet with the sub-panel to discuss efforts made since its presentation on September 3, 2025.

- Should the panel invite the Investigative Genetic Genealogy Accreditation Board to a future meeting to discuss progress?
- Would it be beneficial to reconvene the Forensic Laboratory Advisory Committee (FLAC) and establish a licensing board beforehand?



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Thank You