DNA in "Minor" Crimes Yields Major Benefits in Public Safety (NIJ 2004)
Property crime offenders have high recidivism rates, their crime and violence can escalate, and property crime cases often go unsolved. It has been estimated that each burglar in the top 10 percent of burglars commits more than 232 burglaries per year. Several police departments in the United States are finding that they may be able to change these trends. When they analyze DNA from a burglary, they get evidence that often solves several other cases as well. And they are finding that biological evidence collected from property crime scenes can prevent future property crimes and more serious offenses.

The Application of DNA Technology in England and Wales (Smith Alling Lane, P.S.; Division of Governmental Studies and Services, 2003)
England is widely recognized as having the most effective and efficient approach to the use of forensic DNA technology in the world. This NIJ-commissioned independent study reviews the application of DNA technology in England and Wales.

Advancing Justice Through DNA Technology (White House, 2003)
An overview of the President's initiative to improve the use of DNA in the criminal justice system by providing funding, training, and assistance. The President has proposed $1 billion in funding over 5 years to fulfill the goals of the initiative: reduce the DNA testing backlog, build crime lab capacity, stimulate research and development, support training, protect the innocent, and identify missing persons.

DNA Evidence Policy Considerations for the Prosecutor (American Prosecutors Research Institute/National District Attorneys Association 2004)
Using DNA as evidence in criminal cases has catapulted forensic sciences into a new era. Never before have prosecutors had such a powerful tool at their disposal for identifying suspects. And never before has a technique been more thoroughly scrutinized and validated than forensic DNA testing.

Forensic DNA Fundamentals for the Prosecutor—Be Not Afraid (APRI-NDAA 2003)
This publication serves as a primer on the basics of DNA. The document describes in detail the science and the math behind DNA testing, trial issues, and potential defense challenges prosecutors face in DNA cases.

DNA Evidence: What Law Enforcement Officers Should Know (National Institute of Justice Journal Issue 249)
Proper use of DNA evidence at trial can help to seal a conviction or obtain an acquittal. It is therefore very important that police officers know how to manage crime scenes in order to make sure DNA evidence is collected properly. If such evidence is to be useful in court, law enforcement personnel should employ specific procedures to protect and preserve this sensitive biological material.

Raising the Bar: The Impact of DNA Testing on the Field of Forensics (NIJ, 2002)
As part of NIJ's Perspectives on Crime and Justice 2000-2001 Lecture Series, Margaret Berger discussed the impact of DNA testing on the field of forensics. Presentations are followed by question and answer sessions.

50 Largest Crime Labs, 2002 (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2004)
Reports on the workload, backlog, and estimated resources needed to meet the demand for forensic services in the Nation's 50 largest publicly funded crime labs. Data were collected as part
of the ongoing Census of Publicly Funded Forensic Crime Laboratories. Census information will be used to better understand the number of cases processed by these labs and the amount of resources required to meet the increased demand for forensic services. In developing and implementing this census, BJS worked closely with the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors.

Survey of DNA Crime Laboratories, 2001 (BJS, 2002)
Reports findings from a survey of publicly operated forensic crime labs that perform DNA testing. The survey is a follow-up to the initial survey of DNA crime labs in 1998. The survey included questions about each lab's budget, personnel, workloads, procedures, equipment, and other topics. Numerical tables present workloads in terms of known subject cases, unknown subject cases, and convicted offender DNA samples. Data were obtained from 110 of the 120 estimated known DNA crime labs. The report compares findings to the baseline data from the initial survey.

This NIJ Issues and Practices report discusses past and present techniques in forensic DNA analysis, the most likely technical advances in the forthcoming decade, and assesses the impact of these advances on forensic DNA analysis. The report, the work of the Research and Development Working Group of the National Commission on the Future of DNA Evidence, discusses projected 2-year, 5-year, and 10-year milestones for DNA technology.

Describes the value of DNA evidence for victim service providers so that they may understand the potential significance of DNA evidence to their clients' cases.

Improved Analysis of DNA Short Tandem Repeats With Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometry (NIJ, 2001)
Explains the value of analyzing DNA samples using time-of-flight mass spectrometry, a technology that can process several thousand DNA samples daily with greater accuracy than conventional electrophoresis methods.

The FBI's Combined DNA Index System Program: CODIS (FBI, 2000)
Gives background information on the FBI Laboratory's Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), which blends forensic science and computer technology into an effective tool for solving violent crimes. CODIS enables Federal, State, and local crime labs to exchange and compare DNA profiles electronically, thereby linking crimes to each other and to convicted offenders.

What Every Law Enforcement Officer Should Know About DNA Evidence (NIJ, 1999)
A pocket-sized brochure for police officers with practical information about identifying, preserving, and collecting DNA to help solve cases.

Forensic Science Service National DNA Database Annual Report 03/04
Highlights FSS DNA-related activities during the 2003-04 time period.

APCO DNA Good Practice Manual
Produced by the United Kingdom Association of Chief Police Officers, this guide provides good practice in recovering, handling and matching DNA samples between scenes and suspects, and using that information to demonstrate a suspect's guilt.

Case Closed: A Gallery of Cases Involving DNA Profiling
A Forensic Science Service report highlighting 50 years of using DNA to close the justice gap.
National Forensic DNA Study Report, Final Report (Smith Alling Lane, P.S.; Division of Governmental Studies and Services, 2003)
This study estimated the degree of backlog of unsolved criminal cases that may benefit from DNA analysis and assessed law enforcement and laboratory capacities for investigating cases involving DNA.

Automated STR Analysis for DNA Databases (Cybergenetics, 2003)
This report describes a computer program that automates virtually every aspect of short-tandem repeat analysis of DNA databases. The program, TrueAllele, alleviates a shortage of trained human reviewers and has been found to provide consistent quality assessments and allele designations. It was also found that the system can provide comprehensive, uniform analysis that reduces human time and error.

DNA Typing Using High Performance Liquid Chromatography (American University, 2001)
This is a report on the use of high performance liquid chromatography HPLC as a rapid DNA sizing/typing method.