

FORM F1.

**Request for forensic analysis match funding**

- The forensic analysis fund is only accessible to UK police officers and UKBF officers.
- Please complete the following fields, save and then email this form to: stephanie.pendry@traffic.cjsm.net
- You will receive an email confirmation of receipt within 24 hours and should be contacted regarding the case within 5 days.

Name / Rank	PC Julie Smith
Constabulary Address	Fictitious constabulary, Main Street, Nowhere, ZZ3 TOP
Telephone & mobile	01457 324XXX (direct office line), 07432xxx432 (when on duty)
Email	Julie.smith@fictitious.pnn.police.uk
Case ref	Inc 42 11/05/17
Date	15/05/17
Authorising officer signature Inspector or above	<i>Sarah Wild</i>
Mobile number of authorising officer	07999 XXX675

This is an example form, with a completely fictitious case, with some handy hints to help you complete your own FAF application.

Possible offence in relation to:

COTES Wildlife and Countryside Act Other 

If other, please specify:	Protection of Badgers Act (1992)
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## PLEASE NOTE:

- Please be accurate with level of funds required. Additional work or increased costs will not be authorised. A further application to the fund will be required if costs increase.
- This fund can pay for the first £300 of testing costs and up to 50% of subsequent costs. Match funding is required.
- Any media articles must acknowledge FAF as a source of funding (see notes page 5).
- Should the case go to court, it is required that an application for costs is submitted to the court and any costs recovered are reimbursed to FAF (MG19 form).

**Case information:**

*Please provide a case summary and objective of the forensic testing. Consider: -*

1. Circumstances of the alleged offence(s) including date(s)

Whilst on routine patrol on the **12<sup>th</sup> February 2016**, officers observed a 4x4 vehicle in a secluded rural spot, on stopping the vehicle it was found to contain 4 males and 3 dogs. The males had blood on their clothes and hands and the dogs had unexplained injuries. The vehicle also had blood and white/grey hairs visible on the outside of the vehicle. It is suspected that they have killed or injured a badger although no carcass was found.

All males have been interviewed and have given no comment to questions asked.

The objective of the testing is to establish if the blood found on the clothing of the males is that of a badger and to establish if the dogs have been used in the offence.

2. Specific offence(s) being investigated

Badgers Act 1992 section 1 (1) wilfully kills injures or takes a badger

Be simple, yet specific. If there are multiple items, create a table for this section. The method of storage could have a big impact on what types of testing are possible.

**Case information:**

3. Details of items seized and how these items have been stored. If there are multiple items, please provide details for each item

Each of the offenders has had their clothing seized; these have been stored as per force policy in paper evidence bags.

The dogs were seized for examination and faeces were collected the following day. These faecal samples have been examined for evidence of large hairs, which have been stored frozen.

The officer clearly describes the DNA testing requirements for her investigation, defining which species she is keen to detect from her evidence.

**Case information:**

4. What are the points to prove from the forensic test or specialist examination?

Firstly, the question from the suspects clothing is – does the blood on their clothing originate from a badger? If so, this will assist to prove the offence of possession of a badger.

Secondly, to test whether the hairs recovered from the dog faeces are from a badger? This will indicate whether they have been in contact with a badger, indicating they have been used in the offence.

Wildlife Forensic DNA testing will be used to answer these questions.

5. Please provide accurate costing and specifically state what proportion of these costs is being applied for from FAF. Please include details of who is carrying out the forensic test(s)

Identify the provider for the testing you require and get a quote

Quote received from SASA Wildlife DNA Forensics unit.  
£500 + VAT for the clothing and £300+VAT for the faeces. £960 total.

Application from FAF - The first £300 and 50% thereafter, this being a total of £630

**Case information:**

6. The importance of this in relation to other evidence

The importance of the forensic testing is emphasized here. Without it, there is little evidence for prosecution.

All three suspects have given a no comment interview, no badger carcass has been found therefore the identification of the blood is crucial in establishing if the males have been in possession of a badger.

Although there are documented injuries to the dogs, it cannot be said with any certainty if these were caused by a badger. If it can therefore be established that the dogs have badger fur in their faeces this will prove they have been in contact with a badger.

**Case information:**

7. Details of any other forensic tests which have been completed or considered. If completed, please provide a copy of the forensic test results with your Forensic Analysis Fund application

Veterinary examination of the injuries to the dogs has been performed, although results could not confirm whether the injuries may have been inflicted by a badger or by other dogs.

Hair examination was a consideration, but it was decided that for a definitive answer in this case DNA testing was more appropriate.

For some cases there may be no other forensic tests to consider, or in this instance hair-morphology could be an alternative option for the hairs recovered from the dog faeces.

**Case information:**

8. Any other information relevant to the case, such as if a bail date applies, or other date for which this analysis and evidence is required e.g. any time bars for offences, or court dates

Males are returning on bail 20/07/2017, it is likely that they will have to be re-bailed pending forensic results. Ideally, the receipt of forensic results before this date will speed up the process of this case.

It is imperative that all crucial dates are included here. From court dates through to time bars for offences.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER**

As a condition of accepting these funds, should the case go to court, it is required that an application for costs is submitted to the court and any costs recovered are reimbursed to FAF (MG19 form).

In addition, all FAF recipients must include the following information in the 'notes' section of any press release or media work carried out:

"The Forensic Analysis Fund (FAF) offers financial support to police and customs officers seeking to carry out forensic analysis during a wildlife crime investigation. WWF, TRACE, RSPB and Defra have all contributed to the scheme which can match funding by up to 50% of the total cost of the analysis. The fund has been established to encourage the use of forensic techniques to help solve wildlife crimes and comes under the banner of the Partnership for Action against Wildlife Crime (PAW). Many wildlife cases which make use of forensic analysis would otherwise have failed to reach prosecution stage or be eliminated at an early stage. Founded in 2008, the scheme has already provided money to help support over 40 cases."