

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



THOMAS J. SPOTA
DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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Statement from Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota regarding New York becoming the first state in the nation to collect DNA samples from anyone convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor. Governor Andrew Cuomo and legislative leaders announced the agreement on the new DNA databank law yesterday.

“The historic agreement to expand the DNA databank to require DNA samples be collected from defendants convicted of a felony or misdemeanor will make this county safer. I am confident this expansion will result in the apprehension of dangerous criminals because experience has shown a DNA match often was the first link to the individual ultimately convicted of the crime. It is equally important to understand that the DNA databank samples can only be used to help identify and prosecute criminals, eliminate suspects in ongoing investigations and exonerate those wrongfully accused and wrongfully convicted.

Suffolk County law enforcement unreservedly supported this critical initiative proposed by the Governor as the cornerstone of his legislative agenda this year and we will use it wisely to achieve justice.”