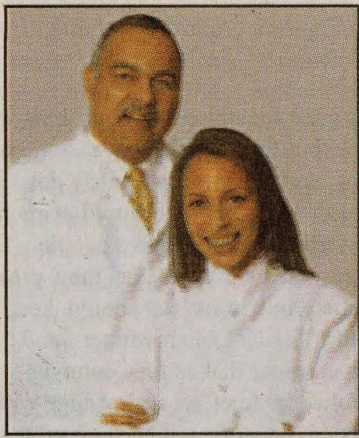


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City Of Seattle Opens Summer Youth Employment Applications

The Seattle Human Services Department (HSD) recently announced that the application process for the 2015 Summer Youth Internship Program is now underway. The summer internship program is open to youth and young adults, ages 14-24 who live in Seattle.

"Working together with business leaders, community partners and the City, we will be building the most vigorous youth employment program

Seattle has seen in decades," said Seattle Mayor Ed Murray. "This program will help our most at-risk youth develop the skills necessary to compete in the 21st Century economy."

"Youth summer employment has been shown to reduce poverty, increase school engagement, provide job experience, and reduce participation in risky behaviors and crime," said Catherine Lester, Acting HSD Director. "By investing in the summer jobs, the City is not only investing in the individual participants, but also their families, communities and the city as a whole."

This year, through Murray's Summer Youth at Work Initiative, the program will employ 2,000 youth and young adults this summer, double the number of jobs provided to youth last year. Eligible youth and young adults will receive paid work

experience in positions at various city departments and at private sector placements based on their career interest.

Seattle youth and young adults interested in applying for summer jobs can complete the online application or pick one up at SYEP office located at 810 Third Avenue, 4th Floor, Suite 420, Seattle, WA 98104 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The SYEP Applicant Information Form must be completed and received online, mailed or dropped off by **5 p.m. Monday, April 13, 2015.**

For students without computer access, computers are available at Seattle Public Libraries, Seattle Parks and Recreation community centers, Seattle public high schools, WorkSource Centers, and some community based organizations.

For more information, call (206) 386-1375 or email youthservices@seattle.gov.

House Passes Bill To Ensure All Rape Kits Get Tested

On Monday, by a vote of 82-15, the House of Representative passed **House Bill 1068**, requiring law enforcement agencies to submit all sexual assault examination kits to the Washington state patrol crime laboratory for testing. The bill also creates a workgroup to study the issue of untested kits and review best practices for how to respond to victims of sexual assault.

"This is a bill about justice for all and about protecting women and children," said **Rep. Tina Orwall**, the bill's prime sponsor. "Victims endure horrific trauma when they are sexually assaulted and going through the evidence collection process is also traumatic. This bill ensures their voices are heard and their ordeal, as well as their willingness to collaborate with law enforcement, are validated by ensuring the rape kits are tested."

Orwall began working on a bill after touring evidence rooms over last year's summer, learning about rape kits and the fact that many of them were not tested. When a KING 5 investigation report last November revealed that only 365 of the 1,641 rape kits booked into evidence by the Seattle Police Department (SPD) were actually tested, Orwall saw more grounds to continue

drafting legislation addressing the issue.

In January, SPD announced it will test all rape kits not only going forward, but also the 1,276 untested kits in its backlog of ten years.

"I commend the Seattle Police Department for taking the initiative, but I truly feel this should be the norm across the state," Orwall said. "This bill is about justice. What we're learning from other states, such as Ohio, Texas and Michigan is that by testing all kits they see patterns of serial rapists. In Ohio alone they've arrested 229 serial rapists thanks to testing every kit."

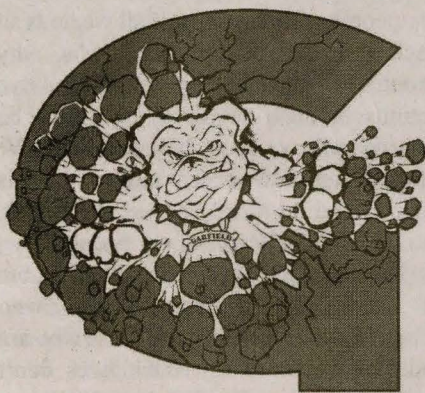
When a suspect's DNA is the result of testing a rape kit, it is entered into the Combined DNA Index System FBI database and, if a match is found, it can help in identifying a serial rapist. Orwall said that's the main reason for her legislation, since testing all kits will result in linking the cases to the offenders, which will help in getting them behind bars.

"We know these serial criminals often commit 7 to 11 rapes before they are actually arrested and put in prison, so we want to get them off the street sooner," Orwall added.

House Bill 1068 now heads to the Senate for further consideration.

A Word From Garfield High School:

Please come and support your students at Garfield High School



Education is key for our students to be successful and we know that parents play a big part in making sure that our students achieve their goals. Here are some important Bulldog dates that could use your support:

PTSA General Meeting: 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Garfield High School Commons

Monday, May 18th

PTSA Board Meeting: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Garfield High School Library

Tuesday, March 17th

Seattle School Board Meeting: (JSCC – 2445 3rd Avenue, Seattle)

Wednesday, March 4th & March 18th



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