

ISRAEL

Hebrew, like Arabic, makes working with online translation services a little more difficult to manage than normal. Fortunately Israel's online government media resources are decent, and the challenges of navigating them were small. I did not uncover anything particularly groundbreaking or unexpected. The first document recovered was the same piece of legislation we have in our records, the *Criminal Procedure (Enforcement Powers – body searches and means of identification) 1996, Amended 19 June 2005*. I did an unrefined translation of the document and, contrary to our notes on Israel, it would appear as though there are provisions for suspect testing and profile/sample removal. Under Section 8, B.1, it states that “Police of Israel may include in the identification database genetic and non-biological samples from... a suspect, accused or convicted of an offence from under the provisions of Article 2, Chapter 3.” Later, under Section 11, it states that genetic identification data are deleted from the database “for a suspect – after 7 years from the date taken or 60 days after the conclusion of criminal proceedings without a conviction, whichever is later.”

Another document retrieved was a foreign DNA database review conducted by the Law and Justice Committee of the Knesset. Dated 8 December 2004 – a time well before the Amendment Law was passed – the review examines the genetic database systems of a number of western countries, including the US, Canada, Australia, and the major players of Europe, to better inform lawmakers shaping the amending law. The review notes that most databases include a suspect index or have introduced expansion legislation for that purpose, and it also notes that retention periods / expungement provisions tend to be included for human rights and privacy reasons.

- *Scott Knackstedt, April 12, 2011*