



CENTRAL LABORATORY

Department of Forensic Science (DFS)
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME)

BASICS

281,425 square foot facility

25-acre site

8850 Times Dispatch Boulevard, Hanover County

DESIGN

Modern design to reflect the work inside

Exterior is a combination of brick, metal panel, and aluminum storefront and curtainwall

Roof is flat with parapets and integrated screens to conceal most mechanical equipment

TIMELINE



Mobilization
January 2023



Ground Breaking
March 2, 2023



Structure Complete
Q4 2023



Exterior Skin Complete
Q3 2024



Final Inspections
Q4 2025



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
June 8, 2026



INTERIOR SPACES

DFS

Breath Alcohol
 Controlled Substances
 Digital and Multimedia Evidence
 DNA Data Bank
 Evidence Receiving
 Firearms and Toolmarks
 Forensic Biology
 Forensic Training
 Latent Prints and Impressions
 Mitochondrial DNA
 Toxicology
 Trace Evidence
 Research Laboratories
 Statewide Administration

OCME

Anthropology
 Autopsy Suite
 Fatality Review Programs
 Histology
 Mass Disaster Response
 Medicolegal Investigation
 Mock Crime Scene Room
 Neuropathology
 Radiological Services
 Special Autopsy Suite
 State Anatomical Program
 Statewide Administration

BACKGROUND

- Agencies operated out of a 134,000 square foot facility in Richmond since 1998
- 2019 – DGS conducted competitive process for purchase of the land for a new facility
- 2019 – Schematic design began for new facility
- 2020 – Schematic design complete; preliminary design began
- 2021 – Preliminary design complete
- 2022 – Supplemental funding received
- 2023 – Construction began
- 2026 – Project complete

BY THE NUMBERS

- 2,502 construction workers on project
- Over 160 contractors and suppliers
- 2 Green Globes Sustainability Certification
- 72,179 cu. ft. of underground stormwater detention
- 6,000 gallon grade 5 bulk nitrogen tank
- 350,000 CFM of supply air
- 3 walk-in coolers for body storage
- 51 fume hoods
- 12 autopsy tables
- 8 embalming stations
- 408 rubber acoustical panels in the firing range
- 351 parking spaces for employees and visitors
- 12,000 sq. ft. training center
- 121,044 pounds of rebar
- 34,424 sq. ft. of glass
- 390 stair risers
- 2,000 kW generator
- 4,655,616 total watts of electrical power
- 375 total body capacity for OCME & VSAP