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January 17, 2018

Millions invested to boost Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine

The Ministry of National Security has invested over 161-million Jamaican dollars to build new facilities (The Annex) at the Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine, IFSLM, in an effort to have more robust processing of evidence related to criminal matters.

The Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine is the chief testing lab for the Government of Jamaica. In 2014, the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) and the Legal Medicine Unit (LMU) were merged to form the Institute for Forensic Science and Legal Medicine. The Institute has the responsibility of conducting scientific forensic examinations and analyses on all forms of evidence submitted by the police and other agencies as well as doing post mortems in cases of violent, sudden or suspicious deaths.

Construction of the Annex began in November, and will replace temporary containers being used at the facility. It is also expected to house the DNA Database, a training/conference room, library and provide storage for exhibits. The building is to be completed in June.

Minister of National Security, Hon. Robert Montague says the investment is part of the general thrust by the Ministry to strategically use science and technology in the fight against crime.

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