

## Los Angeles Times

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THE TIMES MIRROR COMPANYDAILY \$1.00  
AN EDITION OF THE LOS ANGELES TIMESFBI Warns of Possible  
Flaws in Lab Evidence**■ Courts:** Prosecutors, defense counsel nationwide are told of potential problems due to alleged misconduct.By ROBERT L. JACKSON  
and DAVID G. SAVAGE  
TIMES STAFF WRITERS

WASHINGTON—Fearing that an undetermined number of federal prosecutions could be put in jeopardy, Justice Department officials said Thursday that they have been telling prosecutors and defense attorneys across the country in recent weeks about potential flaws in evidence caused by serious problems at the FBI crime laboratory here.

In the department's first comments about a still-secret inspector general's report on the lab, Deputy Atty. Gen. Jamie S. Gorelick said that officials have sought to preserve the integrity of prosecutions by reporting evidentiary problems to both sides.

Gorelick said that she hopes no prosecutions will be compromised by the alleged misconduct and sloppy procedures in the FBI's lab. But several former federal prosecutors and legal experts disagreed.

**■ LAX LAB DESCRIBED**

Current, former crime lab workers tell investigators of slipshod procedures. A5

saying that hundreds of prosecutions could be affected.

These legal authorities said that shortcomings uncovered by the investigation could force the dismissal of some charges in federal or state prosecutions where FBI lab reports were crucial. New hearings could be granted in current cases

**Please see FBI, A5**