



TEXAS FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION

Justice Through Science

MEETING AGENDA

January 21, 2022 at 9:00 AM

Stephen F. Austin Building

1700 North Congress Avenue

Room 170

Austin, Texas 78701

During this meeting, the Commission may consider and take action on the following items. The Commission may take breaks as necessary. The timing of agenda items provided below are estimates.

1. Call meeting to order. Roll call for members. (Barnard) (2 min)
2. Review and adopt minutes from October 22, 2021 Forensic Science Commission Quarterly meeting. (Barnard) (3 min)
3. Office administrative update (FY2022 budget status report; updates from conferences and presentations by staff including November 11-14 AJEI Summit and Itiel Dror cognitive bias training at Harris County Institute of Forensic Science, update on database project with Office of Court Administration IT). (Garcia/Tomlin) (5 min)
4. Discuss and consider pending complaints and laboratory self-disclosures as well as new complaints and self-disclosures received through January 3, 2022. (Daniel) (60 min)

Disclosures Received as of January 3, 2022

1. No. 17.50; Houston Forensic Science Center (CODIS)
2. No. 21.51; Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office Crime Laboratory (Seized Drugs)
3. No. 21.56; Houston Forensic Science Center (Firearms/Toolmarks)
4. No. 21.58; Austin Police Department Forensic Science Bureau (Seized Drugs)
5. No. 21.64; Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office Crime Laboratory (Toxicology)
6. No. 21.65; Department of Public Safety Houston (Seized Drugs)
7. No. 21.66; Houston Forensic Science Center (Forensic Biology/DNA)
8. No. 21.67; Bexar County Criminal Investigation Laboratory (Forensic Biology/DNA)

9. No. 21.68; Bexar County Criminal Investigation Laboratory (Firearms/Toolmarks)
10. No. 21.69; NMS Labs, Inc. (Seized Drugs)
11. No. 21.72; Brazoria County Crime Laboratory (Blood Alcohol)

Complaints Received as of January 3, 2022

12. No. 21.59; Qadir, Muqtasid (Fort Worth Police Department Crime Laboratory; Serology/DNA)
 13. No. 21.62; Farmer/Robeson, Howard Wayne (Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences; Gunshot Residue)
 14. No. 21.70; Floyd, James (University of North Texas Health Science Center – Center for Human Identification; DNA)
5. Discuss and vote on general administrative rulemaking, including rule revisions responsive to legislative changes to the Commission’s statute effective September 1, 2021. (Garcia/Tomlin) *(15 min)*
 6. Discuss status of crime laboratory accreditation program, including accreditation non-conformances and reports received since October 22, 2021 quarterly meeting. (Garcia/Tomlin) *(15 min)*
 7. Discuss licensing advisory committee update, including:
 - a. Discuss and consider applications to appoint TCDLA nominee to fill open seat on the Licensing Advisory Committee;
 - b. Update on licenses issued and renewed;
 - c. Voluntary licensure, including approval of draft rules for forensic anthropologists and document examiners;
 - d. Update on piloting of General Forensic Analyst Licensing Exam II; and
 - e. Institute for Forensic Research Training and Innovation statistics course option. (Garcia/Tomlin) *(30 min)*
 8. Review and adopt final report from investigative panel regarding NMS (Seized Drugs) self-disclosure #21.41. (Buzzini, Drake, Kerrigan, Parsons) *(10 min)*
 9. Update from investigative panel regarding complaint #20.55 Expertox (Toxicology). (Kerrigan/ Downing/Parsons/Daniel) *(5 min)*
 10. Review and adopt final report from investigative panel regarding complaint #21.32; Harris County Public Defender’s Office for Theodore Schmidt (Ketchum; Forensic Biology/DNA (Wildlife, Canine DNA)). (Budowle/Coble/Daniel) *(10 min)*
 11. Update from investigative panel regarding complaint #21.27 University of Colorado, National Innocence Project on behalf of Nanon Williams (Houston PD/Houston Forensic Science Center; Firearms/Toolmarks). (Budowle/Buzzini/Daniel) *(10 min)*

12. Update from investigative panel regarding complaint #21.46 Damon Earl Lewis (Sexual Assault Nurse Examination; Basinger). (Downing/Drake/Parsons) (10 min)
13. Review and adopt final report from investigative panel regarding self-disclosure #21.49 Fort Worth Police Department (Forensic Biology/DNA). (Barnard/Kerrigan/Parsons) (10 min)
14. Update from investigative panel regarding #21.54 James Smiley (Austin PD, Signature Science; Forensic Biology/DNA). (Budowle/Coble/Daniel) (10 min)
15. Discuss Forensic Science Commission statement regarding alternate firearms opinion terminology. (Garcia) (10 min)
16. Discuss Houston Forensic Science Center Latent Print Section's Procedure for Judgement and Sentencing with regard to phase comparisons performed once a finding of guilt has been established, including outreach for guidance to ANAB and response. (Garcia/Stout) (10 min)
17. Update from the Texas Association of Crime Laboratory Directors. (Stout) (5 min)
18. Consider proposed agenda items for next quarterly meeting. (Barnard)
19. Schedule and location of future panel and quarterly meetings, including April 22, 2022 quarterly meeting. (Barnard)
20. Hear public comment. (Barnard)
21. Adjourn.

To increase public access to meetings, the Commission will endeavor to live-stream all quarterly meetings on its website at www.fsc.texas.gov. However, the Commission's decision to live-stream any particular meeting should not be interpreted as a guarantee that all meetings will be live-streamed. Our ability to live-stream depends on budgetary constraints and logistical considerations at any given meeting. If you have any questions, please contact the Commission Coordinator, Kathryn Adams, at (512) 936-0770 or kathryn.adams@fsc.texas.gov.