



TEXAS FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION

Justice Through Science

TEXAS FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA
April 16, 2021 at 9:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom, Instructions Below

Due to Governor Greg Abbott's March 13, 2020 proclamation of a state of disaster and April 5, 2021 extended proclamation of a state of disaster affecting all counties in Texas due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the Governor's March 16, 2020 suspension of certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, the April 16, 2021 meeting of the Texas Forensic Science Commission will be held by virtual and telephonic conference call as authorized under Texas Government Code section 551.125.

Members of the public will have access and a means to participate in this meeting, by two-way audio, using the following web login or dial-in instructions:

Please use the following meeting dial-information:

Topic: Forensic Science Commission Quarterly Meeting
Time: Apr 16, 2021 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://txcourts.zoom.us/j/92202702292>

Meeting ID: 922 0270 2292

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115.114.131.7 (India Mumbai)
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213.19.144.110 (Amsterdam Netherlands)
213.244.140.110 (Germany)
103.122.166.55 (Australia Sydney)
103.122.167.55 (Australia Melbourne)
64.211.144.160 (Brazil)
69.174.57.160 (Canada Toronto)
65.39.152.160 (Canada Vancouver)
207.226.132.110 (Japan Tokyo)
149.137.24.110 (Japan Osaka)
Meeting ID: 922 0270 2292

Public Participant Instructions:

If you wish to provide public comment during the meeting on a topic being discussed by Commissioners, please either type your question or comment in the chat box or virtually “raise your hand.” The meeting facilitator will mute and unmute participants at the direction of the Chairperson. If you are not able to provide public comment during the meeting and still wish to provide public comment, the Commission will have a public comment period at the end of its agenda to address any remaining questions or comments. You may also fill out and email Kathryn Adams the attached Public Testimony Form to info@fsc.texas.gov in advance of the meeting to ensure your public comment is addressed. All public comments are limited to 5 minutes with adjustments as necessary.

A recording of the meeting will be available after April 16, 2021. To obtain a recording, please contact Kathryn Adams at (512) 936-0770 or email kathryn.adams@fsc.texas.gov.

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. Instructions for public participation. (Tomlin) (3 min)

3. Review and adopt minutes from January 29, 2021 Forensic Science Commission Quarterly meeting. (Barnard) (3 min)
4. Office administrative update (FY2021 budget status report; discuss American Academy of Forensic Sciences February 2021 annual (virtual) conference presentations; discuss database project with Office of Court Administration IT). (Garcia/Tomlin) (5 min)
5. Discuss and consider pending complaints and laboratory self-disclosures as well as new complaints and self-disclosures received through January 8, 2021. (Daniel) (75 min)

Disclosures Received as of March 26, 2021

1. No. 21.01; Bexar County Criminal Investigation Laboratory (Seized Drugs)
2. No. 21.03; University of North Texas Health Science Center – Center for Human Identification (Forensic Biology/DNA)
3. No. 21.04; Houston Forensic Science Center (Forensic Biology/DNA)
4. No. 21.05; Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences (Firearms/Toolmarks)
5. No. 21.06; NMS Labs (Toxicology)
6. No. 21.07; Houston Forensic Science Center (Crime Scene Investigation)
7. No. 21.11; Bexar County Criminal Investigation Laboratory (Seized Drugs/THC)
8. No. 20.14; Austin Police Department Forensic Science Bureau (Toxicology)
9. No. 21.15; Houston Forensic Science Center (Latent Prints)
10. No. 21.17; Southwestern Institute of Forensic Science (Firearms/Toolmarks)
11. No. 21.18; Department of Public Safety Crime Laboratory System (Firearms/Toolmarks)
12. No. 21.19; Bexar County Criminal Investigation Laboratory (Seized Drugs)
13. No. 21.20; Department of Public Safety Austin (Fire Debris)

Complaints Received as of March 26, 2021

14. No. 21.10; Gaines, Ernest (Department of Public Safety Austin; Forensic Biology/DNA)
 15. No. 21.12; Glen Dale Horner (Houston Police Department/Houston Forensic Science Center; Forensic Biology/DNA)
 16. No. 21.13; Banks, Holston (Department of Public Safety Lubbock; Forensic Biology/CODIS)
 17. No. 21.16; Layfield, Rickey (Paula Wilson, Sexual Assault Nurse Examination)
6. Discuss status of crime laboratory accreditation program, including accreditation non-conformances and reports received since January 29, 2021 quarterly meeting; discuss development of sample quality assurance documents for quality incidents and corrective actions; discuss and vote on rulemakings, including removal of the term “collection” as a category for the discipline Forensic Biology/DNA. (Garcia/Tomlin) (15 min)

7. Discuss licensing advisory committee update, including:
 - a. Update on licenses issued and renewed;
 - b. Review outstanding licensing rules and any proposed rule concepts for approval, including
 - i. revisions to licensing program continuing forensic education requirements to align with OSAC continuing forensic education and training requirements; and
 - ii. license expiration policy. (Tomlin) (15 min)
8. Update from investigative panel regarding Fort Worth Police Department Crime Laboratory complaint #20.47. (Parsons/Budowle/Downing)
9. Update from investigative panel regarding Expertox complaint #20.55; discussion and vote to add Dr. Downing to panel. (Kerrigan, Downing, Parsons, Daniels)
10. Update from investigative panel regarding Armstrong complaint #20.60. (Kerrigan, Drake, Buzzini)
11. Discuss developments regarding task force for training and requirements for sexual assault nurse examiners. (Downing) (5 min)
12. Update re: forensic science related legislation filed to date (87th Session). (Garcia)
13. Update from the Texas Association of Crime Laboratory Directors, including an update on the collaborative work groups discussing implementation of OSAC Registry standards, plan in collaboration with NIST for implementation of OSAC standards and hiring of project manager. (Garcia) (5 min)
14. Consider proposed agenda items for next quarterly meeting. (Barnard)
15. Schedule and location of future panel and quarterly meetings, including July 16, 2021 quarterly meeting. (Barnard)
16. Hear public comment. (Barnard)
17. Adjourn.