Texas Forensic Science Commission Minutes from January 29, 2010 Meeting in Harlingen, Texas

The Texas Forensic Science Commission met at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, January 29th, 2010, at the Courtyard Marriot, 1725 W Fillmore Avenue at Expressway 83, in Harlingen, TX. Members of the Commission were present as follows:

Members Present: Bradley, Kerrigan, Eisenberg, Peerwani, Farley, Adams, Hampton,

Hamilton

Members Absent: Evans

(Additional attendees included: Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa; Veena Mohan, Attorney General's Office; Barbara Deane, Attorney General's Office, Leigh Tomlin, TFSC Coordinator)

Introduction

Bradley introduced Texas Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa. Senator Hinjosa provided opening remarks for the meeting.

Adoption of Minutes

Texas Forensic Science Commission July 24th, 2010 meeting minutes

MOTION AND VOTE: Eisenberg moved that the minutes from the July 24th, 2010 meeting be approved as edited by Commission members. The motion was seconded by Hamilton and approved unanimously by the Commission. July 24th minutes are to be posted as edited on the FSC website.

Introduction by each Commission member

Each commission member gave an introduction and provided a background of their experience and qualifications.

FSC History Presentation by John Bradley

Bradley provided a legislative history of the FSC and how it came about. He also described the work of the Chair and the FSC since the last meeting and explained why the FSC should consider and adopt written policies and procedures.

Discussion of Policies and Procedures

Commission members discussed in detail and edited a proposed draft of policies and procedures.

MOTION AND VOTE: Adams moved that the proposed policies and procedures be adopted as edited by Commission members. The motion was seconded by Peerwani and approved unanimously by the Commission. The adopted version of the policies and procedures will be posted on the FSC website.

Discussion of General Counsel Position

Commission members requested that a job description, salary and budget proposal be prepared and presented by Bradley at the Commission's next meeting. The Commission will consider the proposal for a General Counsel position at the next meeting.

Discussion on Creation of Consultant Position

The Commission agreed to refer this issue to the Forensic Development Committee for consideration and development and then presentation to the full FSC at a future meeting.

Assignment of Pending Complaints by Chair

Commission members will vote and approve nominations of assignments of pending complaints at the Commission's next meeting in accordance with the adopted policies and procedures.

Schedule/Location for future meetings

Future FSC meetings for 2010 will be held as follows:

April 23rd, 2010 – Ft. Worth, Texas – Location TBA July 23rd, 2010 – Houston, Texas – Location TBA October 15th, 2010 – Austin, Texas – Location TBA

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.

Leigh Tomlin, Commission Coordinator