Texas Forensic Science Commission Minutes from April 10, 2015 Hair Microscopy Panel Meeting in Austin, Texas

The Texas Forensic Science Commission met at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, April 10, 2015, at the Omni Austin Southpark, 4140 Governor's Row, Austin, Texas 78744.

Members of the Commission were present as follows:

Members Present: Eisenberg, Lerma, Alpert

Additional Commissioners Present: Barnard, Kessler, Mozayani, Di Maio,

Hughes-Stamm

Members Absent: Peerwani

Staff Present: Lynn Garcia, FSC General Counsel

Leigh Tomlin, Commission Coordinator

Discuss five case transcript reviews and request for guidance on interpretive questions regarding same.

Garcia and hair panel members discussed death penalty case transcripts and reviewed the hair testimony in each transcript.

After extensive deliberation and discussion, Commissioners recommended review team members take hair testimony in context, considering the testimony as a whole in determining whether there is a concern worthy of notification to the criminal justice system.

Discuss and consider recommendations and action items from hair microscopy review team.

Eisenberg answered technical questions about the scope of mitochondrial DNA testing and its relationship to microscopic hair comparison.

Discuss notification and follow-up assignments related to review, including possible items for deliberation by full Commission.

Public Comment.

Members of the hair review team discussed action items with the Commission's Hair Microscopy Panel throughout the meeting.

Adjourn.

Members adjourned, agreeing to resume discussion on the subject at the start of the 9:00 a.m. quarterly meeting the same day.