



TEXAS FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION

Justice Through Science

MEETING AGENDA

October 5, 2018 at 8:30 AM

Office of Court Administration
Tom C. Clark Building
1st Floor Conference Room
205 West 14th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

During this meeting, the Commission may consider and take action on the following items. The Commission may take breaks as necessary.

1. Review and adopt minutes from July 20, 2018 Forensic Science Commission Quarterly meeting. (Barnard) *(5 min)*
2. Office administrative update (FY2019 budget status report first quarter; update regarding content management software required for the FSC Licensing Program and implementation of exam and license application functions; update on strategic fiscal review; discuss LBB request for interim report on forensic oversight and laboratory funding). (Garcia/Adams) *(5 min)*
3. Discuss and consider pending complaints and laboratory self-disclosures as well as new complaints and self-disclosures received through September 21, 2018. (Daniel) *(45 min)*

Disclosure Received as of September 21, 2018

1. No. 19.02; DPS – Garland (Seized Drugs)

Complaints Pending from July 20, 2018 Quarterly Meeting

2. No. 18.21; Culbertson, Amanda (DPS – El Paso; Blood Alcohol)
3. No. 18.25; Keller, Chance D. (DPS – Waco; Firearms/Toolmarks)

Complaints Received as of September 21, 2018

4. No. 18.32; Sharper, Calvin V. (SWIFS; Firearms/Toolmarks; GSR)
5. No. 18.33; Miller, Jeremy BJ (Fort Worth PD; Firearms/Toolmarks)
6. No. 19.01; Whitfield, Jeffery A. (DPS – Waco; AP Test)
7. No. 19.03; Tyler Flood & Associates (DPS – Houston; Blood Alcohol)

4. Discuss status of crime laboratory accreditation program, including:
 - a. Accreditation non-conformances and reports received since July 20, 2018 quarterly meeting;
 - b. Update on publication of federal forensic examiner exemption; and
 - c. Review of administrative rule cleanups, including harmonization of licensing and accreditation rules. (Garcia/Savage) (20 min)

5. Discuss licensing advisory committee, including:
 - a. Update on exam results;
 - b. Update from exam evaluation committee;
 - c. Review and adoption of continuing education rules;
 - d. Review and adoption of amendment to 651.206 that addresses exemption for forensic analysts currently employed at an out-of-state laboratory who performed forensic analysis prior to January 1, 2019 and may testify after January 1, 2019;
 - e. Review and adoption of veterans fee waiver 651.213;
 - f. Discuss knowledge-based competency requirements and related examination development question;
 - g. Discuss inquiry from NMS laboratories regarding temporary licenses; and
 - h. Consider nomination on Licensing Advisory Board; (Hilbig/Garcia/Savage) (45 min)

6. Review and adopt final report from investigative panel regarding Bryan, Joseph complaint (Blood Spatter/Serology) #16.56. (Johnson /Parsons/Koehler) (30 min)

7. Update on NMS *Torney* DNA review and letter to ANAB re: same. (Koehler/Garcia) (10 min)

8. Update from investigative panel regarding Sorenson (Forensic Biology) #18.30. (Budowle/Daniel/Kerrigan/Koehler) (10 min)

9. Update from Crime Science Investigation Working Group, including report from September 18, 2018 meeting in Austin and deliberation on accreditation moving forward. (Garcia/Koehler) (20 min)

10. Discuss statistical sampling issues in context of retroactive case reviews. (Spiegelman) (15 min)

11. Discuss progress on HB-34 legislative initiatives on crime scene and drug field tests. (Garcia) (5 min)

12. Discuss SWGDAM guidelines on likelihood ratios and the verbal scale. (Budowle) (15 min)

13. Update on triage projects for DNA mixture review. Discuss STRMix software symposium hosted by Commission and UNTHSC-CHI; update on Austin Police Department cases under review by UNTHSC-CHI. (Budowle/Wicoff/Boswell/Mills) (20 min)

14. Discuss developments regarding efforts to identify human remains discovered along Texas border. (Budowle) (10 min)
15. Discuss progress on project to standardize sexual assault kits. (Downing) (5 min)
16. Update from Texas Association of Crime Laboratory Directors. (Stout) (10 min)
17. Report from various recent and upcoming conference presentations by staff (Garcia/Koehler/Savage) (5 min)
18. Consider proposed agenda items for next quarterly meeting. (Barnard)
19. Schedule and location of future panel and quarterly meetings. (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.