



TEXAS FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION

*1700 North Congress Ave., Suite 445
Austin, Texas 78701*

TEXAS FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

July 31, 2026, at 9:00 AM

Barbara Jordan State Office Building
1601 Congress Avenue, Room 2.035
Austin, Texas 78701

This meeting of the Texas Forensic Science Commission (Commission) will be conducted as a videoconference meeting pursuant to Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code Section 551.127. Members of the Commission and staff may appear remotely. The Commission's officer presiding over the meeting will be present at the physical location stated on this agenda. Members of the public may attend the meeting in person at the physical location listed above, where they may participate and make public comment. The Commission will endeavor to livestream the meeting from its website at www.fsc.texas.gov, but the livestream will not include an option for the public to make comments remotely. During this meeting, the Commission may consider and possibly act on the following agenda items.

The Commission may take breaks as necessary. The Commission may meet in closed session on any item listed below, as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

1. Call meeting to order. Roll call for members. Excuse any absent board members.
2. Review and adopt minutes from the April 24, 2026, quarterly commission meeting.
3. Office administrative update (including, but not limited to, the following administrative items: FY2026 budget status report; implementation of ALiS licensing platform; and office construction). (General Counsel Garcia/Associate General Counsel Tomlin)
4. Discuss and consider complaints and laboratory self-disclosures pending from the April 24, 2026, quarterly commission meeting and new complaints and laboratory self-disclosures received through July 10, 2026, as detailed below. (Commission Staff)

Self-Disclosures Pending from April 24, 2026, meeting:

1. No. 26.14; Bode Technology, Inc. (Forensic Biology/DNA)

Received through July 10, 2026:

2. No. 26.09; Center for Human Identification (Forensic Biology/DNA)
3. No. 26.10; Corpus Christi Police Department Crime Laboratory (Firearms/Toolmarks)

4. No. 26.17; Bexar County Criminal Investigation Laboratory (Seized Drugs)
5. No. 26.19; Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences (Forensic Biology/DNA)
6. No. 26.39; Bexar County Criminal Investigation Laboratory (Materials (Trace))
7. No. 26.45; Serological Research Institute (Forensic Biology/DNA)
8. No. 26.20; Harris County Institute for Forensic Sciences (Firearms/Toolmarks)
9. No. 26.28; Department of Public Safety – Weslaco (Evidence; Forensic Biology/DNA)
10. No. 26.29; Department of Public Safety – Austin (Evidence; Toxicology)
11. No. 26.32; Department of Public Safety – Lubbock (Evidence; Firearms/Toolmarks)
12. No. 26.42; Austin Forensic Science (Seized Drugs)

Complaints Pending from April 24, 2026, commission meeting:

13. No. 26.01; Narrative Project (Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences; Forensic Biology/DNA)
14. No. 26.12; Innocence Project (Nurse Lori Long, Dr. Ruda, Dr. Phatak; Bitemark Evidence, Autopsy)

Complaints Received through July 10, 2026:

15. No. 26.22; Wesley, Kendrick (Houston Forensic Science Center; Toxicology (Blood Alcohol))
16. No. 26.23; Steen, Gregory (Austin Forensic Science; Forensic Biology/DNA)
17. No. 26.24; Velyvis, Melissanne (Austin Forensic Science; S.A.N.E., Forensic Biology/DNA)
18. No. 26.26; Office of Capitol and Forensic Writs (San Antonio Police Department; Digital/Multimedia Evidence)
19. No. 26.38; Burnam, Timothy (Department of Public Safety; Materials (Trace))
20. No. 26.41; Mount, Gary (Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences; Forensic Biology/DNA)
21. No. 26.47; Backstrom, Steven (Unnamed Expert; Sexual Assault Nurse Examination)
22. No. 26.49; Wilson, Donald (Tarrant County Medical Examiner’s Office; Firearms/Toolmarks)

Dismissals Recommended by Staff:

23. No. 26.21; Blair, Diane (Nueces County Medical Examiner; Autopsy)
24. No. 26.25; Schweizer, Susan (Nueces County Medical Examiner; Autopsy)
25. No. 26.30; Moten, Latonja (Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences; Autopsy)
26. No. 26.31; Fore, Charlene (Houston Forensic Science Center; Digital/Multimedia Evidence)
27. No. 26.33; Anonymous (Department of Public Safety – Tyler; General Allegations)
28. No. 26.34; Waymire, Victoria (Department of Public Safety – Austin, Bexar County Medical Examiner’s Office; Autopsy)

29. No. 26.35; Waymire, Victoria (Bexar County Medical Examiner's Office; Autopsy)
 30. No. 26.36; Nalley, James (Tarrant County, No Specific Laboratory Identified; General Allegations)
 31. No. 26.37; Johnson, Carey (No Specific Laboratory Identified; Hair Follicle Drug Testing)
 32. No. 26.40; Downs, James (Department of Public Safety – El Paso; Forensic Biology/DNA)
 33. No. 26.46; Hale, Gary (Laboratory Unspecified; Forensic Biology/DNA)
 34. No. 26.48; Lyon, Richard (Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences; Autopsy)
5. Discuss status of crime laboratory accreditation program (Tomlin), including:
 - a. Summary of accreditation activities, communications, and reports received since the April 24, 2026, quarterly commission meeting; and
 - b. Summary of reported non-consensus proficiency testing results from accredited crime laboratories.
 6. Discuss updates from the Licensing Advisory Committee (Tomlin), including:
 - a. Report on licenses issued and renewed;
 - b. Report and discuss items from the July 30, 2026, committee meeting;
 - c. Discuss General Forensic Analyst Licensing Exam II audit and final corrective action report;
 - d. Review the Committee's recommended appointments and re-appoint eligible members expiring on August 31, 2026, and appoint new members;
 - e. Review and possibly adopt any coursework and/or criminal history evaluation recommendations from the Committee;
 - f. Discuss and vote on recommended rule changes by the Committee including, but not limited to amendments to Section 651.207, Forensic Analyst and Forensic Technician Licensing Requirements, Including Initial License Term and Fee, Minimum Education and Coursework, General Forensic Examination, Proficiency Monitoring, and Mandatory Legal and Professional Responsibility Training, to reduce the number of work experience years required for firearms/toolmarks examiners from 5 to 3, to qualify for a waiver of coursework or minimum education requirements;
 - g. Discuss and vote on rule changes including, but not limited to amendments to Section 651.219, Code of Professional Responsibility, to clarify Section 651.219(b)(15), requires license holders to communicate honestly and fully with all parties, including the Forensic Science Commission; and
 - h. Report on licensing issues identified by laboratories.
 7. Discuss and vote on recommended rule changes including, but not limited to, amendments to Section 651.307, Investigative Panels, to revise the rule heading from "Investigative Panels" to "Investigative Procedures," to accurately reflect investigative processes may be conducted by an investigative panel of commissioners or commission staff. (Tomlin)
 8. Discuss and vote on rule changes including, but not limited to, new Subchapter G, Disciplinary Action for Failure to Participate in Crime Laboratory Records Connect Portal, pursuant to Texas Government Code 411.163(b), which authorizes the Commission to take

disciplinary action against laboratories that do not comply with the requirement to participate in CLR Connect. (Tomlin)

9. Review and possible adoption of final investigation report from investigative panel in complaint No. 25.77; Federal Public Defender's Office (Houston Police Department/Houston Forensic Science Center; Firearms/Toolmarks); review and adopt minutes from May 27, 2026, investigative panel meeting. (Garcia)
10. Review and possible adoption of final investigative report from investigative panel in self-disclosure No. 26.07; Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences (Seized Drugs). (Smith)
11. Review and possible adoption of final investigative report from investigative panel in self-disclosure No. 26.18; Department of Public Safety Waco (Forensic Biology/DNA). (Smith)
12. Update regarding Statewide Firearms Working Group. (Garcia/Smith)
13. Update regarding Statewide Working Group on Rapid DNA, including June 12, 2026, meeting. (Kennedy)
14. Update regarding Texas Forensic Analyst Apprenticeship Pilot (TFAAPP) Program including status of program development and applicable interim charge. (Garcia)
15. Discuss recent and upcoming forensic development training and education projects. (Garcia)
16. Report from the DNA Technical Leader Working Group on reporting and testimony (Kennedy)
17. Update from the Texas Association of Crime Laboratory Directors (TACLD) July 30, 2026, meeting. (Dr. Peter Stout, Texas Association of Crime Laboratory Directors)
18. Consider possible agenda items for next quarterly meeting.
19. Schedule and location of future panel and quarterly commission meetings including, but not limited, to October 23, 2026; January 29, 2027; April 30, 2027; July 30, 2027; and October 22, 2027.
20. Public comment.
21. Adjourn.

To increase public access to meetings, the Commission will endeavor to live-stream the quarterly meetings on its website at www.fsc.texas.gov. However, the Commission's decision to live-stream any meeting does not necessarily mean that all meetings will be live-streamed. Our ability to live-stream depends on budgetary and technology considerations at any given meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Commission Coordinator, Chelsea Estes, at (512) 936-0770 or Chelsea.Estes@fsc.texas.gov.

Persons with disabilities may contact Ms. Estes at the contact information above at least seven (7) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements may be made.