



TEXAS FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION

Justice Through Science

MEETING AGENDA

February 2, 2018 at 8:00 AM

Office of Court Administration

Tom C. Clark Building

1st Floor Conference Room

205 West 14th Street

Austin, Texas 78701

The Commission may meet in closed session on any item listed below, if authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Annotated, Chapter 551. 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 August 2, 2017 Clark (Harris Co. IFS, HPD, Harris Co. Sheriff's Department; GSR, DNA, Blood Spatter) #16-40 investigative panel meeting, November 3, 2017 Forensic Science Commission Quarterly meeting and January 22, 2018 Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Hearing. (Barnard) (5 min)
2. Office administrative update (FY2018 budget status report; update regarding content management software required for the FSC Licensing Program; update on any outstanding reimbursement requests; transition to electronic format for meeting binders). (Garcia/Savage/Adams) (5 min)
3. Discuss and consider pending complaints and laboratory self-disclosures as well as new complaints and self-disclosures received through January 18, 2018. (Daniel) (45 min)

Complaints Pending from November 3, 2017

1. No. 17.04; Gefrides, Lisa (Houston Forensic Science Center)

Disclosures Received as of January 18, 2018

2. No. 18.01; Houston Forensic Science Center (Digital Evidence/Multimedia)
3. No. 18.03; NMS (Seized Drugs)
4. No. 18.04; SWIFS (Toxicology)
5. No. 18.06; DPS Garland (Forensic Biology)
6. No. 18.07; Austin Police Department (Firearms)

4. Discuss status of crime laboratory accreditation program, including accreditation non-conformances received since November 2017 quarterly meeting. Update on attorney general opinion request regarding whether postmortem toxicology is subject to Commission accreditation requirements. Update on adoption and publication of footwear and tire tread category of analysis added to Materials (Trace) and non-human DNA category of analysis added to Forensic Biology. (Savage) (7 min)
5. Update on adoption and publication of rules mirroring the Commission's complaint and disclosure process published in its Policies and Procedures to comply with Administrative Procedures Act and review and adopt draft rules related the Commission's process for appeals to final investigative reports. Review and adopt revised draft of Commission Policies and Procedures to include process for appeals to final investigative reports and compliance with Open Meetings Act and Rule 12. (Savage) (7 min)
6. Discuss licensing advisory committee program, including adjudication of public comments and updates from January 18, 2018 Licensing Advisory Committee meeting, update on general forensic exam development, including proposed reading materials and piloting of general forensic exam. Discuss exemption for federal forensic examiners. Review final revisions to proposed licensing program rules (including final changes resulting from comments). (Hilbig/Garcia/Savage) (90 min)
7. Presentation from Peter Stout, Houston Forensic Science Center CEO and President, on HFSC's efforts with respect to establishing confidence intervals for retroactive case reivew presented at the 2017 NIST Forensic Error Symposium. (Stout/Spiegelman) (30 min)
8. Update from investigative panel regarding Bloodstain Pattern Analysis, including report from January 22, 2018 hearing in Austin. (Johnson/Hughes-Stamm/Parsons) (60 min)
9. Update from investigative panel regarding combined Clark (Blood Spatter/GSR—Houston PD/Harris Co. Institute of Forensic Sciences) #16-40 case and Bryan (Blood Spatter) #16.56 case. (Johnson/Hughes-Stamm/Parsons/Koehler) (15 min)
10. Review and adoption of final report from investigative panel regarding Harris Co. Institute of Forensic Sciences (Blood Alcohol—Guale) #16.48. (Drake/Kerrigan/Daniel) (30 min)
11. Update from investigative panel regarding Houston Forensic Science Center Self-Disclosure (Crime Scene) #17.22 and discussion of staff initiatives on crime scene as required by HB-34. (Garcia) (5 min)
12. Update regarding report on DPS Garland (Blood Alcohol—Youngkin) #17.28 (Garcia) (20 min)

13. Update from investigative panel regarding order by Judge Herbert B. Dixon in *United States v. Torney*, report from NMS on-site interviews, document/data review, laboratory corrective actions and discussion of next steps (Koehler/Sliter/Hughes-Stamm) (25 min)
14. Update on triage projects for DNA mixture review. (Wicoff/Boswell/Strassburger) (10 min).
15. Discussion of hair microscopy review final report. (Garcia) (15 min)
16. Rapid DNA Update. (Stout/Molina) (15 min)
17. Update on Austin Police Department cases being reviewed by UNTHSC-CHI, AP reagent study and hiring of new director. (Budowle/Hughes-Stamm/Kadavy/Strassburger) (8 min)
18. Discuss progress on project to standardize sexual assault kits. (Downing) (10 min)
19. Update from Texas Association of Crime Laboratory Directors. (Kahn/Stout) (10 min)
20. Report from Austin meeting and DPS lab tour with Kazakhstan criminal justice representatives working on forensic reform in Kazakhstan. (Garcia/Savage)
21. Report from various recent and upcoming conference presentations by staff (Garcia/Koehler)
22. Consider proposed agenda items for next quarterly meeting. (Barnard)
23. Schedule and location of future panel and quarterly meetings. (Barnard)
24. Hear public comment. (Barnard)
25. 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.