



TEXAS FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION

Justice Through Science

TEXAS FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION

MEETING AGENDA

January 29, 2021 at 9:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom, Instructions Below

Due to Governor Greg Abbott's March 13, 2020 proclamation of a state of disaster and January 5, 2021 extended proclamation of a state of disaster affecting all counties in Texas due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the Governor's March 16, 2020 suspension of certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, the January 29, 2021 meeting of the Texas Forensic Science Commission will be held by virtual and telephonic conference call as authorized under Texas Government Code section 551.125.

Members of the public will have access and a means to participate in this meeting, by two-way audio, using the following web login or dial-in instructions:

Please use the following meeting dial-information:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://txcourts.zoom.us/j/98280732530>

Meeting ID: 982 8073 2530

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Join by Skype for Business

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Public Participant Instructions:

If you wish to provide public comment during the meeting on a topic being discussed by Commissioners, please either type your question or comment in the chat box or virtually “raise your hand.” The meeting facilitator will mute and unmute participants at the direction of the Chairperson. If you are not able to provide public comment during the meeting and still wish to provide public comment, the Commission will have a public comment period at the end of its agenda to address any remaining questions or comments. You may also fill out and email Kathryn Adams the attached Public Testimony Form to info@fsc.texas.gov in advance of the meeting to ensure your public comment is addressed. All public comments are limited to 5 minutes with adjustments as necessary.

A recording of the meeting will be available after January 29, 2021. To obtain a recording, please contact Kathryn Adams at (512) 936-0770 or email kathryn.adams@fsc.texas.gov.

During this meeting, the Commission may consider and take action on the following items. The Commission may take breaks as necessary. The timing of agenda items provided below are estimates.

1. Call meeting to order. Roll call for members. (Barnard) (2 min)
2. Instructions for public participation. (Tomlin) (3 min)
3. Review and adopt minutes from October 23, 2020 Forensic Science Commission Quarterly meeting. (Barnard) (3 min)
4. Office administrative update (FY2021 budget status report; update on staff work and travel policies pursuant to the Governor’s orders; discuss abstracts for American Academy of Forensic Sciences February 2021 annual (virtual) conference, introduction of new committee member Michael Coble). (Garcia/Tomlin) (5 min)
5. Elect new member to Complaint Screening Committee to fill vacant seat; discuss and consider pending complaints and laboratory self-disclosures as well as new complaints and self-disclosures received through January 8, 2021. (Daniel) (75 min)

Disclosures Pending from October 23, 2020

1. No. 20.44; NMS Labs Horsham, PA (Forensic Biology/DNA)

Disclosures Received as of January 8, 2021

2. No. 20.56; Department of Public Safety Amarillo (Seized Drugs)
3. No. 20.57; Department of Public Safety Austin (Firearms/Toolmarks)
4. No. 20.58; Bexar County Criminal Investigation Laboratory (Forensic Biology/DNA)

5. No. 20.59; Department of Public Safety El Paso (Forensic Biology/DNA)
6. No. 20.61; Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office Crime Laboratory (Forensic Biology/DNA)
7. No. 20.65; Department of Public Safety Austin (Forensic Biology/DNA)
8. No. 20.68; Department of Public Safety Crime Laboratory System (Blood Alcohol)
9. No. 20.69; Department of Public Safety Abilene (Seized Drugs)
10. No. 20.71; Houston Forensic Science Center (Latent Prints)
11. No. 20.72; University of North Texas Health Science Center – Center for Human Identification (Forensic Biology/DNA)

Complaints Received as of January 8, 2021

12. No. 20.55; Wood, Carrie (Expertox; Hair Follicle Testing)
 13. No. 20.60; Cantu, Gerard (Armstrong; Seized Drugs)
 14. No. 20.64; Lumsden, Raymond (University of North Texas Health Science Center; Forensic Biology/DNA)
 15. No. 20.66; Anonymous (Tarrant County Medical Examiners Office Crime Laboratory; Forensic Biology/DNA, Toxicology)
 16. No. 20.67; Curry, Jesse (Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences; Forensic Biology/DNA)
6. Discuss status of crime laboratory accreditation program, including accreditation non-conformances and reports received since October 23, 2020 quarterly meeting; discuss possible rule exemption for Rapid DNA limited to booking stations and FBI-approved projects; discuss development of sample quality assurance documents for quality incidents and corrective actions. (Garcia/Tomlin) (15 min)
 7. Discuss licensing advisory committee update, including:
 - a. Update on licenses issued and renewed; and
 - b. Review outstanding licensing rules and any proposed rule concepts for approval. (Tomlin) (15 min)
 8. Discuss and adopt final report regarding Collins, Robert (DPS Houston; Forensic Biology) complaint #19.04 investigative panel. (Budowle/Buzzini/Daniel) (15 min)
 9. Discuss and adopt final report regarding DPS Austin (Materials (Trace)) disclosure #20.40. (Buzzini/Daniel/Parsons) (10 min)
 10. Update from investigative panel regarding Fort Worth Police Department Crime Laboratory complaint #20.47. (Parsons/Budowle/Downing)
 11. Update from investigative panel regarding DPS Austin (Seized Drugs) disclosure #20.48. (Kerrigan/Daniel/Drake)

12. Update from January 8, 2021 Commission meeting to review Quattrone Report findings and recommendations. (Budowle/Garcia) *(5 min)*
13. Discuss developments by the committee addressing follow-up initiatives for pediatric sexual assault examinations. (Downing) *(5 min)*
14. Update re: forensic science related legislation filed to date (87th Session). (Garcia)
15. Update from the Texas Association of Crime Laboratory Directors, including an update on the collaborative work groups discussing implementation of OSAC Registry standards, plan in collaboration with NIST for implementation of OSAC standards and hiring of project manager, discuss initiative to ensure Texas CFE requirements mirror OSAC guideline requirements. (Garcia) *(5 min)*
16. Consider proposed agenda items for next quarterly meeting. (Barnard)
17. Schedule and location of future panel and quarterly meetings, including April 16, 2020 quarterly meeting. (Barnard)
18. Hear public comment. (Barnard)
19. Adjourn.