

Illinois Forensic Science Commission- Public Policy Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2025, 12 p.m. meeting

I. Call to order

Mr. Hanlon called the meeting to order at approximately 12:02 p.m. The meeting was held via Web Ex.

II. Roll call

The following subcommittee members, staff, guests and members of the public were present:

1. Claire Dragovich, FS Commission Member, subcommittee member
2. John Hanlon, FS Commission Member, subcommittee chairperson
3. Dr. Cris Hughes, FS Commission Member, subcommittee member
4. Carrie Ward, FS Commission Member, subcommittee member
5. Amy Watroba, Executive Director-Forensic Science Commission
6. Theresa Bogard
7. Gina Havlik
8. Timothy Ruppel
9. Amanda Shanbaum*
10. Lindsay Simpson
11. Peter St. Andre
12. Sarah Ware
13. Robin Woolery*

(*denotes individual who joined meeting after roll call)

III. Review/Adoption of Minutes

1. The Meeting Minutes of 10/8/25 were adopted.

IV. Discussion:

1. Presentation from Timothy Ruppel and Sarah Ware from Kane County Forensic Laboratory:
 - i. Mr. Ruppel and Dr. Ware provided a presentation on the history and current status of the Kane County Forensic Laboratory. Mr. Ruppel explained that the Lab is the product of cooperation between the Kane County Sheriff's Office, the Kane County Coroner's Office, and the Kane County State's Attorney's Office. The Lab is currently in the pilot stage. It will be not-for-profit and will provide free forensic services for agencies within Kane County. The Lab will also offer fee for service

testing for agencies outside of Kane County (charges will cover expenses). Mr. Ruppel described forensic services the lab plans to provide in the short and long term. Dr. Ware indicated that the lab is in the procurement process for Rapid DNA equipment. Mr. Ruppel and Dr. Ware answered posed by subcommittee members and invited guests.

V. Old Business
None.

VI. New Business
None.

VII. Public Comment
No public comment offered.

VIII. Next Meeting/Adjournment

The next meeting will be scheduled via Doodle Poll. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:11 p.m.