

**Illinois Forensic Science Commission
 Training and Career Development Subcommittee
 Open Meeting
 Monday, January 12, 2026 , at 11 a.m.
 Meeting Minutes**

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting called to order at 11:01 a.m. by Amy Watroba.
- II. Roll-call/confirmation of quorum

Name	Present (X)
Jillian Baker, Commission Member, Subcommittee Member	X
Jeff Buford, Commission Member, Subcommittee Member	
Judge Art Hill (ret.), Commission Member, Subcommittee Member	X
Jodi Hoos, Commission Member, Subcommittee Member	X
Jeanne Richeal, Commission Member, Subcommittee Member	X
Caryn Tucker, Commission Member, Subcommittee Chairperson	X
Amy Watroba, Executive Director-Forensic Science Commission	X
James DeFrancesco, Loyola University-Chicago	X
Bill Demuth, ISP	X
Karen Duquette, NIRCL	X
Gail Gutierrez, ISP	X
Gina Havlik, NIRCL	X*
Lisa Ramos, NIRCL	X
Anastasia Petruncio, ISP	X
Lindsay Simpson, NIRCL	X
Tom Spudich, SIUE	X

*denotes individual who joined meeting after roll-call

- III. Approval of Minutes
 - a. The December 15, 2025, meeting minutes were approved.
- IV. Old Business
 - a. Update and discussion on videos for Fundamentals of Forensic Science Video project:
 - The Drug Chemistry and Latent Print videos, which were approved by the Commission at its December meeting, are available on the Commission’s website.

Ms. Watroba shared that people have been emailing her contact information for the purpose of compiling email blast lists to market the videos. She also is looking into possible ways the Commission can establish a social media presence, such as through a no-interaction page on Linked In for posting meeting information and links for items such as the training videos.

Updates were provided on the status of the remaining training videos. The Trace Chemistry videos are in production with a goal of completion for subcommittee review in May. The Firearms video is nearing completion and moving on to recording the voice over content. It may be ready for review prior to the Commission's March meeting. Drafts of the content for the DNA video and Toxicology videos are also nearing completion. Ms. Watroba thanked members for their work and updates on the videos and reminded them to create a word document with the script for each video outside the power point for ease of reference and future annual content reviews.

Ms. Baker inquired about whether it is possible to track how many views the posted videos have received thus far since they are housed on ISP's You Tube channel. Ms. Watroba checked the number of views during the meeting and the channel showed 52 views for Drug Chemistry and 93 views for Latent Prints. Until the subcommittee is able to set up the previously discussed mechanisms for soliciting feedback and tracking viewership, Ms. Watroba will check and track the video views on a monthly basis. This information might be useful to include in the subcommittee's section of the Commission's annual report. Judge Hill predicted that the videos will get higher traffic after targeted marketing efforts are conducted.

V. New Business

- a. The subcommittee discussed creating an ethics training course video for all forensic scientists in Illinois as a possible project for later in 2026. This idea was brought up in early days of the Commission but was set aside while other projects were completed. Discussion ensued about ideas for the ethics video, including making the video something that forensic scientists would have to watch annually as an ethics refresher similar to other annual training videos on issues such as civil rights and sexual harassment, as opposed to a video used for continuing education. Subcommittee members discussed researching whether any other groups or entities have similar videos as a possible source of ideas. Codes of ethics might also provide information that could be used for video creation. Discussion about whether the video would be available to the public or just used by the laboratories took place. Advantages to making the video publicly available on the Commission's website were identified, including the fact that educational institutions and agencies who provide forensic services that are not accredited labs could use the videos. Ideas for content were generally discussed and a clear preference for using specific examples of what constitutes good/bad decisions from an ethics standpoint in the videos as opposed to just a general overview of ethical principles applicable to forensic labs was expressed. The idea of creating the ethics video later this year also streamlines

with work being done by other subcommittees, specifically the Quality Systems Subcommittee in response to the AFTL situation.

- b. Related to the ethics video conversation, the idea of using the Commission as a convenor for stakeholders also was raised. The subcommittee discussed exploring whether the Commission could hold panel discussions or a speaker series that would be available to stakeholders on current topics of interest.

VI. Public Comment

- a. No public comment offered.

VII. Next Meeting/ Adjournment

- a. Next meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2026, at 11 a.m.
- b. Meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.