

Illinois Forensic Science Commission

Meeting Minutes

19 December 2022

I. **Call to order**

Illinois State Police Director Designee Robin Woolery, called to order the meeting of the Illinois Forensic Science Commission at 10:00 a.m., on December 19, 2022, via WebEx video conference.

II. **Roll-call**

The following people were present:

1. Jeanne Richeal, member
2. Caryn Tucker, member
3. Jillian Baker, member
4. Dr. Cris Hughes-Crookshanks, member
5. Carrie Ward, member
6. John Hanlon, member
7. Jeff Buford, member
8. Philip Kinsey, member
9. Claire Dragovich, member
10. Art Hill, member
11. Dan Wright, member
12. Robin Woolery, Illinois State Police Director Designee, Illinois State Police Division of Forensic Services
13. Samuel Del Rio, liaison, Illinois State Police Division of Forensic Services

III. **Review/Adoption of the Minutes of September 26, 2022**

The vote to approve the Meeting Minutes of 09/26/2022 was unanimously approved.

IV. **Housekeeping Items**

Ms. Woolery proposed the following 2023 meeting dates and locations:

- a. 03/20/2023 – DuPage County Forensic Science Center
- b. 06/20/2023 – University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- c. 09/18/2023 – University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- d. 12/18/2023 – video conference

V. **Subcommittee Reports**

1. Quality Systems reported meeting twice, drafted a summary form, and expects to have the first 2022 non-conformities report at the end of first quarter 2023.
2. Training and Career Development reported meeting on 12/12/2022. Subcommittee members advised that they are planning to meet with various universities with the aim to develop an educational program. They also intend to provide educational opportunities for those in the legal community through various professional associations.
3. The Public Policy subcommittee reported meeting twice since the last Commission meeting. Challenges with proposed legislation prohibiting the practice of using victim DNA for implications in other crimes were discussed regarding short term data storage, search limitations, and familial DNA. The goal is for public policy to encourage victims of crime and families of missing persons to provide DNA for investigative purposes without fear of prosecution. Subcommittee members expressed that DUI cannabis is a more complex issue than DUI alcohol. As such, the subcommittee is seeking further input from professionals outside the Commission.
4. The Technology subcommittee reported meeting twice since the last Commission meeting. Their meetings have focused reviewing technology of the core disciplines (drug chemistry, firearms, forensic biology/DNA, latent prints, microscopy & trace, and toxicology). Subcommittee members discussed technology of each discipline with subject matter experts.

VI. **Issues for Discussion**

1. Use of Victim's DNA Standards Letter of Recommendation Update – see V (3) above.
2. Post Graduate Certification Update – Commission members related that once the University of Illinois College of Law curriculum is developed, they will duplicate it for Southern Illinois University Carbondale. John Piper, who has been developing the backbone of the program, is to attend the next meeting. Subcommittee members are contemplating a 40-hour certification program.

VII. **Public Comment**

There were no comments from the public.

VIII. **Meeting Schedule**

Members agreed to schedule the next meeting on March 20, 2023 at the DuPage County Forensic Science Center, 501 N. County Farm Road in Wheaton, IL.

IX. **Adjournment**

Illinois State Police Director Designee Robin Woolery adjourned the meeting at 10:56 a.m. on December 19, 2022.