



August 3, 2018

**Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC)
633 3rd Avenue
37th Floor
New York, NY
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM**

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

DNA Subcommittee Members in Attendance:

Dr. Dwight Adams, Chair
Dr. Frederick Bieber
Dr. Allison Eastman
Dr. Katherine Gettings
Dr. Kenneth Kidd

DNA Subcommittee Members Excused:

Dr. Amanda Sozer

DCJS Staff in Attendance:

Brett Knowles
Cathryn Levine
Gerald Mollen
Shelley Palmer
Aimee Zagorski

Other Attendees:

Sarah Chu – The Innocence Project
Karen Dooling – Nassau County OCME Division of Forensic Services
Russel Gettig – NYSP Crime Laboratory
Jessica Goldthwaite – Legal Aid Society
Susan Horan – Kings County District Attorney's Office
George Howard – NYS Office of Information Technology Services
Melissa Huyck – New York City Police Department
Thomas Leach – NYSP Crime Laboratory
Julie Pizziketti – NYSP Crime Laboratory
Maria Powers – New York City Police Department
Michael Scaparro – New York City Police Department
Ray Wickenheiser – NYSP Crime Laboratory
Raymond Valerio – Bronx District Attorney's Office
Richard Torres – Legal Aid Society

Chairman opened the meeting and noted there was a quorum, with five members present. The Chair welcomed newly appointed member Dr. Katherine Gettings from the Applied Genetics group at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. The Chair then requested a motion to approve the August 3, 2018, meeting agenda. A motion to accept the agenda was made by Dr. Eastman, seconded by Dr. Kidd, and approved unanimously.

00:00:00 –
00:02:21

The Chair then requested a motion to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2018, DNA Subcommittee meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Dr. Kidd and seconded by Dr. Eastman. There were three votes to approve the minutes (Drs. Adams, Eastman and Kidd) and two abstentions (Drs. Bieber and Gettings). The motion did not pass, the minutes will be reviewed at the November 2, 2018 meeting of the Subcommittee.

00:02:21 –
00:02:58

Laboratory accreditation items and updates were then considered for the Erie County Central Police Services Forensic Laboratory, Monroe County Crime Laboratory, New York State Police Crime Laboratory, and the Westchester County Division of Forensic Sciences. Laboratory representatives were available in-person or via phone to answer any questions from members. The Chair requested a motion to issue a binding recommendation to the Commission on Forensic Science to renew the accreditation of the Monroe County Crime Laboratory in the discipline of Biology for a period concurrent with their ANAB accreditation. Dr. Bieber made the motion, Dr. Eastman seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. Dr. Eastman noted that there were several inconsistencies in the completion of FBI QAS Reports by recent auditors.

00:02:58 –
00:13:18

The Chair moved to Old Business, and members received a verbal update on both Partial Match and Familial Search.

00:13:18 –
00:20:45

The Chair then moved to New Business. The DNA Subcommittee was asked to review proposed modifications to the NYS Rules and Regulations to reflect the absorption of ASCLD/LAB into ANAB, as well as the new ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standards. A motion to accept the proposed revisions, along with two additional corrections identified by the Subcommittee, was made by Dr. Kidd, seconded by Dr. Eastman, and approved unanimously. It was also noted that members would welcome an opportunity to have ANAB representatives attend an upcoming meeting to discuss their accreditation program, as well as inform them of concerns of the DNA Subcommittee members.

00:20:45 –
00:32:20

The DNA Subcommittee then reviewed the Partial Match Policy, as is required every two years. It was determined that no revisions were required.

00:32:20 –
00:40:35

A quick discussion was held to introduce the topic of evaluating the implementation of advancing DNA technologies in NYS forensic laboratories, such as “next-generation” sequencing and SNPs (single nucleotide polymorphisms), due to the use of these technologies in several “high-profile” cases elsewhere in the nation. It is anticipated that NYCLAC and the Biology TWG will submit information for the next meeting. Dr. Eastman also suggested reaching out to Commission on Forensic Science member Dr. Anne Walsh,

00:40:35 –
00:52:53

who is the section head of the Forensic Identity Unit of the NYS Department of Health. Mr. Mollen indicated that a summary of the discussion would be provided to the Commission.

00:52:53 –
01:06:48
(52:53 –
66:48)

The Chair then moved to Laboratory Disclosures, and the DNA Subcommittee reviewed laboratory disclosures from Nassau County OCME Division of Forensic Services and the Suffolk County Crime Laboratory. Laboratory representatives were available in-person or via phone to answer any questions from members.

01:06:48 –
01:07:16
(66:48 –
67:16)

The Chair next requested a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss matters relating to a current investigation or matters that may lead to the appointment, promotion, demotion, discipline, or suspension of a particular person. Dr. Bieber made the motion, which was seconded by Dr. Kidd, and approved unanimously.

01:07:16 –
01:07:28
(67:16 –
67:28)

The DNA Subcommittee returned to open session and the Chair indicated that the DNA Subcommittee did not take any formal action during Executive Session.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Kidd, seconded by Dr. Eastman, and approved unanimously.

01:07:28 –
01:08:43
(67:28 –
68:43)

Note:

Video of the meeting is available upon request.

Approximate video times in parenthesis reflect the streaming video. Times not in parenthesis reflect the video file played using software such as Windows Media Player.