

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21

**Final Minutes**  
**Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**July 14, 2020**  
**Department of Forensic Science, Held Electronically**

22  
23

**Committee Members Present**

24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40

Randall E. Beaty  
Maureen C. Bottrell  
Kathleen Corrado, Ph.D., *Chair (at start of meeting)*  
Robin W. Cotton, Ph.D.  
Leslie E. Edinboro, Ph.D.  
Linda C. Jackson  
Barry S. Levine, Ph.D.  
George C. Maha, Ph.D.  
Richard P. Meyers, *Chair (elected and took over during meeting)*  
Kristin Schelling  
Travis Y. Spinder  
Jami J. St. Clair  
Kenneth B. Zercie

41  
42

**Staff Members Present**

43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60

Jeffrey D. Ban, Central Laboratory Director  
David A. Barron, Ph.D., Deputy Director  
Madison Boden, PERK Tracking System Coordinator  
Sabrina S. Cillessen, Physical Evidence Program Manager  
Katya N. Herndon, Chief Deputy Director  
James W. Hutchings, Ph.D., Toxicology Program Manager  
Amy M. Jenkins, Department Counsel  
Bradford C. Jenkins, Biology Program Manager  
Alka B. Lohmann, Director of Technical Services  
M. Scott Maye, Northern Laboratory Director  
Jessica B. Norton, Legal Assistant  
Kevin M. Patrick, Western Laboratory Director  
Susan Stanitski, Eastern Laboratory Director  
Elizabeth M. Stroble, Grants and Administration Program Manager  
Jennifer L. Taylor, Procurement Specialist I, Secretary  
Rebecca Wagner, Ph.D., Research Section Supervisor  
Robyn B. Weimer, Chemistry Program Manager

61  
62

**Call to Order**

63  
64  
65  
66

As a result of the state of emergency declared by Governor Northam due to COVID-19, the Scientific Advisory Committee conducted the meeting by electronic communication means using the Cisco WebEx platform. The public was permitted to attend and participate via video or audio

45 conference. Directions for public participation were provided on the meeting agenda and posted  
46 on Virginia’s Town Hall.

47 Dr. Corrado, the Chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee (“Committee” or “SAC”), called the  
48 meeting of the Committee to order at 10:00 a.m. Dr. Corrado requested Ms. Taylor to call the roll  
49 to ensure that a quorum was present. All Committee members were in attendance, and Ms. Taylor  
50 advised that a quorum was present.

51 Dr. Corrado welcomed Ms. Schelling, who is a new member to the Committee and fills the forensic  
52 biologist seat, which was previously held by Carl Sobieralski.

53 **Adoption of Agenda**

54 Dr. Corrado advised that the first order of business was the adoption of the draft agenda for the  
55 meeting, which was previously sent to the Committee members. Dr. Edinboro made a motion to  
56 adopt the agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Zercie. A roll-call vote was taken, and the members  
57 voted as follows: \_

- 58 Mr. Beaty – Yes
- 59 Ms. Bottrell – Yes
- 60 Dr. Corrado – Yes
- 61 Dr. Cotton – Yes
- 62 Dr. Edinboro – Yes
- 63 Director Jackson – Yes
- 64 Dr. Levine – Yes
- 65 Dr. Maha – Yes
- 66 Mr. Meyers – Yes
- 67 Ms. Schelling – Yes
- 68 Mr. Spinder – Yes
- 69 Ms. St. Clair – Yes
- 70 Mr. Zercie – Yes

71 **Annual Election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair:**

72 Dr. Corrado noted that the next item on the agenda was the annual election of the Chair and Vice-  
73 Chair. Dr. Corrado asked for nominations for Vice-Chair. Director Jackson nominated Ms. Bottrell  
74 for re-election as Vice-Chair. The nomination was seconded by Dr. Maha. A roll-call vote was  
75 taken, and the members voted as follows:

- 76 Mr. Beaty – Yes
- 77 Ms. Bottrell – Yes
- 78 Dr. Corrado – Yes
- 79 Dr. Cotton – Yes
- 80 Dr. Edinboro – Yes
- 81 Director Jackson – Yes
- 82 Dr. Levine – Yes
- 83 Dr. Maha – Yes
- 84 Mr. Meyers – Yes

85 Ms. Schelling – Yes  
86 Mr. Spinder – Yes  
87 Ms. St. Clair – Yes  
88 Mr. Zercie – Yes

89 Dr. Corrado noted that she is concluding her second term as Chair so she is not eligible to be re-  
90 elected. She asked for nominations for Chair of the Committee, and Dr. Edinboro nominated Mr.  
91 Meyers. The nomination was seconded by Ms. Bottrell. A roll-call vote was taken, and the  
92 members voted as follows:

93 Mr. Beaty – Yes  
94 Ms. Bottrell – Yes  
95 Dr. Corrado – Yes  
96 Dr. Cotton – Yes  
97 Dr. Edinboro – Yes  
98 Director Jackson – Yes  
99 Dr. Levine – Yes  
100 Dr. Maha – Yes  
101 Mr. Meyers – Abstained  
102 Ms. Schelling – Yes  
103 Mr. Spinder – Yes  
104 Ms. St. Clair – Yes  
105 Mr. Zercie – Yes

106 Dr. Corrado announced Mr. Meyers as the new Chair of the Committee and turned over the  
107 meeting to Mr. Meyers.

### 108 **Adoption of Minutes of the October 2, 2019 Committee Meeting**

109 Mr. Meyers noted the draft minutes from the October 2, 2019 meeting were previously shared with  
110 the Committee and asked if there were any proposed changes. Mr. Meyers noted a typo that needed  
111 to be corrected. Dr. Edinboro made a motion that the minutes be approved with the amendment to  
112 correct the typo. The motion was seconded by Ms. St. Clair. A roll-call vote was taken, and the  
113 members voted as follows:

114 Mr. Beaty – Yes  
115 Ms. Bottrell – Yes  
116 Dr. Corrado – Yes  
117 Dr. Cotton – Yes  
118 Dr. Edinboro – Yes  
119 Director Jackson – Yes  
120 Dr. Levine – Yes  
121 Dr. Maha – Yes  
122 Mr. Meyers – Yes  
123 Ms. Schelling – Abstained (not a member in 2019)  
124 Mr. Spinder – Yes  
125 Ms. St. Clair – Yes

126 Mr. Zercie – Yes

127 **DFS Director’s Report**

128 Agency Updates

129 Director Jackson reviewed with the Committee the actions the Department has taken in response  
130 to COVID-19. DFS has been able to maintain normal business hours for evidence submissions,  
131 except for lunch hour closures for cleaning. The Evidence Receiving Section requires customers  
132 to wear face masks, encourages agencies to mail in evidence, and schedules appointments for  
133 physical distancing. Forensic Scientists are working staggered schedules.

134 The Breath Alcohol Section notified all operators of mandatory precautionary measures and  
135 updated safety guidance on April 2, 2020. The number of breath alcohol tests run from March –  
136 June was significantly below those from the same period in 2019.

137 Director Jackson advised of the impact of COVID-19 on the training courses offered by the Breath  
138 Alcohol and Forensic Training Sections. Additionally, because of the pandemic, the courses DFS  
139 had been offering to attorneys/judges were cancelled for 2020.

140 Facilities:

141 Director Jackson provided an update on the Central Laboratory facility project.

142 Agency Initiatives:

143 A DFS Customer Working Group was created with the Commonwealth’s Attorneys’ Services  
144 Council. The Group, which will include laboratory customers and DFS staff, will review  
145 submission policies, laboratory capabilities, and the triaging of evidence for analysis. The first  
146 meeting was held virtually on May 14, 2020.

147 Director Jackson provided an update on initiatives under the sexual assault kit grants, including  
148 the status of the outsourced testing of unsubmitted kits held by law enforcement, DFS reviews of  
149 the data from the private laboratory, and hits reported, as well as the implementation of the  
150 PERK Tracking System and funding for the PERK Tracking System Coordinator position.

151 Budget:

152 Director Jackson presented an overview of the DFS Budget to the Committee. She noted the hiring  
153 freeze that was put in place due to COVID-19, but explained that there is a hiring exemption for  
154 positions directly related to public safety. Director Jackson reviewed the Department’s pledged  
155 savings for FY20, as well as the Department budget for FY21/FY22.

156 Grants:

157 Director Jackson presented a summary of current DFS grants and the grant applications pending  
158 approval from the Forensic Science Board.

159 Workload/Backlog:

160 Director Jackson provided an update on statistical trends in each of the scientific disciplines, and  
161 noted that overall submissions were down since the COVID-19 pandemic in comparison to the  
162 same time period last year.

163 **Controlled Substances Subcommittee Report**

164 Mr. Meyers, Chair of the Controlled Substances Subcommittee, gave the report of that  
165 Subcommittee, which met on July 13, 2020. The Subcommittee reviewed and discussed validation  
166 documents for four methods, which address the differentiation of hemp and marijuana and sample  
167 preparation experiments pertaining to cannabinoid quantitation (Cannabis 4-Aminophenol  
168 Chemical Test Method Validation, Semi-Quantitative Analysis of Total  $\Delta^9$ -Tetrahydrocannabinol  
169 (THC) using Gas Chromatography-Flame Ionization Detection (GC-FID) Method Validation,  
170 Semi-Quantitative Analysis of Total THC in Alternative Matrices using GC-FID Validation Plan,  
171 and Cannabis Plant Material Drying and Decarboxylation Study Plan). After discussing the  
172 validation documents, the Subcommittee closed its review.

173 The Subcommittee was provided an overview of three methods in development (Quantitative  
174 Analysis of THC, THCA, and Cannabidiol (CBD) using High Performance Liquid  
175 Chromatography (HPLC); Quantitative Analysis of THC, THCA, and CBD using GC-FID; and  
176 Confirmation of THCA using Tandem Mass Spectrometry). After discussing the methods in  
177 development, the Subcommittee closed its review.

178 Ms. Bottrell moved that the Committee accept the Controlled Substances Subcommittee report,  
179 which was seconded by Ms. St. Clair. A roll-call vote was taken, and the members voted as  
180 follows:

181 Mr. Beaty – Yes  
182 Ms. Bottrell – Yes  
183 Dr. Corrado – Yes  
184 Dr. Cotton – Yes  
185 Dr. Edinboro – Yes  
186 Director Jackson – Yes  
187 Dr. Levine – Yes  
188 Dr. Maha – Yes  
189 Mr. Meyers – Yes  
190 Ms. Schelling – Yes  
191 Mr. Spinder – Yes  
192 Ms. St. Clair – Yes  
193 Mr. Zercie – Yes

194 **Forensic Biology Subcommittee Report**

195 Dr. Kathleen Corrado, Chair of the Forensic Biology Subcommittee, gave the report of that  
196 Subcommittee, which met in the morning, prior to the SAC meeting. The Subcommittee reviewed  
197 and discussed the validation of Y-STR Half Reactions on the 3500 Genetic Analyzer and

198 Performance Checks from the four laboratories. After discussion, the Subcommittee closed its  
199 review of the validation.

200 Ms. Schelling moved that the Committee accept the Forensic Biology Subcommittee report, which  
201 was seconded by Dr. Maha. A roll-call vote was taken, and the members voted as follows:

202 Mr. Beaty – Yes  
203 Ms. Bottrell – Yes  
204 Dr. Corrado – Yes  
205 Dr. Cotton – Yes  
206 Dr. Edinboro – Yes  
207 Director Jackson – Yes  
208 Dr. Levine – Yes  
209 Dr. Maha – Yes  
210 Mr. Meyers – Yes  
211 Ms. Schelling – Yes  
212 Mr. Spinder – Yes  
213 Ms. St. Clair – Yes  
214 Mr. Zercie – Yes\_

#### 215 **Toxicology Subcommittee Report**

216 Dr. Edinboro, Chair of the Toxicology Subcommittee, gave the report of that Subcommittee, which  
217 met on July 13, 2020. The Subcommittee reviewed and discussed validation/verification  
218 documents for six methods (Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) by Liquid  
219 Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LCMSMS), Gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) by  
220 LCMSMS, Automated Liquid Handling System (Hamilton) Verification Plan, Automated Liquid  
221 Handling System (Hamilton) Verification Summary, Fentanyl Derivative Quantitation by  
222 LCMSMS, and Fentanyl Derivatives Qualitative Analysis by LCMSMS). The Subcommittee  
223 approved a recommendation to have the Department experimentally determine the limit of  
224 detection of each compound present versus using an administratively determined limit of detection  
225 concentration and then closed its review of the validation/verification documentation for the  
226 methods.

227 The Subcommittee was provided an overview of four methods in development (Barbiturates  
228 Quantitation by LCMSMS, Cannabinoids Extraction by Automated Liquid Handling System,  
229 Miscellaneous Basic Drug Quantitation by LCMSMS, and Flualprazolam Quantitation by  
230 LCMSMS). After discussion, the Subcommittee closed its review of the methods in development.

231 Ms. Bottrell moved that the Committee accept the Toxicology Subcommittee report, which was  
232 seconded by Dr. Levine. A roll-call vote was taken, and the members voted as follows:

233 Mr. Beaty – Yes  
234 Ms. Bottrell – Yes  
235 Dr. Corrado – Yes  
236 Dr. Cotton – Yes  
237 Dr. Edinboro – Yes

238 Director Jackson – Yes  
239 Dr. Levine – Yes  
240 Dr. Maha – Yes  
241 Mr. Meyers – Yes  
242 Ms. Schelling – Yes  
243 Mr. Spinder – Yes  
244 Ms. St. Clair – Yes  
245 Mr. Zercie – Yes

246 **Program Area Updates**

247 Division of Technical Services Update:

248 Alka B. Lohmann, Director of the Division of Technical Services (DTS), provided the Committee  
249 with a DTS update, including staffing.

250 The Department successfully completed its on-site surveillance, which was conducted remotely  
251 on May 18-21, 2020. DFS was one of the first laboratory systems to undergo a remote assessment.  
252 DFS successfully transitioned to the updated accreditation criteria, ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and AR  
253 3125.

254 Ms. Lohmann announced to the Committee that the 100<sup>th</sup> Forensic Science Academy class  
255 graduated a week early due to COVID-19. She explained how the Forensic Training Section  
256 transitioned to providing online training courses in light of the pandemic. Although in-person  
257 instruction resumed last week, they are planning to use a mix of in-person and online training  
258 going forward.

259 Chemistry Program Update:

260 Robyn Weimer, Chemistry Program Manager, provided the Committee with an update on the  
261 Chemistry Program Area, including staffing for the Trace Evidence and Controlled Substances  
262 Sections.

263 The Trace Evidence Section held a one-day statewide section meeting at the Central Laboratory  
264 in January 2020. Topics included an explosives demonstration done by the Virginia State Police,  
265 a tour at the Radford Armory, and a group discussion. The Trace Evidence Section will participate  
266 in a free online symposium on Current Trends in Forensic Trace Analysis during the last week of  
267 July 2020. Topics include primer residue, paint, glass, and tape.

268 Ms. Weimer updated the Committee on the NIJ grant DFS received that seeks to incorporate  
269 quantitative measures of chromatographic features into fire debris interpretation to minimize  
270 subjectivity and standardize the approach.

271 Ms. Weimer informed the Committee about a DFS Policy Notice, which addressed the use of paint  
272 cans for the submission of fire debris evidence. Cans were encountered that contained an aromatic  
273 product that could potentially interfere with the instrumental analysis of evidence packaged within  
274 the cans. The Notice, issued June 10, 2020, requires the submission of a control can of  
275 corresponding size(s) with each case.

276 Ms. Weimer updated the Committee on report wording changes for the Trace Evidence Section  
277 for cases involving a comparison. The new language will provide context to allow better  
278 understanding of the strength of the conclusion and a descriptive justification.

279 Ms. Weimer advised that, in December 2019, the Controlled Substances Section held its statewide  
280 section meeting as part of a grant-funded Joint Opioid Symposium, which included Toxicology  
281 and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and addressed the synthesis and pharmacology of  
282 novel synthetic opioids. The Section will also be participating in a free online symposium, which  
283 will cover current trends in seized drug analysis and is scheduled for the last week of October  
284 2020.

285 Ms. Weimer provided an update on the outsourcing of Controlled Substances cases to NMS.  
286 Through April 2020, approximately 4,100 cases were outsourced to NMS, and the average NMS  
287 case turnaround time was 21 days. The Department reanalyzed at least 1% of outsourced cases for  
288 QA purposes. The resumption of outsourcing will be dependent on budget constraints and the  
289 status of case submissions and the DFS backlog.

290 Ms. Weimer provided an update on the use of the Board of Pharmacy (BoP) expedited regulatory  
291 scheduling process. The Department recommended 11 compounds in January 2020. The BoP's  
292 March meeting was cancelled so the compounds were considered at the Board's May meeting and  
293 are pending final approval.

294 Ms. Weimer reviewed with the Committee a Policy Notice, issued January 6, 2020, which  
295 addressed methamphetamine purity determinations. DFS is now reporting the weight of any  
296 methamphetamine mixture without a purity determination. In any case where the net weight falls  
297 within a statutory weight threshold, the Certificate of Analysis will clearly indicate that a purity  
298 determination was not performed. The Commonwealth's Attorney may request a purity  
299 determination. Since the Notice, DFS has had a 62% reduction in the number of methamphetamine  
300 purity determinations performed during the same six month time frame when compared to 2019.

301 Ms. Weimer concluded with a status update on issues surrounding the analysis of marijuana and  
302 hemp. Since November 2019, DFS distributed approximately 16,000 Cannabis Typification Field  
303 Test Kits, which can assist in distinguishing whether plant material is likely marijuana or hemp.  
304 DFS and the Virginia State Police produced a training video on the use of the Cannabis  
305 Typification Field Test Kit. Ms. Weimer also reviewed the new analytical scheme for plant  
306 material submitted to the laboratory. In January 2020, a semi-quantitative method to measure the  
307 concentration of THC in *Cannabis sativa* was validated and implemented, and DFS began  
308 accepting suspected *Cannabis sativa* plant material for analysis in simple possession cases without  
309 a court order.

310 In April 2020, a DFS agency bill, SB646, passed with an emergency clause and went into effect.  
311 SBS646 amended the Code to clarify that Tetrahydrocannabinol refers in most instances to delta-  
312 9-Tetrahydrocannabinol. It specifies that DFS will determine the proper method to measure the  
313 concentration of THC and that the method shall consider the potential conversion of delta-9-  
314 Tetrahydrocannabinolic acid (THC-A) to THC. HB972 and SB2 also passed during the Session,  
315 but they went into effect on July 1, 2020. These bills removed hashish oil from Schedule I,  
316 decriminalized simple possession of marijuana for adults by providing a civil penalty of \$25, and



317 created a rebuttable presumption that possession of less than ½ oz. of marijuana is for personal  
318 use. In response to these decriminalization bills, DFS reinstated its policy requiring a court order  
319 for analysis before plant material suspected to be marijuana can be submitted. This applies to  
320 offenses occurring after July 1, 2020. It is not applicable to juvenile cases or possession with intent  
321 to distribute.

322 Ms. Weimer also advised the Committee of several validations in progress related to the analysis  
323 of marijuana and hemp. She indicated the Controlled Substances Subcommittee will likely be  
324 engaged to discuss the validations prior to the next SAC meeting.

325 Physical Evidence Program Update:

326 Sabrina Cillessen, Physical Evidence Program Manager, provided the Committee with an update  
327 on the Physical Evidence Program Area. She gave an overview of staffing for the Firearms &  
328 Toolmarks, Latent Prints & Impressions, and Digital & Multimedia Evidence Sections.

329 A DFS Policy Notice, which was issued on November 5, 2019, requested the resubmission of  
330 latent prints from unsolved crimes from prior to 2013 so they can be searched as well as added to  
331 the Next Generation Identification (NGI) System for ongoing searches.

332 Ms. Cillessen reported on how the existing Mideo network and workflow allowed Latent Print  
333 examiners to conduct Latent Print comparisons and verifications while teleworking.

334 Ms. Cillessen gave an overview of the NIJ Firearms Research Grant Proposal involving the Cadre  
335 3D imaging equipment.

336 Ms. Cillessen informed the Committee of the Digital and Multimedia Evidence Section's  
337 participation in the Virginia Cybercrime Initiative Conference in March 2020.

338 Toxicology Update:

339 Dr. James Hutchings, Toxicology Program Manager, provided the Committee with an update on  
340 the Toxicology Program Area, which included a review of staffing in the Toxicology and Breath  
341 Alcohol Sections.

342 Dr. Hutchings informed the Committee of new instrumentation that has been installed in the  
343 Toxicology Section in all four laboratories and shared information on two Toxicology grant  
344 proposals, an NIJ Research grant for cannabinoids and a competitive Coverdell grant that would  
345 fund a Toxicologist trainee.

346 Dr. Hutchings provided an overview on the COVID-19 Guidance, reviewed by Virginia  
347 Occupational Safety and Health (VOSH) that was sent to all breath test operators by the Breath  
348 Alcohol Section.

349 The Breath Alcohol Section expanded its online recertification course for Breath Alcohol operators  
350 due to restrictions on in-person training. In-person training resumed on June 22, 2020. The class  
351 size was limited to 10 students. In-person recertifications are planned for late July 2020.

352 Dr. Hutchings reviewed statistics showing a marked reduction (over 20%) in the number of breath  
353 tests conducted in the first six months of 2020 as compared to the same period in 2019. The number  
354 of blood test cases was also down, but only 10-15%.

355 Dr. Hutchings shared information on the DUI/DUID Training provided to attorneys and judges in  
356 late 2019 by the Breath Alcohol and Toxicology Sections.

357 Forensic Biology Program Update:

358 Brad Jenkins, Forensic Biology Program Manager, provided the Committee with an update on  
359 staffing for the Forensic Biology program area.

360 Mr. Jenkins noted that there are nine examiners in Y-STR training. He also gave an update on the  
361 deployment of STRmix, noting that the training of the first set of examiners has started.

362 Mr. Jenkins provided an update on the status of various validation projects, including STRmix, Y-  
363 STR on the 3500, and new Real Time PCR instruments.

364 Mr. Jenkins shared information on a DNA Research Grant that has been awarded to the Department  
365 for an automated or semi-automated differential extraction method.

366 Mr. Jenkins reported that no external training was conducted in Spring 2020 due to COVID-19.  
367 The Forensic Biology Section plans to attend the Promega meeting remotely in the fall.

368 Mr. Jenkins also reported on the new Quality Assurance Standards that went into effect on July 1,  
369 2020. An external audit is being rescheduled for the fall/winter of 2020.

370 Mr. Jenkins updated the Committee on the Data Bank and its planned transition to a prelog system.  
371 The Data Bank is expected to start testing the system in the staging environment in the next few  
372 weeks. Mr. Jenkins advised that there would be a legislative change required for full  
373 implementation.

374 **Old Business**

375 Serology Review:

376 Mr. Jenkins provided a report on the results of the Serology Case Review. He shared background  
377 on the case that prompted the Department to undertake the review, as well as the serological testing  
378 that DFS conducted until it was replaced with DNA testing in 1994. Mr. Jenkins provided an  
379 overview of the scope of the review, including the number of cases/reports reviewed and the fact  
380 that each case was reviewed independently by two DFS scientists trained in conventional serology  
381 with 20% being reviewed by an external reviewer. He shared general observations of what was  
382 seen in the cases reviewed.

383 An internal committee (Biology Program Manager and two DFS scientists) recommended nine  
384 cases for possible notification or further action, and all nine were sent to the external reviewer. Mr.  
385 Jenkins gave a summary of each of the nine cases with specific observations, including those  
386 recommended for notification by the internal committee and the external reviewer. The Serology

387 Case Review found no duplication of the issue observed in the case that prompted the review, and  
388 no other isolated or systemic issues that would warrant continuing the review.

389 After discussion, Dr. Edinboro made a motion to recommend that notification be made in five  
390 cases, if conviction information for the suspects is confirmed, and that the Serology Case Review  
391 be closed. The motion was seconded by Dr. Corrado. A roll-call vote was taken, and the members  
392 voted as follows:

393 Mr. Beaty – Yes  
394 Ms. Bottrell – Yes  
395 Dr. Corrado – Yes  
396 Dr. Cotton – Yes  
397 Dr. Edinboro – Yes  
398 Director Jackson – Yes  
399 Dr. Levine – Yes  
400 Dr. Maha – Yes  
401 Mr. Meyers – Yes  
402 Ms. Schelling – Yes  
403 Mr. Spinder – Yes  
404 Ms. St. Clair – Yes  
405 Mr. Zercie – Yes

406 Microscopic Hair Comparison Case Review:

407 Amy Jenkins, Department Counsel, provided an update on the progress of the Microscopic Hair  
408 Comparison Case Review. DFS is continuing to review cases for positive probative hair  
409 associations to identify additional cases for the project. The Review Team met on June 5, 2020 to  
410 review transcripts from nine cases and made recommendations that will be presented to the  
411 Forensic Science Board’s Microscopic Hair Comparison Case Review Subcommittee.

412 Proposed Amendments for Field Test Regulations:

413 Amy Jenkins updated the Committee on the status of the proposed amendments to the Regulations  
414 for the Approval of Field Tests for Detection of Drugs (6VAC40-30), which allow for the approval  
415 of presumptive mobile instruments as field tests. The Board considered and unanimously approved  
416 the final amendments in a virtual meeting on June 29, 2020. The final amendments were submitted  
417 for Executive Branch review on July 2, 2020.

418 **New Business**

419 PERK Tracking System Overview:

420 Madison Boden, PERK Tracking System Coordinator, provided an overview of the PERK  
421 Tracking System, which allows victims/survivors to see information about their kits through the  
422 Victim Portal, provides a mechanism for DFS to track dissemination and use of PERKs, and tracks  
423 compliance with the comprehensive PERK legislation. Use of the System was mandated as of July  
424 1, 2020.

425 **Public Comment**

426 Mr. Meyers inquired whether any member of the public would like to provide any comments. No  
427 member of the public provided comment.

428 **Adjournment**

429 Mr. Meyers asked if there was a motion to adjourn. Dr. Edinboro made a motion to adjourn the  
430 meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee, which was seconded by Mr. Zercie. A roll-call vote  
431 was taken, and the members voted as follows:

432 Mr. Beaty – Yes  
433 Ms. Bottrell – Yes  
434 Dr. Corrado – Yes  
435 Dr. Cotton – Yes  
436 Dr. Edinboro – Yes  
437 Director Jackson – Yes  
438 Dr. Levine – Yes  
439 Dr. Maha – Yes  
440 Mr. Meyers – Yes  
441 Ms. Schelling – Yes  
442 Mr. Spinder – Yes  
443 Ms. St. Clair – Yes  
444 Mr. Zercie – Yes

445 The meeting adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

446