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Minutes
Meeting of the Forensic Biology Subcommittee
of the Scientific Advisory Committee
Department of Forensic Science
April 22, 2025

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Subcommittee Members Present

Kathleen Corrado, Ph.D., *Chair*

Erin P. Forry

Jennifer Breaux

Subcommittee Members Attending Virtually

Peter M. Vallone, Ph.D.

Subcommittee Members Not Present

George C. Maha, Ph.D.

Staff Members Present

Elizabeth Ballard, Assistant Biology Program Manager

Linda C. Jackson, Director

Bradford C. Jenkins, Forensic Biology Program Manager

David Koppenhaver, Eastern Laboratory Director

Farryl Sorokin, PERK Tracking System Coordinator

Call to Order by Subcommittee Chair

Dr. Corrado called the meeting of the Forensic Biology Subcommittee (“Subcommittee”) to order at 9:00 a.m.

Director Linda Jackson verified that a quorum of the Board was present and addressed the remote participation of Dr. Peter Vallone who participated remotely from Gaithersburg, MD, pursuant to the Policy on Individual Participation in Scientific Advisory Committee Meetings by Electronic Means and in accordance with Virginia Code §2.2-3708.3, because the meeting location was more than 60 miles from his primary residence.

Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Corrado asked if there were any changes that needed to be made to the draft agenda. No changes were requested. Dr. Corrado then called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Erin Forry made the motion, which was seconded and passed by unanimous vote of the Subcommittee.

Adoption of Draft Minutes from the October 12, 2021, Subcommittee Meeting

42 Dr. Corrado asked if there were any changes that needed to be made to the draft minutes from the
43 October 12, 2021, meeting. No changes were requested. Dr. Corrado then called for a motion to
44 adopt the previous minutes. Erin Forry made the motion, which was seconded and passed by
45 unanimous vote of the Subcommittee.

46 **Validation Discussion**

47 In advance of the meeting, the members of the Subcommittee were provided documentation
48 concerning the validation of a new DNA quantitation instrument (PowerQuant® using the
49 QuantStudio™ 5), that had previously been implemented by the Forensic Biology section.

50 Bradford Jenkins, Forensic Biology Program Manager, informed the Subcommittee that all four
51 DFS Labs are currently using PowerQuant® and conducted independent performance checks and
52 all associated validations are available to all staff on the DFS shared drive. Only the Central Lab's
53 validations have been provided for review.

54 Multiple questions were raised from the Subcommittee members, and discussion ensued regarding
55 the time span from when the validations were completed and their review and what extraction
56 techniques are being used.

57 The Subcommittee members requested that DFS provide more review time for large amounts of
58 documents prior to the meetings in the future.

59 Once the discussion concluded, Dr. Corrado asked for a motion to recommend closure of the
60 review of the validation to the full Scientific Advisory Committee. Erin Forry made a motion to
61 close the Subcommittee's review of the validation, which was seconded and passed by unanimous
62 vote of the Subcommittee. Peter Vallone abstained from voting as he was not able to fully review
63 the documents provided prior to the meeting.

64 **Public Comment**

65 No member of the public was present to provide comment.

66 **Adjournment**

67 Dr. Corrado asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Erin Forry made a motion to adjourn the
68 meeting, which was seconded and passed by unanimous vote of the Subcommittee. The meeting
69 adjourned at 9:30 a.m.