

1 **Draft Minutes**  
2 **Meeting of the Forensic Science Board**  
3 **Department of Forensic Science**  
4 **April 20, 2026**  
5  
6

7 **Board Members Present**

8 Major Richard Boyd, Designee for Virginia State Police Superintendent Jeffrey Katz  
9 Graven Craig, Esquire  
10 Jae K. Davenport, Deputy Attorney General, Designee of Attorney General Jay Jones  
11 Officer Allen Evans, Kilmarnock Police Department  
12 William Gormley, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner  
13 Karl Hade, Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia  
14 Kristen Howard, Designee for Charniele Herring, Chair of the Virginia State Crime Commission  
15 Caroline Juran, R.Ph., Executive Director, Virginia Board of Pharmacy  
16 George C. Maha, Ph.D., Scientific Advisory Committee Member  
17 Ashaki McNeil, Director, Department of Criminal Justice Services  
18 Richard P. Meyers, Scientific Advisory Committee Member, *Vice Chair*  
19 Shayne Wyatt, Designee for Director of the Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services Denise  
20 Toney, Ph.D.  
21 Delegate Vivian Watts, Designee for Delegate Patrick Hope, Chair of the House Courts of  
22 Justice  
23

24 **Board Member Present Virtually**

25 Senator Russet Perry, Designee for Senator Scott Surovell, Chair of the Senate Courts of Justice  
26

27 **Legal Counsel for the Forensic Science Board**

28 Kelci Block, Esquire, Office of the Attorney General  
29

30 **Board Member Absent**

31 Eric Olsen, Commonwealth's Attorney, Stafford County  
32

33 **DFS Staff Members Present**

34 Elizabeth Ballard, Forensic Biology Program Manager  
35 David A. Barron, Ph.D., Deputy Director  
36 Donna Carter, Director of Finance and Administration  
37 Heather Ford, Sr. Legal Assistant  
38 James Hutchings, Ph.D., Toxicology Program Manager  
39 Linda C. Jackson, Director  
40 Amy Jenkins, Chief Deputy Director  
41 David Koppenhaver, Eastern Laboratory Director  
42 Alka B. Lohmann, Director of Technical Services  
43 Jessica Norton, Legal Assistant Supervisor  
44 Kevin Patrick, Western Laboratory Director  
45 David Siecker, Communications and Executive Support Specialist  
46 Julie Smith, Director of Human Resources

47 Farryl Sorokin, Forensic Science Board Secretary  
48 Ellen Spain, Forensic Evidence Program Manager  
49 Rebecca Wagner, Ph.D., Chemistry Research Section Supervisor  
50 Robyn Weimer, Chemistry Program Manager

51

### 52 **Call to Order**

53 After verifying that a quorum of the Board was present, Richard Meyers, Vice Chair of the  
54 Forensic Scientific Board (“Board” or “FSB”), called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

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56 Two members arrived after the meeting was called to order, Graven Craig arrived at 9:41 a.m. and  
57 Dr. Gormley arrived at 9:48 a.m., however, the quorum was not affected.

58

59 Chief Deputy Director Amy Jenkins stated for the record that Senator Perry was  
60 participating remotely due to a work commitment pursuant to the Board’s Policy on Participation  
61 of Forensic Science Board Members in Meetings by Electronic Means Pursuant to Virginia Code  
62 § 2.2-3708.3. Senator Perry would be participating by Teams from Loudoun County, Virginia.

### 63 **Adoption of Agenda**

64 Vice Chair Meyers advised that the first order of business was the adoption of the draft agenda for  
65 the meeting and noted that the agenda was previously shared with the Board members by Ms.  
66 Sorokin. No changes were requested. Vice Chair Meyers then called for a motion to adopt the  
67 agenda. Dr. Maha made the motion, which was seconded and passed by unanimous vote of the  
68 Board.

69

### 70 **Approval of Draft Minutes of the January 7, 2026 Board Meeting**

71 Vice Chair Meyers asked if there were any proposed changes to the draft minutes of the January  
72 7, 2026 meeting that were previously provided. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve  
73 the minutes. Delegate Watts made the motion, which was seconded and passed by unanimous vote  
74 of the Board.

75

### 76 **DFS Director’s Report**

77 Director Jackson provided her presentation related to various new and ongoing activities of the  
78 Department. Below are some key points of her presentation:

- 79
- 80 • The Central Laboratory Capital Project is complete, and all DFS operations have moved to  
81 the new laboratory. OCME is the midst of their move. DFS will maintain the former  
82 laboratory in Richmond until the property is sold. Director Jackson discussed the  
83 mechanisms DFS implemented during the move to document evidence relocation from the  
84 former laboratory to the new facility for chain of custody purposes. Staff are currently  
85 working to get casework back online. A ribbon cutting ceremony is tentatively scheduled  
86 for June 3, 2026.
  - 87 • The Department’s accreditation was renewed by its accrediting body, ANSI National  
Accreditation Board (ANAB) in January 2026.

- 88 • The Department’s agency bill was passed during the General Assembly. HB680 removed  
89 the requirement that meetings of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) take place in  
90 the City of Richmond and provided that SAC and FSB members appointed by the Governor  
91 shall serve after the expiration of their term until their successor is appointed. Two  
92 legislative members from the Forensic Science Board, Senator Perry and Delegate Watts,  
93 served as co-patrons of the bill.
- 94 • DFS received the first shipment of the new Breath Alcohol instruments, the Dräger  
95 Alcotest® 9510, on April 17, 2026. DFS Breath Alcohol staff will validate the new  
96 instrument and begin planning for their deployment around the Commonwealth. Officers  
97 will need to be trained and licensed on the new instrument.
- 98 • DFS submitted the *Report of Screening of Destroyed DUI/DUID Samples Tested in*  
99 *Calendar Year 2025* to the Virginia DMV Highway Safety Office as required by  
100 Appropriation language for DFS.
- 101 • DFS continues to transfer firearms cases from the Western Laboratory to the other regional  
102 laboratories. Director Jackson reminded the Board that firearms comparisons had been  
103 halted in the Western Laboratory in April 2025 and subsequently removed from the  
104 Western Laboratory’s scope of accreditation. She provided an update about the ongoing  
105 corrective action that led to those actions being taken.

106  
107 Director Jackson requested Board approval for the acceptance of funds for two grant applications  
108 made to the DMV Highway Safety Office for funding to support the Breath Alcohol and  
109 Toxicology Sections.

110  
111 Vice Chair Meyers asked for a motion to approve the acceptance of funds for the two grant  
112 projects, if awarded. Ms. Howard made the motion, which was seconded and passed by unanimous  
113 vote of the Board.

114  
115 **Old Business**

116 Dr. Christina Barnes Arrington (Virginia State Crime Commission) provided a status update on  
117 the review of Mary Jane Burton cases. Additionally, she outlined the provisions of HB 2730 and  
118 SB 1465, legislation enacted in 2025, pertaining to the independent panel review of Burton’s  
119 testing, analysis, and testimony, to determine whether she engaged in a pattern of misconduct.

120 Chief Deputy Director Jenkins provided an update on the notification status related to the Mary  
121 Jane Burton cases and informed the Committee that DFS has sent 537 notices to convicted  
122 offenders. DFS will continue to send notifications as the Virginia State Crime Commission  
123 identifies additional convicted persons.

124 Chief Deputy Director Jenkins provided an update on the 2026 Amendments to 6 VAC 40-30 and  
125 6 VA 40-50 Required Due to Central Laboratory Relocation (Proposed Fast Track) that was  
126 initiated in October. She learned this was not necessary as there is a code provision, Virginia Code  
127 § 30-150, that allows for minor changes to the administrative code to be made by a simpler Forms  
128 process. Based on this information, Chief Deputy Director Jenkins was asked by the Department  
129 of Planning and Budget to withdraw the proposed fast-track action. She requested that the Board  
130 retroactively approve the withdrawal of the Fast Track regulation.

131 Delegate Watts made the motion to retroactively approve the withdrawal of the proposed Fast  
132 Track regulation, which was seconded and passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

133

134 **New Business**

135 Chief Deputy Director Jenkins provided an overview of several pieces of legislation recently  
136 passed in the General Assembly session that could affect DFS. She thanked Delegate Watts and  
137 Senator Perry for serving as co-patrons for House Bill 680. After her presentation, Delegate Watts  
138 expressed her concerns in enforcement of nitrous oxide in relation to HB648/SB360 and  
139 encouraged dialogue within the law enforcement community to address enforcement.

140

141 Chief Deputy Director Jenkins informed the Committee that, with the passage of House Bill 680,  
142 the Forensic Science Bylaws required updates. The Board was provided a summary of the edits,  
143 along with a copy of edit suggestions for review. Chief Deputy Director Jenkins informed Board  
144 members that, pursuant to the Bylaws, these proposed changes will be voted on at the July 2026  
145 meeting.

146 Vice Chair Meyers informed the Board that, in accordance with the Bylaws, the terms of Chair  
147 and Vice Chair are for one year, so they must elect a Chair and Vice Chair.

148 Nominations for Chair of the Forensic Science Board were requested. Ms. Howard nominated  
149 Caroline Juran, which was seconded and passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

150 Nominations for Vice Chair of the Forensic Science Board were requested. Ms. Howard nominated  
151 Jae K. Davenport, which was seconded and passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

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153 **Public Comment**

154 An opportunity for public comment was provided. No members of the public commented.

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156 **Confirm Next Meeting Date**

157 Vice Chair Meyers stated that the next meeting will be held on July 15, 2026 and will be virtual.

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159 **Adjournment**

160 Vice Chair Meyers called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Officer Evans made the motion,  
161 which was seconded and passed by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m. A  
162 tour of the new Central Laboratory was provided for Board members at the conclusion of the  
163 meeting.

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