

1 **Draft Minutes**
2 **Meeting of the Forensic Biology Subcommittee**
3 **of the Scientific Advisory Committee**
4 **October 12, 2021**
5 **Department of Forensic Science, Central Laboratory, Classroom 1**
6

7 **Subcommittee Members Present**
8

9 Kathleen Corrado, Ph.D. (participated remotely pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3708.2)
10 Erin P. Forry
11 George C. Maha, Ph.D.
12 Kristin Schelling, *Chair*
13 Peter M. Vallone, Ph.D. (participated remotely pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3708.2)
14

15 **Staff Members Present**
16

17 Elizabeth Ballard, Forensic Biology Principal Forensic Scientist
18 David A. Barron, Ph.D., Deputy Director
19 Nancy L. Batterson, Forensic Administrative Specialist III, *Secretary*
20 Bill Eggleston, Ph.D., Post-doctoral Fellow
21 Susan Greenspoon, Ph.D., Forensic Molecular Biologist
22 Katya N. Herndon, Chief Deputy Director
23 Linda C. Jackson, Director
24 Amy C. Jenkins, Department Counsel
25 Bradford C. Jenkins, Forensic Biology Program Manager
26 Alka B. Lohmann, Director of Technical Services
27 Lisa Schiermeier-Wood, Principal Forensic Scientist
28

29 **Call to Order by Subcommittee Chair**
30

31 Ms. Schelling called the meeting of the Forensic Biology Subcommittee (“Subcommittee”) to
32 order at 3:01 p.m. She asked Katya Herndon, Chief Deputy Director, to address the remote
33 participation of Dr. Kathleen Corrado and Dr. Peter Vallone.
34

35 Ms. Herndon advised that Dr. Corrado and Dr. Vallone would be participating remotely pursuant
36 to the SAC’s Policy on Individual Participation in Scientific Advisory Committee Meetings by
37 Electronic Means and in accordance with Virginia Code §2.2-3708.2. She noted that Dr. Corrado
38 would be participating by telephone from Syracuse, NY, and Dr. Vallone would be participating
39 by telephone from Potomac, MD. Both were unable to attend in person due to work commitments.
40

41 Ms. Schelling welcomed two new members to the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and the
42 Forensic Biology Subcommittee, Erin Forry and Peter Vallone, and had members and staff
43 introduce themselves.
44

46 **Adoption of Agenda**

47 Ms. Schelling advised that the first order of business was the adoption of the draft agenda for the
48 meeting and noted that the agenda was previously shared with the Subcommittee members. Dr.
49 Maha made a motion to adopt the agenda, which was seconded by Ms. Forry and passed by
50 unanimous vote of the Subcommittee.

51 **Adoption of Draft Minutes from the July 14, 2020 Subcommittee Meeting**

52 Ms. Schelling noted that the draft minutes from the July 14, 2020 meeting of the Subcommittee
53 were previously shared and asked if there were any proposed changes. Being none, Dr. Maha made
54 a motion that the minutes be approved, which was seconded by Ms. Forry and adopted by
55 unanimous vote, with Ms. Forry abstaining.

56 **Discussion of STRmix Validation Summary**

57 In advance of the meeting, the members of the Subcommittee were provided the Department's
58 STRmix Validation Summary. Bradford Jenkins, Forensic Biology Program Manager, gave a
59 presentation on the Department's plans to implement STRmix, a probabilistic modeling software
60 system used for reporting likelihood ratios for DNA mixtures.

61 The Subcommittee members provided comments and asked questions about the STRmix
62 Validation Summary, which Mr. Jenkins and Dr. Greenspoon answered.

63 The Subcommittee members positively acknowledged the work performed on the STRmix
64 Validation Summary.

65 Once the discussion concluded, Ms. Schelling asked for a motion to close the review of the
66 STRmix Validation Summary. Dr. Maha made a motion to close the Subcommittee's review of
67 the STRmix Validation Summary, which was seconded by Ms. Forry and passed by unanimous
68 vote of the Subcommittee.

69 **Public Comment**

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

71 **Adjournment**

72 Ms. Schelling asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Maha made a motion to adjourn the
73 meeting, which was seconded by Ms. Forry and passed by unanimous vote of the Subcommittee.
74 The meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

75

76

77

78