



November 3, 2023

Empire State Development Corporation

633 3rd Ave
37th Floor
New York, NY

Videoconference Locations:

107 College Place, Life Sciences Complex, Syracuse, NY
Shapiro Bldg., Rm. 5044, 70 Francis Street, Boston, MA
9040 Town Center Parkway, Lakewood Ranch, FL

9:05 AM – 10:14 AM

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

DNA Subcommittee Members in Attendance:

Frederick Bieber, Ph.D.
Michael Coble, Ph.D.¹
Kathleen Corrado, Ph.D.
Katherine Gettings, Ph.D.
Kenneth Kidd, Ph.D.
Jenifer Smith, Ph.D.
Amanda Sozer, Ph.D.

DCJS Staff in Attendance:

Jill Dooley
Colleen Glavin, Esq.
Natasha Harvin-Locklear, Esq.
Katherine Mayberry
Shelley Palmer
Brianna Robinson

¹ In accordance with a resolution and related procedures regarding the use of videoconferencing under extraordinary circumstances, which were adopted by the DNA Subcommittee on May 12, 2023 and added to its bylaws, Dr. Coble participated by videoconferencing from a private location due to extraordinary circumstances and, thus, shall not count toward a quorum, but was able to participate and vote as there was a quorum of members at physical location(s) open to the public.

Lindsey Rockwell
Elizabeth Suparmanto

Other Attendees:

Geoff Crary – NYC OCME, Legal
Karen Dooling – Nassau County Division of Forensic Services
Kyra McKay – NYC OCME, Department of Forensic Biology
Craig O’Connor – NYC OCME, Department of Forensic Biology
Meredith Rosenberg – NYC OCME, Department of Forensic Biology
Tiffany Vasquez - NYC OCME, Department of Forensic Biology
Raymond Valerio – Queens District Attorney

*Approximate
Video Times*

The Chair, Dr. Coble, opened the meeting by stating that the DNA Subcommittee is conducting its meeting in a hybrid situation with members present both in NYC and virtually. Dr. Coble then conducted a roll call as members of the Subcommittee were in attendance in New York and virtually. A quorum was established with 6 members present (Bieber, Corrado, Gettings, Kidd, Smith, Sozer); one member participated from a private location due to extraordinary circumstances (Coble²).

00:00:00 –
00:01:10

Dr. Coble then asked for a motion to approve the November 3, 2023, agenda. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Dr. Sozer, seconded by Dr. Smith, and approved unanimously.

00:01:11 –
00:02:20

The Chair then asked Subcommittee members for questions or comments on the minutes from the August 4, 2023, meeting of the Subcommittee. Dr. Gettings made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Dr. Sozer, and approved with six votes (Bieber, Coble, Corrado, Gettings, Kidd, Sozer) and 1 abstention (Smith).

00:02:23 –
00:03:33

Next, the Subcommittee reviewed Accreditation/Laboratory updates from the Nassau County Office of the Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, New York City OCME Department of Forensic Biology, Onondaga County Center for Forensic Sciences Laboratory, Suffolk County Crime Laboratory, and the Westchester County Department of Laboratories and Research Division of Forensic Science. Representatives from the laboratories were available to answer questions as needed.

00:03:34 –
00:15:35

The Chair then moved to Old Business. A verbal update was provided by Dr. Dooley on the Partial Match program. Special Counsel, Natasha Harvin-Locklear, then provided an update regarding the Familial Search program. The Court of Appeals reversed the lower Court’s decision, deciding that the Commission did have authority to promulgate the Familial search regulations and there was no abuse of discretion. The Familial Search program has resumed. Dr. Dooley then stated that DCJS has notified law enforcement agencies, district attorney’s offices and laboratories of the decision. There were no updates regarding CODIS Bulletins.

00:15:37 –
00:20:05

² See FN. 1 above.

The Chair then moved to New Business with Dr. Dooley providing an update regarding the 2023 CODIS Audit memo.

00:20:07 –
00:21:12

The Subcommittee then reviewed disclosures from the Erie County Central Police Services Forensic Laboratory, New York State Police Crime Laboratory, and Westchester County Department of Laboratories and Research Division of Forensic Science. Representatives from the laboratories were available to respond to members' questions.

00:21:17 –
00:30:15

Next, Dr. Coble requested a motion to enter into 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. The motion was made by Dr. Sozer, seconded by Dr. Corrado. The motion was approved unanimously.

00:30:24 –
00:31:40

The Subcommittee adjourned into Executive Session with all present members in attendance. Executive Session commenced at 9:37 AM and concluded at 10:13 AM. The Subcommittee reconvened the Open Meeting and Dr. Coble stated no action was taken in Executive Session.

The Chair then stated that the next meeting of the Subcommittee will take place on February 9, 2024. A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Kidd, seconded by Dr. Smith, and approved unanimously.

00:32:38 –
00:33:50

Note: Video of the meeting is available at <https://www.youtube.com/user/nyspublicsafety>