



August 14, 2020

**Division of Criminal Justice Services
Virtual Meeting¹**

10:02 AM - 11:21 AM

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

DNA Subcommittee Members in Attendance:

Frederick Bieber, Ph.D.
Allison Eastman, Ph.D.
Katherine Gettings, Ph.D.
Kenneth Kidd, Ph.D.
Jenifer Smith, Ph.D.
Amanda Sozer, Ph.D.
Bruce Weir, Ph.D.

DCJS Staff in Attendance:

Jill Dooley
Natasha Harvin-Locklear
Shelley Palmer
Jackalynne Vimislik

Dr. Weir opened the meeting by explaining that each member of the Subcommittee was in attendance via the web conference from their own locations. He noted that all members of the Subcommittee were present.

*Approximate
video times*

00:00:00 –
00:02:48

Dr. Weir then asked for a motion to approve the agenda which was made by Dr. Bieber, seconded by Dr. Eastman and approved unanimously.

00:02:48 –
00:04:19

The Chair then asked Subcommittee members for questions or comments on the minutes from the May 1, 2020 Subcommittee meeting. Dr. Eastman suggested an edit to amend a typographical error. Dr. Gettings made a motion to accept the minutes with the mentioned edit, Dr Kidd seconded the motion and it was approved with six votes for, and one abstention (Bieber).

00:04:19 –
00:06:42

¹ Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19), and pursuant to Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1, issued on March 12, 2020, suspending the Open Meetings Law and authorizing the attendance of meetings telephonically or other similar service.

Next, the Subcommittee reviewed Accreditation/Laboratory updates from the Erie County Central Police Services Forensic Laboratory, Monroe County Crime Laboratory, and Westchester County Division of Forensic Sciences. Additionally, the Chair requested a motion that a letter be sent to personnel noted in the notification from Westchester County; thanking them for their service and congratulating them on their retirement. The motion was made by Dr. Eastman, seconded by Dr. Bieber, and approved unanimously.

00:06:42 –
00:11:41

The Chair then moved to Old Business. A verbal update was provided on the Partial Match program, Familial Search program, and CODIS Bulletins. Then a review and discussion of the updated draft changes to the Partial Match, Familial Search, New York State Regulations, and Implementation Plan took place. A motion was made by Dr. Smith to send a binding recommendation to the NYS Commission on Forensic Science approving the suggested changes. The motion was seconded by Dr. Bieber, and approved unanimously.

00:11:41 –
00:34:15

Under New Business, OFS Director Dr. Jill Dooley provided Subcommittee members with an update regarding laboratory assessments. Members then reviewed and discussed a letter submitted by the NYS Biology Technical Working Group (TWG) regarding STRMix. TWG members, laboratory personnel, and STRMix creator Dr. John Buckleton were available for comment.

00:34:15 –
00:45:00

The Subcommittee then reviewed Laboratory Disclosures from the Nassau County Division of Forensic Sciences, Onondaga County Center for Forensic Sciences, and New York State Police Crime Laboratory. Members of the laboratories were available to answer questions as needed.

00:45:00 –
01:17:47

The Chair stated that the next meeting of the Subcommittee will be take place virtually on November 6, 2020. A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Kidd, seconded by Dr. Bieber, and approved unanimously.

01:17:46 –
01:20:10

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