



TEXAS FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION

*1700 North Congress Ave., Suite 445
Austin, Texas 78701*

TEXAS FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

April 11, 2025, at 9:15 AM

Barbara Jordan State Office Building
1601 Congress Avenue
Room 2.035
Austin, Texas 78701

This meeting of the Texas Forensic Science Commission (Commission) will be conducted as a videoconference meeting pursuant to Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code Section 551.127. Members of the Commission and staff may appear remotely. The Commission's officer presiding over the meeting will be present at the physical location stated on this agenda. Members of the public may attend the meeting in person at the physical location listed above, where they may participate and make public comment. The Commission will endeavor to livestream the meeting from its website at www.fsc.texas.gov, but the livestream will not include an option for the public to make comments remotely.

During this meeting, the Commission may consider and possibly take action on the following agenda items. The Commission may take breaks as necessary. The Commission may meet in closed session on any item listed below, as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

1. Call meeting to order. Roll call for members. Excuse any absent board members.
2. Review and adopt minutes from the January 31, 2025, quarterly commission meeting.
3. Office administrative update (FY2025 budget status report; update on implementation of ALiS licensing platform). (General Counsel Garcia/Associate General Counsel Tomlin)
4. Discuss and consider complaints and laboratory self-disclosures pending from the January 31, 2025, quarterly commission meeting and new complaints and laboratory self-disclosures received through March 21, 2025, as detailed below. (Commissioner Daniel)

Self-Disclosures Received as of March 21, 2025:

1. No. 24.59; Austin Forensic Science Department (Evidence)
2. No. 25.06; Bexar County Criminal Investigation Laboratory (Seized Drugs)
3. No. 25.10; Quality Forensic Toxicology (Toxicology – Blood Alcohol)
4. No. 25.11; Houston Forensic Science Center (Forensic Biology/DNA)
5. No. 25.12; Houston Forensic Science Center (Crime Scene Investigation)
6. No. 25.13; Corpus Christi Police Department Crime Laboratory (Latent Prints/Friction Ridge)



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7. No. 25.14; Dallas Police Department Crime Laboratory (Crime Scene Investigation)
8. No. 25.05; Department of Public Safety – Midland (Seized Drugs)

Complaints Pending from January 31, 2025, Quarterly Meeting

9. No. 24.46; Nilles, Patrick (Forensic Forgery Experts; Document Examination)

Reconsideration of Complaint from January 31, 2025, Meeting Pursuant to 37 Texas Administrative Code § 651.305(h)

10. No. 24.58; Schuette, Kevin (Department of Public Safety – Tyler; Seized Drugs)

Staff Dismissals

11. No. 25.07; Wraymon, Hill (Environmental Testing)
12. No. 25.08; Vela, Alvaro (Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences; Autopsy)
13. No. 25.15; Taylor, Rhonda (Southwestern Institute of Forensic Science; Autopsy)

5. Update from staff and review and possible adoption of final investigative report for complaint No. 24.58; Schuette, Kevin (Department of Public Safety – Tyler; Seized Drugs).
6. Discuss status of crime laboratory accreditation program, including:
 - a. Summary of accreditation activities, communications, and reports received since the January 31, 2025, quarterly commission meeting;
 - b. Summary of reported non-consensus proficiency testing results from accredited crime laboratories; and
 - c. Discuss and vote on rule changes including, but not limited to, amendments to § 651.5, to add Rapid DNA to the list of forensic disciplines subject to Commission accreditation requirements.
7. Discuss updates from licensing advisory committee, including:
 - a. Report on licenses issued and renewed;
 - b. Report and discussion of items from April 10, 2025, Licensing Advisory Committee meeting;
 - c. Review and possibly adopt any coursework recommendations from Licensing Advisory Committee;



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- d. Discuss and vote on recommended rule changes including, but not limited to, amendments to § 651.222, Voluntary Licensure Forensic Analyst and Forensic Technician Licensing Requirements, to qualify versions of the required Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) Course 2106 Intermediate Crime Scene Search that were revised or established prior to 2019 and taught by either a TCOLE-certified instructor or a Commission-qualified subject matter expert;
 - e. Discuss and vote on recommended rule changes including, but not limited to, amendments to § 651.207, Forensic Analyst and Forensic Technician Licensing Requirements, Including Initial License Term and Fee, Minimum Education and Coursework, General Forensic Examination, Proficiency Monitoring and Mandatory Legal and Professional Responsibility Training, to require forensic biology/DNA analyst compliance with current coursework requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing rather than the older, 2011 requirements; and
 - f. Report on licensing issues identified by laboratories.
8. Update from investigative panel for self-disclosure No. 24.32; (DNA Reference Laboratory; Forensic Biology/DNA).
 9. Update from investigative panel on complaint No. 24.45; Thiessen, Mark (Department of Public Safety Houston; Toxicology).
 10. Update from staff and review and possible adoption of final investigative report for self-disclosure No. 25.01; (Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences; Toxicology).
 11. Report from the Commission's Firearm/Toolmark Working Group meetings, including the February 10, 2025, March 11, 2025, and April 2, 2025, Firearm/Toolmark Method Conformance Working Group meetings, and the February 14, 2025, March 7, 2025, and April 4, 2025, Firearm/Toolmark Blind Verification Working Group meetings. Review, discuss and possibly adopt recommended Firearm/Toolmark blind verification policy.
 12. Update and discuss the Commission's upcoming April 17, 2025, statewide task force on Rapid DNA meeting.
 13. Update on manufacturing issues with Qiagen EZ1/EZ2 investigator kits. (Ziemak/Stout)
 14. Discuss recent and upcoming forensic development training and education projects, including the Commission's March 27-28, 2025, DNA Technical Leader meeting in Waco.
 15. Update from Department of Public Safety on Crime Laboratory Records Connect portal.



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16. Update from the Texas Association of Crime Laboratory Directors. (Stout)
17. Consider possible agenda items for next quarterly meeting.
18. Schedule and location of future panel and quarterly commission meetings including, but not limited, to the July 25, 2025; October 24, 2025; January 30, 2026; and April 24, 2026, quarterly commission meetings.
19. Public comment.
20. Adjourn.

To increase public access to meetings, the Commission will endeavor to live-stream the quarterly meetings on its website at www.fsc.texas.gov. However, the Commission's decision to live-stream any particular meeting does not necessarily mean that all meetings will be live-streamed. Our ability to live-stream depends on budgetary and logistical considerations at any given meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Commission Coordinator, Chelsea Estes, at (512) 936-0770 or Chelsea.Estes@fsc.texas.gov.

Persons with disabilities may contact Ms. Estes at the contact information above at least seven (7) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements may be made.