



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
One Ashburton Place, Room 2133
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

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CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

TERRENCE REIDY
Secretary

KARYN E. POLITO
Lt. Governor

Posted: June 15, 2022

Place: Microsoft Teams
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Phone Conference ID: # 756 950 491#

Pursuant to the provisions of G.L.C. 30A and 940 CMR 29.00 et seq, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the **Forensic Science Oversight Board** to take place on Friday, June 17, 2022, from 10:00am-2:00pm.

FSOB AGENDA

Members Present:

Robin Cotton
Sabra Botch Jones
Adrienne Lynch
Ann Marie Mires
Judge Nancy Gertner
Lisa Kavannaugh
Lucy Davis
Richard Lempert
Ira Gant

1. Minutes Approval

- i. Edit to correct the spelling of Ira Gants name in the minutes.
- ii. Minutes have been approved.

2. Familial DNA

- i. A. Mires has not received any updates regarding the status of the bill.
- ii. Chair Collins will follow up with EOPSS Legislative Director regarding the status if the bill.

3. BPD Crime Lab Presentation

- i. The BPD Crime lab gave a presentation to the board.



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- ii. T. Palmbach: is BPD tracking cases assigned by the Track Kit system
 - a. K. Kosiorek: Track Kit is for Sexual Assault kits only and is used throughout the state. But BPD has been using a tracking system for cases since 2015; once evidence is received it is entered into the system and then tested.
- iii. L. Davis: It seems space constraints are an issue; has there been discussion to rectify the issue?
 - a. K. Kosiorek: No, however the Command Staff is supportive and aware. Before the pandemic BPD had a hearing with the Boston Mayor to discuss however with the election transition it did not happen. The staff can typically find a solution but soon running out of solution given the constraints.
- iv. L. Davis: Since there are three separate units that are all interacting has that caused space issues and have you had any issues with analysis.
 - a. K. Kosiorek: Current Structure is challenging however all unit leaders made the decision to use a single quality manual.
- v. L. Davis: Do you exclusively serve the Boston area or can other locations submit evidence?
 - a. K. Kosiorek: Typically we only serve Boston; occasionally we support Boston College and Northeastern and the MBTA. We will work with some surrounding towns if needed.
- vi. T. Palmbach: Are there plans to change units to solely civilian to minimize the leave or turn over rate?
 - a. K. Kosiorek: As it pertains to the Crime Scene Response Unit there is a labor agreement that it will not be civilian. With respect to the firearms unit there is conversation to civilianize however that involves four bargaining units and we currently do not have a commissioner.



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- vii.** A. Mires: The space constraint is apparent on the tour of the lab. Can you speak more to how you have repurposed the space to accommodate the needs of the lab?

 - a.** K. Kosiorek: Space has been repurposed multiple times. The lab has absorbed 6 small conference rooms and moved walls. The lab has been informed that there is no more power supply to bring in new machines. Latent Print unit recently bought a new machine that can not be used due to this issue.
- viii.** C. Goodband and L. Davis: Can you speak more about the ventilation issue within firearms?

 - a.** K. Morade: Firearms analysts are currently lead tested and we are working on providing hearing tests as well. Firearms is connected to the central HVAC system that connects the entire building however there is a filtration system on the firearms HVAC.
- ix.** Chair Collins: The viewing policy for firearms testing allows the defense expert to view the testing. How does the lab accommodate?

 - a.** K. Kosiorek: a court order is required. If the DA and the Defense agree it is allowed. If the defense expert comes in, we must shut down the rest of the lab. We have cameras installed in the DNA hoods which you can view the testing from another room. However, we need an attorney's assistant with the camera instillation; due to space constraints we can not provide the safe distance from the firearms analyst during the testing.
- x.** R. Lempert: How are the analysts findings validated across the disciplines?

 - a.** K. Kosiorek: In training the results are known to the administrators and not the analysts. In the Forensic Division we have implemented a blind mock testing and the results show that the system works very well.
- xi.** T. Palmbach: What does the lab do regarding controlled substances?



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- a. K.Kosiorek: We do rely on other labs for assistance for controlled substances; and we do assist additional labs if needed.

4. Spring Symposium

- i. The working group shared their proposed agenda which will be voted on in the next FSOB meeting.
- ii. A. Lynch proposes the group identify who the target audience is. She also recommends that the group discuss the work that was done regarding the Standards of Forensic Science.
- iii. The Symposium will be held in October.

5. July and August Meeting Schedule

- i. The week prior to the scheduled meeting A.Putvinskis will reach out to members to ensure there will be a quorum.

6. Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated Within 48 Hours of the Meeting

7. Public Comments

- ii. No members of the public entered comment