

Illinois Forensic Science Commission

Public Policy Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

February 25, 2026, 1 p.m. meeting

I. Call to order

Ms. Watroba called the meeting to order at approximately 1 p.m. The meeting was held via Web Ex.

II. Roll call

The following individuals were present:

1. Dr. Ponni Arunkumar, FS Commission Member, subcommittee member
2. Jillian Baker, FS Commission Member, subcommittee member
3. Claire Dragovich, FS Commission Member, subcommittee member
4. Katherine Drummond, FS Commission Member, subcommittee chairperson
5. Amy Watroba, Executive Director-Forensic Science Commission

III. Review/Approval of Minutes

1. The Meeting Minutes of 1/23/26 were approved.

IV. Discussion:

1. Discussion and possible action- new subcommittee chairperson.

Katherine Drummond volunteered to serve as subcommittee chairperson following the departure of John Hanlon. A motion to approve Katherine Drummond as subcommittee chairperson was approved.

2. Continued discussion on complaint resource document.

The subcommittee reviewed and discussed a draft complaint resource document. When the subcommittee submits the document to the Commission for approval, they will request the ability to update the document as needed without Commission approval. Any revised version will have the revision dates noted in the document. Ms. Watroba will get contact information from other labs. The subcommittee agreed by consensus vote to present the draft complaint resource document to the Commission at the March quarterly meeting for approval.

V. Old Business
None.

VI. New Business

Ms. Dragovich shared that the State Police released a new form to be used during sexual assault collections related to consent to testing. It is available on the State Police website.

Ms. Watroba provided a summary of presentations she attended at the AAFS Annual Conference. There were several presentations on Activity Level Reporting (ALR). She also attended presentations about Rapid DNA and a lawsuit in New Jersey related to a free-standing DNA database was mentioned during one presentation. The subcommittee discussed continuing to monitor and discuss the issue of free-standing DNA databases for Rapid DNA.

VII. Public Comment

No public comment offered.

VIII. Next Meeting/Adjournment

The next meeting will be scheduled via Doodle Poll. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:51 p.m.