

Illinois Forensic Science Commission

Quality Systems Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2026, 12:00 p.m. meeting

I. Call to order

Subcommittee Chairperson Claire Dragovich called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 p.m. The meeting was held via Web Ex.

II. Roll call

The following people were present:

1. Jillian Baker, FS Commission Member, Subcommittee Member
2. Jeffrey Buford, FS Commission Member, Subcommittee Member
3. Claire Dragovich, FS Commission Member, Subcommittee Chairperson
4. Judge Art Hill (ret.), FS Commission Member, Subcommittee Member
5. Frances Kammuller, Subcommittee Member
6. Joanne Liu, Subcommittee Member
7. Peter St. Andre, FS Commission Member, Subcommittee Member
8. Amy Watroba, Executive Director-Forensic Science Commission
9. Maya Dukmasova*

(*denotes individual who joined meeting after roll call)

III. Review of Minutes:

1. The minutes from the March 19, 2026 subcommittee meeting were approved.

IV. Discussion:

1. Compiling information for and drafting of 2025 Non-Conformity Report for publicly funded ISO 17025 forensic laboratory systems in Illinois.

The subcommittee reviewed and discussed the report of 2025 significant non-conformities received from the Illinois State Police, Division of Forensic Science, Forensic Sciences Command.

V. Old Business

1. Update- Commission Statement and Recommendation in Response to UIC Report.

Ms. Watroba shared that the Commission's Statement and Recommendation in response to the UIC Report was transmitted electronically to the general AFTL email address and the email addresses of the individuals who

communicated with the subcommittee regarding the 2024 SNC Report. The emails were sent the morning after the Commission meeting and the Statement was posted on the Commission webpage that day, as well. Ms. Watroba stated that the Commission has not received any type of communication from UIC/AFTL in response to its Statement. The Commission's statement has been the subject of media stories since it was posted publicly.

2. Review 2024 Significant Non-Conformity Report and discuss option to draft supplemental report.

Ms. Watroba reminded the subcommittee that the UIC Report was issued during the weeks that the subcommittee was finalizing the 2024 SNC Report. At that time, the subcommittee decided to move forward with finalizing the 2024 SNC Report based on the submissions but discussed the option of issuing a supplemental 2024 SNC Report after its review of the UIC Report was complete.

Ms. Watroba suggested that the subcommittee revisit the option of a supplemental 2024 SNC Report as a next step action related to AFTL. Ms. Watroba noted that the final page of the 2024 SNC Report outlined observations regarding corrective actions based on information available to the subcommittee at that time. With additional information related to what corrective actions AFTL did and did not take included in the UIC Report and media stories, the subcommittee could make more specific recommendations about AFTL's corrective actions. A supplemental 2024 SNC Report could be a mechanism for such an action.

The subcommittee discussed options for an addendum or a supplemental report. The subcommittee also discussed some of the additional facts now known related to AFTL's corrective actions for the Delta-8/Delta-9 SNC and the testimony SNC. AFTL chose not to issue amended reports for the D8/D9 issue and did not notify any prosecutor's office(s) about the testimony SNC. Even if they could not identify the case in which the testimony took place, AFTL could have notified the prosecutors in all cases where the specific analyst testified.

Ms. Watroba shared the Commission's statute with the subcommittee and discussion ensued about the subcommittee's options within the scope of the statute. A supplemental 2024 SNC Report is one mechanism by which the subcommittee could make recommendations for the correction of AFTL's SNC pursuant to subsection (b)(4) of the statute. The subcommittee discussed how

a supplemental report would be appropriate given the fact that options for additional corrective actions are readily apparent. A supplemental report would show a progressive timeline in how the Commission responded to the reported 2024 SNCs including that the Commission followed up when more relevant information became available. The subcommittee agreed that Ms. Watroba should start working on possible language for a supplemental 2024 SNC Report.

Ms. Watroba provided a brief update on SB 2998, which is the bill related to complaints. The bill remains in committee. She will provide updates as they become available.

VI. New Business

Judge Hill raised the topic of possible AI applications to Quality Systems and whether there are applications that could assist with identifying and/or preventing instances of non-conforming work. Mr. Buford indicated that the topic has been discussed in the Technology Subcommittee. The subcommittee identified Quality Systems as one of the administrative applications where AI may be beneficial to support the work of humans. The Technology Subcommittee will be hearing from guest speakers and discussing the topic at future meetings. Ms. Watroba will share meeting invites with members of the Quality Systems Subcommittee should they wish to attend those meetings.

VII. Public Comment

Ms. Dukmasova communicated via the meeting chat feature that Dr. Larsen was able to produce an Excel spreadsheet of Ms. Bash's court log at the request of Ms. Stefanson from the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. Ms. Dukmasova stated in the chat that she subsequently obtained the log via a FOIA request. The log listed cases from multiple counties.

VIII. Next Meeting/Adjournment

The next meeting is at 12 p.m. on Thursday, May 14, 2026, on Web Ex. Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:05 p.m.