Illinois Forensic Science Commission

Drugs Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

August 4, 2026, 11:00 a.m. meeting

I. Call to order

Subcommittee Chairperson Jillian Baker called the meeting to order at approximately 11:00 a.m. The meeting was held via Web Ex.

II. Roll call

The following people were present:

1. Jillian Baker, FS Commission Member, Subcommittee Chairperson
2. Jenna Cervantes, Subcommittee Member
3. Jason George, Subcommittee Member
4. Gail Gutierrez, Subcommittee Member
5. Gina Havlik, Subcommittee Member
6. Eryn Maltese, Subcommittee Member
7. Olivia Michalik, Subcommittee Member
8. Amanda Shanbaum, Subcommittee Member
9. Brianna Simpson, Subcommittee Member
10. Peter St. Andre, FS Commission Member, Subcommittee Member
11. Amy Watroba, Executive Director-Forensic Science Commission

III. Discussion/Approval of minutes from July 8, 2026 meeting

1. The minutes from the May 28, 2026, meeting were approved.

IV. Chairperson Report

1. Ms. Baker did not have anything to report.

V. Emerging Drug Working Group Report

1. Ms. Shanbaum reported that the group met once and that steps are being taken to expand membership of the working group. Classification decision may be ready to test this month. The group will not expand to other labs that are doing seized drugs analysis until after the system is established with the three lab systems.

VI. Old Business

1. Reconciling the Illinois Controlled Substances Act with the Federal Register.

This agenda item is now essentially combined with the fentanyl-related compound agenda item so it will be discussed later in the meeting.

2. Sharing information related to emerging drugs-quarterly report and disclaimer.

   The subcommittee discussed the draft Q1 and Q2 reports and suggested edits for the document. The subcommittee discussed and edited the draft disclaimer. Members will offer additional suggestions for disclaimer on the shared drive.

   The subcommittee discussed how to let stakeholders know that the document is available on the website including the Commission's LinkedIn page. The Commission could send the report and notice to the laboratory systems and the lab systems can distribute. Ms. Baker suggested contacting legislators who have shown an interest in drug legislation.

3. Fentanyl-related compound data and possible legislative recommendation.

   Ms. Watroba created a folder in the shared space entitled "Fentanyl Legislation Proposal." The relevant language from SB 1773 is in that folder. The other document is a shared document where members can add language to possibly use to communicate with legislators about any proposed legislation. The subcommittee discussed the language in SB 1773, which tracks the federal legislation. The language of the classifications is in sync with federal legislation, and the examples section includes what is already listed in Illinois, it just proposes relocating the examples. The subcommittee discussed how lab systems report drugs that are controlled by class and how prosecutors charge such cases. If there is a perceived gap the subcommittee can think about how to possibly bridge the gap. The subcommittee discussed what data might be useful to support the legislation. The subcommittee discussed having proposed legislation ready for Commission review at the Commission's December meeting.

   Ms. Baker raised the idea of proposing that fentanyl be controlled by unit similar to how MDMA and LSD are controlled based on the fact that labs are receiving unit forms as tablets.

4. Recommended language for Kratom legislation.

   The Kratom folder includes the proposed language from SB 3160 and HB4737. The subcommittee discussed starting with draft language that addresses the

labs' concerns. The draft language from Ohio might be a starting point. The subcommittee will create a document in the shared space to add thoughts and language. The subcommittee discussed prioritizing the fentanyl legislation.

5. Illinois Hemp Act

   Ms. Baker shared the distillation of the Act and the subcommittee discussed possible interpretations of language in the Act. The subcommittee discussed possible collateral impact of the Act. The Cannabis Control Act remains in place. The most immediate impact on labs will be the changes to CRTA, CCA, or the vehicle code.

VII. New Business
None.

VIII. Public Comment
No public comment offered.

IX. Next Meeting/Adjournment
The next meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.
Meeting adjourned at approximately 12:03 p.m.