Illinois Forensic Science Commission
Drugs Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2026, 9:30 a.m. meeting

I. Call to order

Subcommittee Chairperson Jillian Baker called the meeting to order at approximately 9:30 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. Peter St. Andre, FS Commission Member, 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. Amy Watroba, Executive Director-Forensic Science Commission

*denotes individual who joined meeting after roll call

III. Discussion/Approval of minutes from August 4, 2026 meeting and September 15, 2020 meeting.

1. The minutes from both meetings were approved.

IV. Chairperson Report

1. Ms. Baker shared that she attended the annual meeting of the National Association of Forensic Science Boards last week. Ms. Watroba also attended. Both observed that Illinois may be the only state-level commission with a subcommittee dedicated to seized drugs.

V. Emerging Drug Working Group Report

1. Ms. Shanbaum reported that the group met and that ISP representatives from each lab joined the meeting. The process for raising an issue related to class decisions was rolled out at the meeting. There are two class decisions pending.

VI. Old Business

1. Sharing information related to emerging drugs-quarterly report.

Ms. Havlik is working on the Q3 report and will notify the subcommittee when a draft is available for comment in the shared workspace. She noted that there are a few new drugs that were observed for the first time this year and that those will be included in the "notable" section of the report.

2. Fentanyl-related compound possible legislative recommendation.

   Ms. Watroba shared a draft of proposed legislative language to control fentanyl-related compounds by class in the Illinois Controlled Substances Act. The subcommittee discussed focusing solely on the issue of controlling fentanyl-related compounds by class in one piece of legislation and making any additional proactive recommendations related to controlling emerging drugs in separate legislation. Strategy and timeline for advancing a legislative recommendation to the full Commission and the legislature were discussed.

3. Recommended language for Kratom legislation.

   Ms. Shanbaum noted that Kratom was discussed at this morning's SWGDRUG meeting and that there may be a proposal to control Kratom at the federal level. The subcommittee discussed assembling talking points related to Kratom but pausing any legislative recommendations for possible federal legislation.

VII. New Business

1. Ms. Watroba will create a new folder in the shared workspace dedicated to the topic of 2027 emerging drugs legislative recommendations to separate the issue from the fentanyl legislative recommendation.
2. Ms. Watroba discussed her planned timeline for the Commission's first annual report, which will cover calendar year 2026, and what information she may solicit from the subcommittee to include in the report.

VIII. Public Comment

No public comment offered.

IX. Next Meeting/Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. on Web Ex.
Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:09 a.m.