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Louisiana Sexual Assault Oversight Commission Minutes
July 12, 2022
1:00pm

Louisiana Department of Justice
Office of Attorney General Jeff Landry
1885 N. Third St. – Livingston Building
First Floor – Clermont Conference Room
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Board Members/Designees:

PRESENT - John Sinquefield, Erica Sparacino, Tammy Vincent, Bob Wertz, Morgan Lamandre, Olivia Jones, Rafael de Castro, Melissa Mendoza, Penny Davis, Greg Waddell, Amanda Tonkovich, Michelle Jackson and Dr. Randall Brown. Other members or their designees were absent.

Other Attendees: Jeddie Smith, Lauryn Sudduth, Kim Wall, Brent Smith, Chad Guidry, Brandy Sheely, Treva Parolli-Barnes, Jeremy Dubois, and Kevin Ardoin,

• **Call to Order**

- Commission Chairman John Sinquefield called the meeting to order at 1:00p.m. Opening remarks by Chairman John Sinquefield included his indication to the committee that going forward kit testing and kit tracking should be one of our major goals. He announced his intent to meet with officials with Louisiana State Police with regard to their agency administering a future tracking program. Captain Chad Guidry of the Louisiana State Police stated that he believed his agency would house and administer any new tracking program and would assist in setting up meetings with State Police hierarchy. Erica Sparacino of the LSP Crime Lab spoke up and stated while she didn't think the crime lab should house and administer a case tracking unit, she would support its formation and administration by the Louisiana State Police. Mr. Sinquefield indicated he would go forward with meetings involving the State Police, Division of Administration and Legislators with intent of formulating legislation and obtaining funding for a kit tracking program.

• **Roll Call**

- Executive Assistant Kim Wall called the roll and confirmed a quorum of members.

• **Approval of the Minutes**

- Minutes of the March 9, 2022 meeting were unanimously adopted.

- **Topics of Discussion**

- Chairman John Siquefield announced that the final report on House Resolution No. 148 was filed with the legislature.

Lauryn Sudduth and Morgan Lamandre discussed legislation affecting the Commission including the provisions of Act No. 540 and Act No.207 which among other things guaranteed that an adult victim of a sexually oriented criminal offense will be entitled to a copy of his/her forensic medical exam report from the health care provider which performed the forensic medical exam. Other legislation which indirectly related to matters concerning the LSAOC were also discussed.

Lauryn Sudduth discussed clarification of kit dimensions and contents and it was determined that amendments may be needed to the current descriptions that had been adopted by the Commission, and it was decided to put the matter back on for discussion at the next meeting.

A discussion was had between Morgan Lamandre, Bob Wertz and other members regarding changes in the way that victims are reimbursed for forensic medical examinations, and it was determined that the matter should be put on the agenda for the next meeting for further discussion.

Public comment was invited and received with reference to all issues before the commission and it was determined that there were no necessary votes to be taken.

A power point presentation was conducted by Brent Smith, Senior Business Development Executive, of Forensic Advantage Systems, Winston Salem, NC, He was assisted by Dani Fosseen of the same company. Their presentation included a demonstration of how their company establishes, maintains and does training for a comprehensive kit tracking system for a state such as Louisiana. Virginia and Georgia are among the clients of the company utilizing their kit tracking systems. A question and answer session followed the presentation. Mr. Smith gave a rough estimate of the costs of using Forensic Advantage Systems for a Louisiana case tracking system, and promised additional information and a more specific estimate of cost.

A Commissioner requested that an issue involving human trafficking be placed on the agenda for the next meeting and that an individual be allowed to appear for discussion.

Chairman John Siquefield requested and received permission of the commission to set the next meeting for November 15, 2022 at 1:00pm in the Claremont Conference Room.

There was a motion and a second, and the meeting was adjourned