

State of Louisiana

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
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Louisiana Sexual Assault Oversight Commission Minutes November 30, 2021 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, Senator Beth Mizell, Erica Sparacino, Tammy Vincent, Greg Waddell, Bob Wertz, and Morgan Lamandre, Randall Brown, Heidi Martin, Olivia Jones, Rafael de Castro, Leslie Richard-Chambers, Shannon Dirmann, Melissa Mendoza. Other members or their designees were absent.

Other Attendees: Monica Taylor, Jeddie Smith, Lauryn Sudduth, Kim Wall, Kevin R. Marcel, Richard Mohr, Julia O'Donoghue, Carly Pigg, Gabrielle Malone-Miller, Brandy Sheely, Kevin Richarson, Danielle Lax, Michael Stalbert, Tara Gauthier, and Eva Lessinger

• Call to Order

 Commission Chairman John Sinquefield called the meeting to order at 1:05p.m. Opening remarks by Chairman John Sinquefield.

Roll Call

- Commission Coordinator Monica Taylor called the roll and confirmed a quorum of members.

• Approval of the Minutes

- Minutes of the May 13, 2021 meeting were unanimously adopted.
- Minutes of the September 14, 2021 meeting were unanimously adopted.

Topics of Discussion

- Commission members discussed the issues included in House Resolution No. 148. Morgan Lamandre presented the results of a survey she had disseminated to various agencies seeking information about their handling of forensic medical reports and their access to victims. There were questions raised about what agencies are proper for the release of the reports – medical institutions, law enforcement offices and/or District Attorneys Offices. While there seems to be a general consensus among the commissioners that victims should be entitled to copies of their reports, there was some concern about mental and emotional trauma that might be suffered by a victim upon reading her/his report. A suggestion was made that we have an experienced sex crimes prosecutor appear before the commission and give testimony related to the subject. It was decided to place the matter back on the

agenda for the next meeting. The members voted to accept a draft Report to the Louisiana Legislature with reference to House Resolution No. 148 which had been prepared by Chairman John W. Sinquefield with edits and additions by Morgan Lamandre. The Commissioners authorized the Chairman to forward the report to the Legislature in advance of the February 1, 2022 deadline.

Kit Tracking

O Chairman John Sinquefield informed the Commission that Mr. Tim Stacy of STACSDNA-TRACK KIT SYSTEM on November 27, 2021 emailed that he had a death in his family and would not be able to attend and make a presentation at the November 30, 2021 meeting. He requested to be put on the agenda for the next commission meeting. Commission members indicated that they did wish his presentation to be scheduled for the next meeting. Adrianna DeSouza was not present and so there was no update on the New Orleans Kit Tracking project.

- Quorum problems

o The possibility of seeking statutory amendments to allow Alternate Designees for the Commission was discussed.

• Public Comment

- Public comment was invited and was received on all issues before the Commission prior to votes being taken.

Assign Tasks and Schedule Next Meeting

- The Commission voted to set the next meeting for March 9, 2022.

Adjournment

- The Commission adjourned until the next meeting.