

CALIFORNIA CRIME LABORATORY REVIEW TASK FORCE

Minutes: August 20, 2009
Hertzberg-Davis Forensic Science Center
1800 Paseo Rancho Castilla, Los Angeles, CA 90032

Members Present: Dane Gillette (Chair), Barry Fisher (Vice Chair), Dean Gialamas, Jennifer Friedman, Jennifer Mihalovich, Robert Jarzen, William Thompson, Jeff Rodzen, Greg Matheson, Dolores Carr, Elizabeth Johnson, Charlotte Wacker

Staff Present: Mike Chamberlain (DOJ - Staff Counsel), Colleen Higgins (DOJ-Admin.)

Members of the Public: Kevin Davis (CHP); George M. Pomonik (Independent Consultant – Presentations); Jill Sprigg (Chief, DOJ-BFS, Richmond)

Chair Dane Gillette called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. and welcomed attendees. He thanked Greg Matheson, Dean Gialamas, the Los Angeles Police Department, CSU Los Angeles, and the Orange County Sheriff's Office for graciously hosting Task Force meetings.

Minutes

The July meeting minutes were approved by motion and vote.

Report

Chair Gillette observed that the final report is near completion.

The final editorial schedule is as follows:

- All additional edits to be submitted to Mike Chamberlain by 8/24
- Revised draft disseminated on 8/28
- Additional edits due by 9/2
- Any supplemental statements (i.e., “dissents”) due by 9/9
- Final report distributed by 9/11 to Task Force and the DOJ Production Unit

The Final Task Force meeting will take place on September 23, 2009, in Sacramento.

Bios for Task Force members are due by 8/24/09.

Edits were discussed and agreed upon for various sections of the report.

Statewide Oversight

The Task Force first discussed the state oversight section, using the recent proposal as a starting point. The group ultimately agreed that the issue of statewide oversight is a complex and delicate one deserving of additional study at a minimum. While the Task Force members concurred in principle that a statewide body would be recommended, they remained divided on the ideal functions and composition of that body. Therefore, the Task Force decided to seek an

extension of time from the Legislature for additional study and completion of a supplemental report addressing the single issue of statewide oversight. It was suggested that “up to one year” of additional time be sought, with the goal of producing a draft supplemental report within six months.

DOJ staff will coordinate contact with key legislative representatives to seek approval for the proposed extension.

It was proposed that a statewide advisory board could be tested through use of a “pilot” program in receptive jurisdictions before statewide rollout.

A draft of any supplemental report would be distributed to public crime laboratories in California and to the various agencies that and individuals who appointed Task Force members.

Chair Gillette adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.