

DNA DATABANK OVERSIGHT PANEL

Minutes of meeting

June 14, 2016

The meeting convened at 9:33 a.m. Present at the meeting were Carl Ladd, DESPP-Forensic Lab, Patricia Johannes, DESPP-Forensic Lab; Dahong Sun, DESPP- Forensic Lab; Megan Olt, DESPP-Forensic Lab; Janet Ainsworth, DESPP- Legal; and Michael Aiello, Judicial Branch, CSSD.

Because there was not a quorum voting on the minutes of the March 22, 2016, meeting was deferred until the next meeting. It was noted that the number of samples that had been profiled and were resident in CODIS was incorrect in the draft minutes and that the correct number is 105,931,

Despite the fact there was no quorum, members of the committee submitted reports. The lab reported that as of June 9, 2016, approximately 113,764 convicted offender samples have been submitted to the lab. Of these samples, 106,503 have been profiled and reside in CODIS. Approximately 489 convicted offender samples were waiting to be processed/entered into CODIS.

There are 9,295 profiles in the Forensic Index. Five hundred twenty incomplete cases are assigned to DNA and 458 are assigned to Forensic Biology.

The lab reported that 3,743 investigations have been aided so far based on 3,745 confirmed hits. Approximately 60 candidate matches are under evaluation. The average time it takes to send out notification of the hit once it has been obtained is approximately ten days.

The Judicial Branch, Court Support Services Division (CSSD) reported that from January, 2016 to March 2016, they scheduled 440 appointments to obtain DNA samples and that they were able to collect 438 samples. CSSD reported that in non-probation cases 119 individuals of the 291 persons convicted of qualifying offenses still needed to submit DNA samples. CSSD sent 18 memos to the Department of Correction asking them to collect samples and submitted 27 new warrants for the refusal to submit to the taking of a DNA sample to the State Police.

The Department of Correction reported that they obtained 464 new samples in the year to date and that 134 inmates have refused to provide a sample.

While Elizabeth Tugie could not be present for the meeting, she submitted the following information on behalf of the Department of Correction: the Department collected 286 samples from March 22, 2016 to June 13, 2016 and 675 since January 1, 2016. One hundred thirty-three individuals have refused to provide DNA samples.

On behalf of the Sex Offender Reporting Unit, Sgt. Matthew Garcia reported by email that from January 1, 2016 to June 13, 2016, they had collected 180 samples and prepared 26 warrants for the arrest of people who had failed to provide samples. He also reported that Detective Caroon has replaced Meg Cooke and Christine Lavoie as the DNA contact. He indicated they were meeting with CSSD on June 15, 2016 to review how they could better coordinate information.

At 9:50 a.m., the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Oversight Committee was scheduled for September 13, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. at the Forensic Science Laboratory.