

Minutes of meeting of September 11, 2025 meeting (DRAFT)

The meeting convened at 9:35 a.m.

Participating in the meeting were Guy Vallaro, Director DESPP-Forensic Lab; Cheryl Carreiro, DESPP- Forensic Lab; Daniel Renstrom, DESPP-Forensic Lab; Sevasti Papakanakis, DESPP-Forensic Lab; Megan Olt, DESPP-Forensic Lab; Joseph Sanford, DESPP; Robert Meredith, OCPD; Lisamaria Proscino, Office of the Attorney General; Susan Levesque, Judicial; Michael Aiello, Judicial; Todd Bussert, Office of the Chief Public Defender; and Michael Gailor, Division of Criminal Justice.

The minutes of the meeting on June 12, 2025 were unanimously approved.

The lab reported that as of September 1, 2025, a total of 140,138 convicted offender samples have been submitted to the lab; 799 between June 1, 2025 and August 31, 2025. Of these samples, approximately 7721 were determined to be duplicate submissions. One hundred thirty three thousand fifty-six are searching in CODIS. Approximately 169 convicted offender samples are waiting to be processed/entered into CODIS. There are approximately 27,315 profiles in the Forensic Index. The lab reported that 12,671 investigations have been aided so far by 13,610 confirmed hits. Approximately 61 candidate matches are under evaluation. The average time it takes to send out notification of the hit once it has been obtained is 10 days.

The Sex Offender Registry Unit reported that 106 new offenders were added to the sex offender registry and 222 new offenders were added to the deadly weapon registry between April 2025 and June 2025. The unit obtained 30 biological samples from sex offenders for the purpose of developing a DNA profile and 8 samples from persons on the deadly weapon registry.

The Department of Correction reported it has collected 963 samples in the year to date, 369 since the last Oversight Committee Meeting on June 12, 2025. DOC also reported that 106 collections are pending and that 54 inmates have refused to provide a sample.

The Judicial Department reported that from April through June 2025, it sent out 284 initial and 128 warning letters in probation cases. It noted it sent out 49 initial and 26 warning letters in non-probation cases. Judicial sent 12 memos to DOC asking them to collect a sample and 20 requests for arrest warrants to the State Police. It also indicated it had received 4 requests under the Interstate Compact to take samples. In total, Judicial collected 293 samples. Judicial also reported 6,000 DNA test kits arrived at the warehouse August and were distributed to the agencies responsible for collecting samples.

The Committee discussed what to do with profiles in the data bank that were mistakenly taken from persons without qualifying convictions and, if they were removed from the data bank, whether new samples could be taken. The matter will be further discussed at subsequent meetings.

The lab reported it will be seeking a grant to study the completeness of the data bank, i.e. whether there are people who were required to provide a DNA sample who are not in the data bank and, if so, how many of them are there?

The Panel went into Executive Session at 10:40 a.m. to consider a matter involving personally identifiable DNA information contained in the Data Bank. After coming out of Executive Session at 10:41 a.m., the Panel reported that sample 9/12/25-A, and all records and personally identifiable information pertaining to the person from whom the sample was taken will be purged from the Data Bank.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m.