Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Task Force Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 1:35 p.m. Office of the Oklahoma Attorney General 313 NE 21st St., Oklahoma City, OK 73105

1. Call to Order

a. Roll Call / Establishment of Quorum

• The meeting was called to order by Attorney General Gentner Drummond, in accordance with the Open Meeting Act at 1:35 p.m. Members present included Susan Laib, Andrea Fielding, Darin Ehrenrich, Danielle Tudor, Linda Terrell, Shelley Miller, Amanda Kemp, Kasey Magness, Kathryn Brewer, and Jason Potter in place of Darry Stacy. Nonvoting members included Stacy Morey, Myel Solorzano, Kyndal Kleman and Mistie Burris.

b. Assurance of compliance with Open Meeting Act

c. Introductions

2. Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of the November 10, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

a. Darin Ehrenrich made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Amanda Kemp seconds the motion.

3. Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Updates from OSBI, OCPD, and TPD:

- a. Mistie Burris with the OSBI reported that 3,357 SAK have been collected as of the end of April. Out of the 3,357 kits 1,514 have been analyzed, 662 had either no male DNA or not enough for detection, 475 profiles were uploaded into CODIS, 182 had CODIS hits, and 156 offender profiles.
 - In the next year, the OSBI aims to hire two more investigators for the SAKI staff.
- b. Kyndal Kleman with the OSBI reported that Lawton has signed an arrest warrant as a result of a CODIS hit from a 2011 SAK. A 2017 Woodward case with two CODIS hits recently went to trial. Kyndal attended with the survivor, but the defendants were found not guilty. Kyndal reported the survivor stated she will advocate that rape victims don't go through the judicial process because of how traumatic the experience has been for her.
- c. Darin Ehrenrich with TPD reported that last year, they were awarded a grant through the Bureau of Justice and contracted with DNA Solutions to test their SAK. In Spring of 2022, DNA Solutions attempted to increase their analysis fees mid-contract. They could not negotiate a price, so they let the contract with TPD expire. TPD will be meeting to evaluate the five potential contract bids and will select a new forensic lab to perform their analysis. The grant TPD was awarded last year will expire in September 2024, and they will re-apply once it does. Darin highlighted that TPD is working the University of Tulsa on a research project titled "why victims don't want to cooperate." Through the project, TPD and the

University of Tulsa hope to compile data to direct future approaches to victims. Darin reported that before the contract with DNA Solutions expired, 3,003 SAK were collected, 917 were tested, 170 were uploaded to CODIS, and 87 hits were obtained. Under a previous Tulsa county ADA, two cases that TPD felt strongly should be prosecuted were declined; however, since the Tulsa DA's office has combined two divisions, TPD has asked for the cases to be reviewed. The DA has accepted these cases, and they are working toward prosecution.

d. OCPD was not present and had no stats to share.

4. Discussion and Updates on Statewide SANE Program

- a. TPD SANE Kacey Magness reported that with the TPD awarded grant funds, Janet Chapel and Leah Oliver were hired as the new statewide SANE coordinator and Clinical Coordinator, respectively. Janet joins with a strong background in rural grants, and Leah has 20 years of SANE nursing experience. Additionally, Kacey stated that she met with Matt Stillwell from the OSBI to discuss how well the rural SANE programs are running post Covid-19, how to create more programs, and what is the best way to maintain them. As of right now, the panhandle portion of the state does not have any test sites or programs, and victims requesting testing there must drive over three hours to Woodward for an exam. Kacey reported she is speaking with law enforcement in Elk City and Guymon to potentially start programs in these areas.
- b. Kasey Magness and Amanda Kemp highlighted an increase in pay for SANE nurses would be a good incentive to get more nurses involved. Amanda stated there has not been an increase in pay since around 2012.

5. Discussion on New Legislation for 2024 Legislative Session

- a. Senator Kay Floyd authored SB993 and SB1000. SB993 allows for the creation of statewide SANE coordinator position and SB1000 allows the OSBI to inquire about the location of rape kits that have not yet been submitted to an accredited crime lab. Both bills were unanimously approved by the Senate.
- b. Danielle Tudor reported that SB294, a bill which would increase the statute of limitations for prosecutions of certain sex crimes, was not heard during this legislative session. SB909, a bill authored by Senator Kay Floyd and almost identical to SB294, was sent to the Senate Judiciary Committee.
- c. As emphasized at the previous meeting, Lt. Daren Ehrenrich stated he would love to see peeping toms added into statute as a registerable offense. He reported that most individuals who engage in this type of behavior are not first-time offenders. He reported that; they participate in sexually motivated crimes, and act in extremely compulsive behaviors. General Drummond suggested that we look into adding this onto an existing bill.

d. Stacy Morey with the Attorney General's Office will follow up with Representatives Rosecrants and Humphrey on HB3286.

6. Discussion of 2023 meeting dates

a. General Gentner Drummond motioned the next SAFE TF meeting, originally set for August 10, 2023, be moved to August 17, 2023 so he may be able attend. There was no opposition.

7. New Business and Announcements

a. OSBI's ViCAP analyst retired and the OSBI will be hosting a training in August for 30 participants. If you are interested in attending, please contact Kyndal Kleman. The OSBI is working to partner with colleges and universities to provide victim advocate and sexual assault training. The OSBI is developing an 8 hour SA training for CLEET. OSBI SAKI Agents will teach the information.

b. Adjournment

a. General Drummond motioned to adjourn, Linda Terrell seconds the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.