

**Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Task Force  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

OSBI Forensic Science Center

800 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Edmond, Oklahoma 73034

**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 1:32 p.m. Members present included Attorney General Gentner Drummond, Andrea Fielding, Karen Cunningham, Jason Clifton, Darin Ehrenrich, Danielle Tudor, Linda Terrell, Sonya Spray present for Shelley Miller, Amanda Kemp, Stacey Morey present for Susan Laib, Kasey Magness, Amanda Couch present for Kathryn Brewer, and Debra Charles present for Jari Askins. Nonvoting members included Senator Kay Floyd, Representative Jon Eckols. Others present included Kyndal Kleman, Karen Cunningham, Jenny Virden, Myel Solorzano Sutton, Mistie Burris, John Jones, Justin Wolfe, Thomas Schneider.

**b. Assurance of Compliance with Open Meeting Act**

**c. Introductions**

**2. Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of the May 11, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

- a. Danielle Tudor made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Jason Clifton seconded the motion.

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

- a. Darin Ehrenrich with TPD reported that overall, 917 SAKs had been sent for testing, resulting in 90 CODIS hits. Three of the hits were linked to cases that the DA declined to file. Since the last meeting, 388 SAKs had been sent for testing, resulting in three additional CODIS hits. At this time, there are 1,288 kits that still need to be analyzed. Ehrenrich also reported that TPD has finalized a contract with DNA Solutions for the testing of their SAKs. General Drummond asked if DNA Solutions would perform a full-screen or only y-testing. Ehrenrich will clarify and report at the next meeting.
- b. Bill Weaver with OCPD reported that 1,561 SAKs had been submitted and y-screened. Seventeen additional SAKs need to be y-screened, and 131 need to be sent to Bode for further testing.
- c. Mistie Burris with the OSBI reported that their lab had analyzed 1,901 cases, had uploaded 606 DNA profiles to CODIS, and obtained 237 CODIS hits. Jenny Virden with the OSBI reported that the OSBI SAKI investigative team had reviewed 535 cases resulting in 39 charges with 19 convictions. Burris also reported that the OSBI

SAKI grant is nearing the end of its grant cycle. They will be re-applying for a continuation grant when the solicitation re-opens in 2024. They will seek funding to test the remaining 1,200 SAKs.

- d. Survivor and Advocate Danielle Tudor asked OCPD and TPD if their numbers of serial offenders are consistent with those seen by the OSBI. TPD's Darin Ehrenrich reported that he believes the number of serial offenders reported by the OSBI is higher, but TPD has identified several serial offenders, several of which are from other states.

#### **4. Discussion and Updates on Statewide SANE Program**

- a. TPD SANE Kasey Magness reported that Janet Chapel was hired as the statewide SANE coordinator.
- b. Janet Chapel reported that she is working with groups statewide. There is a lot of focus on Southwest Oklahoma, particularly in Lawton. Their program has five new nurses ready to serve. In the Lawton area, Indian hills is also ready to start their SANE program.

Guymon is an area of concern because of the diversity in the community. It is reported that there are 50 different dialects in the area. The hospital struggles with maintaining adequate staffing levels.

Elk City reportedly has one nurse ready to start the SANE program there.

- c. Chapel also reported that she will be working in different hospitals to recruit SANE nurses. SANE nurse training is offered through International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN). Tulsa's program allows online training, and OCPD only offers it in-person. Additionally, Chapel stated that there are not many nurses applying to become SANEs for a variety of reasons. Kasey Magness stated that she believes after November 1st, we will see an increase in interest when the payment to perform a SANE exam increases to \$800 per exam.

#### **5. Discussion on New Legislation for 2024 Legislative Session**

- a. Justin Wolfe with the Attorney General's Office reported that HB2236 passed. This bill increased the crime victim's compensation and created a statewide SANE coordinator position. This bill takes effect November 1<sup>st</sup>. Wolfe also reported that attempts were unsuccessful in increasing the statute of limitations for rape. He indicated that there was not enough time to educate legislators on the need for this change. The Attorney General's Office plans to pursue this change in statute next session.

- b. Representative Jon Echols and Senator Kay Floyd stated that next session, they would work together to each carry a bill in their chamber to change the statute of limitations.
- c. TPD's Darin Ehrenrich requested that legislation be ran in the next legislative session to make the crime of peeping tom a registrable offense. He provided several examples of cases where this could have possibly prevented additional crimes.

#### **6. New Business and Announcements**

- a. Stacy Morey announced that The annual Partners for Change Conference, hosted by the Attorney General's Office, is open for registration until September 5<sup>th</sup>. The two-day conference will be held September 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at the Embassy Suites in Norman, Oklahoma and will have presentations for advocates, law enforcement, and attorneys.

#### **7. Adjournment**

- a. Kasey Magness motioned to adjourn. Jason Clifton seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m.