

**FORENSIC LABORATORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FLAC)**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, April 5, 2022 – 10am – 12pm**

**Office of Health Care Quality (Meeting held via telephone)**  
**7120 Samuel Morse Drive**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**  
**Columbia, MD 21046**

**Members in Attendance:**

Dan Katz, Director, Maryland State Police Forensic Sciences Division  
Yale Caplan, Ph.D., American Academy of Forensic Sciences  
Lorraine Doucette, American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science  
Lilia Mijares, Professor Univ of MD  
Kristen Lease, Prince George's County Police Department  
Rana Dellarocco, Forensic Director, Baltimore Police Dept.

**Members not in Attendance:**

Renee Webster, Deputy Director, OHCQ (Chairperson)  
Melissa Kennedy, Accreditation Director ANAB  
Brittney Rollison, A2LA

**OHCQ Staff:**

Paul Celli, Public Health Administrator for Clinical and Forensic Laboratories  
Chris D'Amario., Coordinator of Forensic Laboratories Program

**Non-members in attendance:**

Jessica Trout, Baltimore County Police Department  
Andrew Bohan, A2LA Accreditation  
Kenneth Jones  
Brad Putnam, ANAB

**I. Welcome and General Announcements**

Meeting called to order at 10:05am, welcoming the committee members and others in attendance

**II. ANAB Announcements/Updates**

Brad Putnam, for Melissa Kennedy. Remote Techniques being explored by ANAB for 2022.

### **III. General Forensic Announcements**

Chris D'Amario completed FY21 annual report documentation. Letters not mailed yet.

Forensic Genealogy Bill regulation met together regarding licensing individual genealogists. Chris explained the October 2021 bill to FLAC.

Dan Katz pointed out how well the workgroup is going. It includes FLAC members Rana and Kristen. Ray Wickenheiser. Mark Wilson, Teresa Vreeland, CeCe Moore are the subject matters experts. The manner in which genetic genealogy is performed varies by subcontractor. Bode outsources SNP analysis, and a genetic genealogist.

Parabon, are more of a informatics lab, that takes a different approach.

Potentially three different sets are required. SNP, Bioinformatics, and Genetic Genealogy search aspects should be included. A structure has been established for the FGGS Universe. We have made some progress for the MDH responsibilities.

Lorraine reached out to Shannon Dickson at University of MD for joining the group

### **IV Legislative update HB 863, HB866/SB766, HB259/SB355 – Chris**

Bill HB863 removing Letter of Exception requirement. Dan does not think there will be an impact whether the bill passes or not. Genetic Privacy bill and Biometric data bills are also being voted on. Neither of these last two bills have forensic repercussions.

### **IV. New Business**

Rana Dellarocco, mentioned creating a Forensic Science Commission. Where the forensic side, and the legal side could discuss things outside of certification regulations. A need beyond FLAC could be met, for real time issues in the forensic community. Could also help with starting University Forensic Programs. FLAC consensus is that it is overall a good idea to establish an FSC.

FLAC's next meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 14th, 2022 at 10am

### **VI. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1105 am