



TEXAS FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION

*1700 North Congress Ave., Suite 445
Austin, Texas 78701*

FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION **LICENSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MEETING AGENDA

April 10, 2025, 10:00 AM

Barbara Jordan State Office Building
1601 Congress Avenue
Room 2.007
Austin, Texas 78701

This meeting of the Texas Forensic Science Commission’s Licensing Advisory Committee (Committee) will be conducted as a videoconference meeting pursuant to Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code Section 551.127. Members of the Committee and staff may appear remotely. The Committee’s officer presiding over the meeting will be present at the physical location set forth in this agenda. Members of the public may attend the meeting in person at the physical location listed above, where they may participate and make public comment. The videoconference will not include an option for the public to make public comments remotely.

During this meeting, the Committee may consider and possibly act on the following items. The Committee may take breaks as necessary. The Committee may meet in closed session on any item listed below, as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

1. Call meeting to order. Roll call for members. Excuse any absent committee members.
2. Review and adopt minutes from the January 31, 2025 meeting.
3. Administrative update, including the number of licenses issued and renewed. Discuss status of the implementation of new license application management program (ALiS). (General Counsel Garcia/Associate General Counsel Tomlin/Program Specialist Soward).
4. Review any outstanding coursework evaluations.
5. Review any outstanding criminal history evaluations and/or licensee conduct reports from licensing applications.
6. Update on development of a guidance document for intra/inter-agency proficiency monitoring programs and standard operating procedures, including discussion and update on collaboration with the Texas Division of the International Association for Identification (TDIAI) and hosting of licensing exam at TDIAI’s annual conference, June 10-14, 2025, in League City, Texas. (Paulson)

7. Discuss the issue of the lack of available accredited firearms experts and possible resources for smaller laboratories to achieve accreditation in firearms through the Texas Indigent Defense Commission.
8. Discuss and vote on recommended rule changes including, but not limited to, amendments to § 651.222, Voluntary Licensure Forensic Analyst and Forensic Technician Licensing Requirements, to qualify versions of the required Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) Course Number 2106 Intermediate Crime Scene Search that were revised or established prior to 2019 and taught by either a TCOLE-certified instructor or a Commission-qualified subject matter expert.
9. Discuss and vote on recommended rule changes including, but not limited to, amendments to § 651.207, Forensic Analyst and Forensic Technician Licensing Requirements, Including Initial License Term and Fee, Minimum Education and Coursework, General Forensic Examination, Proficiency Monitoring and Mandatory Legal and Professional Responsibility Training, to require forensic biology/DNA analyst compliance with current coursework requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing rather than the older, 2011 requirements.
10. Update and discuss the Commission's upcoming April 17, 2025 statewide task force on rapid DNA meeting.
11. Update from the Texas Association of Crime Laboratory Directors. (Stout)
12. Consider possible agenda items for next quarterly committee meeting.
13. Schedule of future quarterly committee meetings including, but not limited to, scheduled meetings for July 24, 2025, October 23, 2025, January 29, 2026, and April 23, 2026.
14. Public comment.
15. Adjourn.

If you have any questions, please contact Chelsea Estes at (512) 936-0770 or Chelsea.estes@fsc.texas.gov or Maggie Sowatzka at maggie.sowatzka@fsc.texas.gov. Persons with disabilities who plan to attend a Commission meeting and need assistance should contact the Commission office no later than 7 business days prior to the meeting so arrangements may be made.