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Louisiana Sexual Assault Oversight Commission Minutes
May 13, 2021
1:00PM

Louisiana Department of Justice
Office of Attorney General Jeff Landry
Meeting Location: Thomas Jefferson Rooms, Claiborne Building
1201 N. Third St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Board Members/Designees:

PRESENT- John Siquefield, Pat Wojtkiewixz, Tammy Vincent, Myles Robichaux, Bob Wertz, Leslie Richard Chambers, Raphael de Castro, Amanda Tonkovich, Greg Waddell, Melissa Mendoza, Heidi Martin, and Chief Todd Warren. Other members or their designees were absent.

Other Attendees:

Monica Taylor, Lauryn Sudduth, Kim Wall, Erica Sparacino, Rusty Fornea, Brandy Sheely, Kelly Smith, Morgan Lamandre, Airzola Cleaves, Neha Mehta, Rob Long, Phillip Hampton, Sheila Celius, and Adrianna DeSouza

• **Call to Order**

- Commission Chairman John Siquefield called the meeting to order at 1:08pm. Opening remarks by Chairman John Siquefield

• **Roll Call**

- Commission Coordinator Monica Taylor called the roll and conformed a quorum of members

• **Approval of the Minutes**

- Minutes for the February 9, 2021 meeting were unanimously adopted.

• **Topics of Discussion.**

- Legislation
 - o The status of HB 234 and HB 433 were discussed by commission members. It was noted that HB 234 has made good progress through the legislative processes. It was noted that a fiscal not was added to HB 433 and that it has not moved forward as of the present.
- HSR1 Activity
 - o Monica Taylor and Morgan Lamandre reported that there had been no further activity on HSR1

- New Orleans Kit Tracking
 - o Adriana DeSouza made a Power Point presentation with the details and progress of the New Orleans Kit Tracking Project.
- Zoom Meetings
 - o Legal Counsel Lauryn Sudduth informed Commission Members that she had again reviewed the statutes and directives relative to Zoom Meetings of Commissions that had been put into affect for the COVID-19 protections. It was still her opinion that the Sexual Assault Oversight Commission statute does not meet the guidelines for Zoom Meetings. In addition it can be expected that the emergency declarations related to COVID-19 may be recalled or modified.
- Medical Records Requests
 - o Commission Members discussed the issues of access by victims of sexual assault to medical reports of their forensic medical examinations. Commission members indicated that the matter should be a continuing topic for future meetings. It was discussed whether legislation is needed or that a better practice may be to amend the medical examination protocols that have been adopted and promulgated by the Commission
- **Public Comment**
 - Public comment was invited and was received on all issues before the Commission prior to votes being taken.
- **Assign Tasks and Schedule Next Meeting**
 - Monica Taylor and Morgan Lemandre were requested to look into the issue of Medical Records Requests by victims and make suggestions for possible amendments to the medical examination protocols. The Commission voted to schedule the next meeting for September 14 2021, and authorized the dates of September 15, 2021, September 22, 2021, and September 23, 2021 as alternate dates dependent on the availability of the Thomas Jefferson Rooms.
- **Adjournment**
 - The Commission adjourned until the next meeting.