

APPROVED

**Minutes of the
January 27, 2020 Meeting of the
Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Tracking and Reporting Commission**

Members Present:

Debi Cain - Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board
Captain Beth Clark - Michigan State Police
Danielle Hagaman-Clark - Department of Attorney General
Kathy Hagenian - Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence
Kimberly Hurst - Michigan Chapter of International Association of Forensic Nurses
Sheriff Blaine Koops (ret.) - Michigan Sheriff's Association
Brian Mackie - Michigan Crime Victim Services Commission
Representative Laurie Pohutsky - Michigan House
Kym L. Worthy - Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan

Members Participating by Telephone Conference Call:

Amy Barkholz - Michigan Health and Hospital Association
Chief Robert Stevenson (ret.) - Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police
Senator Lana Theis – Michigan Senate

Members Absent (with notice):

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Senator Stephanie Chang - Michigan Senate

Also Present:

Gail Krieger - Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board

Guests:

Michael Bobbitt - Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board
John Bowen - Michigan State Police
Meg Higham - Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board
Joe Kempa - Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards
Amanda Barros - Michigan State Police
Lauren Lu - Michigan State Police
Jeff Nye - Michigan State Police
Matt Opsommer - Michigan State Police
Kristin Schelling - Michigan State Police

Welcome and Introductions

Debi Cain convened the January 27, 2020 Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Tracking and Reporting Commission meeting in the Training Room at the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards located at 927 Centennial Way, Lansing, Michigan at 1:35 p.m. Introductions were made and a welcome extended to guests.

MOTION: Moved by B. Koops, seconded by K. Hurst to approve the January 27, 2020 agenda and the October 14, 2019 minutes with corrections. Motion carried.

Reports

Report from the Medical Forensic Exam and Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Decision-Making Study, by Dr. Rebecca Campbell

Rebecca Campbell spoke about the decision-making process of sexual assault victims who undergo medical forensic exams. A state-wide study was conducted to determine why patients seek Sexual Assault Evidence Kits (SAEK), why they consent to SAEK collection and why they release kits for forensic DNA testing. State-wide surveys were given to adult patients seeking a SAEK over a 9-month period. Data was collected simultaneously at seven state-funded SANE/SAFE programs across Michigan. Service areas included large urban centers and small rural communities.

The median age of the 797 adult sexual assault survivors who completed the survey was 26 years old. 33 percent of the patients were disabled. 39.1 percent of perpetrators were a friend of the victim and 21.3 percent of assaults in the study were perpetrated by a stranger. 95 percent of patients consented to a medical forensic exam and 80 percent of patients released the SAEK to law enforcement.

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners(SANE) and advocates each completed the same questionnaire separately, but still had consistent data. SANEs were more likely to report that the police or a medical provider suggested the medical forensic exam. SANEs were also more likely to report that the patients sought medical forensic exams for medical reasons. On the other hand, advocates were more likely to report that patients had disclosed to police or family. Advocates were also more likely to know the reason victims refused to release a SAEK was that they did not want to interact with police.

New Business

Creation of New Working Committees

D. Cain discussed creating two new working committees. One committee will focus on the storage of unreleased SAEK kits. The second group will decide whether to turn on a Track-kit feature permitting victims and/or health care staff to examine forensic analysis results. Commission members can volunteer for the committee of their choice and a leader will be designated.

G. Krieger mentioned two outstanding items in the original task force report that have yet to be completed. The first item is legislation mandating the use of the tracking system. The second item is the compliance portal of the tracking system to allow audit submissions, which is not yet completed. A more in-depth discussion about these two items will take place at the April 20, 2020 SAEK Tracking and Reporting Commission meeting.

D. Cain talked about the future of the SAEK Tracking and Reporting Commission. If there are outstanding tasks remaining, then a recommendation can be made to extend the SAEK Commission for a longer time period. Eventually a report on the data collected by the SAEK Commission will be created. The Commission needs to determine if a group needs to be created to review the data. Otherwise, when the work is finished, the SAEK Commission will be abolished.

SAEK Commission members discussed various problems that have arisen since the implementation of the Track-Kit system. Unanticipated issues often arise when creating a database system that can usually be resolved.

Upcoming SAEK Commission Meetings at MCOLES

Monday, April 20, 2020

Monday, July 20, 2020

Monday, October 19, 2020

Call to the Public:

No comments.

Commissioner Comments:

No comments.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by K. Hagenian to adjourn, seconded by K. Hurst. Motion carried.

The meeting ended at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lore A. Rogers
Staff to the Commission