

**Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence (SAFE) Board**

**State of Oklahoma**

**MEETING MINUTES**

prepared by Laura Russell

**Regular Meeting**

Thursday, April 2, 2026, 1:00 p.m.

Office of the Oklahoma Attorney General

313 NE 21<sup>st</sup>, Oklahoma City, OK 73105

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call:**

**A. Roll Call**

1. **Voting Members Present:** Kyle Keller, Linda Terrell, Amanda Lilley, Bill Weaver, Billy Parker, Danielle Tudor, Darin Ehrenrich, Brooke Christian, Kasey Magness (arrived at 1:49 p.m.), Angela Beatty (designee for this meeting for Mikela Rhodes), Mistie Burris, and Ryan Stephenson
2. **Non-Voting Members Present:** Senator Carri Hicks, Representative Cynthia Roe, and Senator Julie McIntosh
3. **Members Absent:** Shelley Miller/Sonya Spray
4. **Board Administrative Assistance:** Susan Laib, Laura Russell, Maria Maule, Greg Winningham, Jaiden Balthrop – Russell, Cheryl Dixon, Bradley Clark, and Jessica Hartline
5. **Guests Present:** Carolyn Thompson (OAG), Miguel Mohica (OAG), Alyssa Okoh (OAG), Anthony Hernandez- Rivera (OAG), Myel Solorzano Sutton (OAG), Tressie Chapman (OAG), Gary Tudor, Julie Kindle (OSBI), Dr. Melinda Chen (OU), Margaret Kerr (Ethics Commission), Brandie Combs (OK State Department of Health), and Jeremy Glass (Volunteer at YWCA OKC)

**B. Establishment of Quorum:** Laura A. Russell confirmed quorum established.

1. **Required:** 7 Voting Members
2. **Met:** 12 Voting Members

**C. Assurance of Compliance with Open Meeting Act:**

1. Laura Russell confirmed OMA compliance. The date, time, and location of the meeting was posted with the Secretary of State before the December 15, 2025, deadline.
2. The notice of the date, time, place, and agenda for the meeting was posted at the principal office of the Attorney General, located at 313

NE 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, OK and the agency's website more than 24 hours in advance.

- D. Introduction Invitation: Kyle Keller invited guests to introduce themselves. He also introduced Brooke Christian who has replaced Todd Bussell as the CLEET Representative on the board.

## II. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Minutes of the February 26, 2026, Special Board Meeting – Kyle Keller

- A. Ryan Stephenson moved and Bill Weaver seconded to approve the February 26, 2026, meeting minutes. The vote passed with Angela Beatty abstaining and all others approving.

## III. Update and Discussion on Sexual Assault Initiatives and SAKI Grants:

### A. Tulsa SAKI Program – Darin Ehrenrick

1. 4410 number of backlog inventory
2. 2864 kits tested
3. 78 kits outsourced
4. 1468 kits left to test
5. 531 CODIS eligible results
6. 531 results uploaded to CODIS
7. 289 CODIS hits
8. 10 serial rapists
9. A case was just solved with one of those CODIS hit which was linked to an Osage County homicide using genetic genealogy DNA; unfortunately, the suspect died several years ago. They have two more cases to be presented to the DA shortly.

### B. Oklahoma City SAKI Program – Bill Weaver

1. 692 positive for male DNA
2. 142 total kits sent for full analysis
3. 109 number of full profiles entered into CODIS
4. 63 number of individual cases with CODIS hits
5. 11 number of serial cases – 3 linked to out of state cases
6. They have eight (8) cases filed for prosecution
7. They don't have a backlog inventory

### C. OSBI SAKI Team – Mistie Burris/Jenny Virden

1. 3310 backlog inventory-
2. 419 kits on backlog that have not been analyzed
3. 2891 kits that have been analyzed
4. 1227 positive/negative results with no male DNA
5. 973 DNA profiles obtained through testing
6. 973 DNA profiles entered into CODIS
7. 477 CODIS hits obtained for profiles entered – 69 forensic, 408 Offender
8. 118 serial rapist hits

9. An arrest has been made in conjunction with the Texas Rangers using genetic genealogy. Prosecution is pending.
10. OSBI SAAM Symposium will be held April 24<sup>th</sup> at Springlake Metro Tech.
11. Amanda Lilley brought up the fact that the 20-day timeframe for law enforcement to turn kits over to the lab for testing has no way to be enforced. There are no teeth to this requirement. Need to look at possibly adding this to the board's end of the year report.

**IV. Update and Discussion on Statewide SANE Program – Kasey Magness –** Kasey arrived late so her update was done after item VII.

- A. Darin Ehrenrich reported Tulsa had 88 SANEs from the last reporting quarter with eight (8) non report exams. Kasey Magness stated she would be getting the state-wide numbers for the next meeting

**V. Legislative Update – Carolyn Thompson, OAG Government Affairs**

**A.**

1. **SB 1584** – George Burns, & Melissa Provenzano – **The bill failed to advance before the deadline.** The bill requires law enforcement and crime laboratories to process sexual assault kits within 30 days of receiving the kit.
2. **SB 1730** – Kristen Thompson and Robert Manger – **The bill is eligible to be heard in House Oversight: Judiciary and Public Safety.** The bill requires law enforcement to submit sex offense reports to OSBI and keeps the records confidential. Whenever law enforcement officers receive information about an offense that could lead to sex offender registration upon conviction, they are mandated to forward this information to the OSBI. This must be completed within one month of the report's reception, regardless of the current status of the case.
3. **SB 1596** – Julie McIntosh and Tim Turner – **The bill failed to advance before the deadline.** The bill expands statutes of limitations to any time for sexual offenses, including extended timelines tied to victim age and DNA evidence.
4. **HB 3674** – Melissa Provenzano and Julie McIntosh – **The bill is eligible to be heard in Senate Education.** The bill requires reporting of sexual assault in schools to relevant law enforcement and mandates certain training for all school resource officers.
5. **SB 1214** – Bergstrom – **The bill failed to advance before the deadline.** The bill directs the Board of Education to develop curriculum on age-appropriate sex trafficking education for all students in grades 6 – 12.

6. **SB 1335** – Carri Hicks – **The bill failed to advance before the deadline.** The bill requires campus police officers to complete sexual assault training courses.
7. **SB 1608** – Avery Frix and Tim Turner – **The bill failed to advance before the deadline.** The bill revises public access and searchable information requirements for the Sex Offender Registry and the Mary Rippy Violent Crime Offenders Registry.
8. **HB 2959** – Steve Bashore and Kristen Thompson – **The bill is eligible to be heard in Senate Education.** Sets timing and priority requirements for school personnel to report suspected child abuse or neglect, requiring first priority to be given to reporting to law enforcement directly. The timing is 24 hours without an internal investigation.
9. **SB 1733** – Kristen Thompson and Mark Lawson – **The bill is eligible to be heard in House Oversight: Judiciary and Public Safety.** The bill requires school employees to report certain student disclosures to law enforcement within 24 hours and limits schools investigations.
10. **HB 4227** – Chris Kannady and Darrell Weaver – **The bill has been received in the Senate.** The bill bans secret settlements hiding child sexual abuse and removes time limits for prosecuting child sexual crimes. This pertains to the medical field.
11. **SB 1262** – Christi Gillespie and Stan May – **The bill is eligible to be heard in House Oversight: Education.** The bill directs higher education institutions to provide tuition-free education to victims of human trafficking or sex trafficking.

**B. Request Bills from the board**

1. **SB 1460** – Todd Gollihare and Ross Ford/HB 4104 – **The bill is eligible to be heard in House Oversight: Judiciary and Public Safety.** The bill strengthens penalties for repeat “peeping tom” recording offenses and classifies them as registrable sex offenses.
2. **HB 4141** – Robert Manger and Christi Gillespie – **The bill has been received in the Senate.** The bill removes the expiration of the establishment of a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Statewide Coordinator within the District Attorneys Council. If funding becomes available, the position would become permanent.

**VI. Update, Discussion, and Possible Action on SAFE Board Subcommittees and Scheduling 2026 Subcommittee Meetings – Linda Terrell**

- A. Subcommittee chairs held a meeting to discuss going forward for this year.

They came up with a schedule of what they want to accomplish at each board meeting. The goal is to get the annual report, which is due 2/1/2027, done by the October meeting so there won't be a need for a special meeting January, 2027. The regularly scheduled first board meeting of the year in February would focus on legislative work since the legislature opens their session in February. After this meeting, the subcommittee chairs will get with their members to set up dates for their committee meetings prior to the June meeting. The chairs and co-chairs will meet in the months that the board does not meet.

**VII. Presentation and Discussion on Ethics Rules for State Officers – Margaret Kerr, General Counsel at the Oklahoma Ethics Commission**

- A. Margaret Kerr reviewed ethics rules for state officers and employees which includes board members for that office. The Ethics Commission makes statewide statutory rules, promotes compliance with an online filing system, investigates violators, and enforces the rules. Conflict of interest is prohibited; there can be no conflict between your or your family interests and your public duties. Board members must recuse themselves from agenda items and votes when they or their family members, including stepchildren, will benefit. Board members can reach out to the commission if they have any questions.

**VIII. New Business**

- A. Julie Kindle spoke regarding an issue with the statute of limitations regarding a recent case of a rape that occurred in 1982. At that time the statute of limitations for sexual assault offenses of three (3) years from the date the rape occurred. The kit was tested as part of the SAKI initiative. DNA was extracted and entered in CODIS December 2025. OSBI received an offender match in February 2026 to an offender in Ohio; however, the case was declined because the statute of limitations had expired. In 1994 the statute of limitations on sexual assault was extended from three (3) years to seven (7) years, and in 2002 HB 2790 modified the statute of limitations statute to include the new DNA technology and extended the statute of limitations deadline for prosecution from seven (7) years to anytime after the crime was committed as long as the following three (3) criteria were met
  1. A police report was filed within seven (7) years from the rape
  2. DNA testable evidence was collected
  3. Testing provided an identity of the offender
- B. If all three (7) criteria are met, prosecution has three (3) years from DNA identification to prosecute the case. The bill's language also states that this paragraph shall have retroactive application to crimes committed to the effective date of this act. Unfortunately, after a case from California made it to the United State Supreme Court, the court ruled that a law enacted after a previous statute of limitations had expired is not applicable; it is unlawful to resurrect a statute of limitations on cases prior to 2002. Ryan Stephenson added you can't legislatively resurrect a statute of limitations. The limitations can only be extended if the case is currently open.

**IX. Adjournment**

- A. Ryan Stephenson moved and Bill Weaver seconded to adjourn the meeting.  
The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

***Next SAFE Board Meeting: June 4, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.  
Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General  
313 N.E. 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105***