

Governor's Sexual Assault Kit Working Group (SAKWG)

Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2018

Members Present: Laura Cordes, Kerry Dalling, Maureen Platt, Guy Vallaro, Anne Mahoney

Members Absent: Linda Cimino, Cathy Malloy, Marshall Porter

Guests: Ashlei Flemming, Kevin MacMillan, Eleanor Michael

Approval of Minutes from December 9th: The minutes were reviewed and approved with minor edits.

Anne Mahoney moved to approve with edits. Second by Dr. Vallaro.

Updates:

Kit collection and testing numbers to date

Kevin MacMillan distributed updates of the testing results. To date 1,188 SAKS have been submitted, which is the final total. Of these kits, 848 have been tested with 82 CODIS hits and 9 conviction matches. Testing of the remainder of the kits is expected to be completed by June 2018. He discussed comparable kit testing nationally in locations like Wisconsin and noted that private labs are simply overwhelmed and work from a basis of funding and contracts.

Tracking Software Training

Tracking is continuing at the laboratory & DSS. CCMC and Yale have been very responsive to the tracking program as well.

Member Center Designees for SAKI Collaboration

A memorandum was sent to the Alliance's member centers, requesting that they select a designated victim advocate to collaborate with area Police Departments and state's attorneys during the victim notification process. Most of the member centers have provided contacts for the designated SAKI Victim Advocate in their center, and the SAKI Specialist is on track to have that information completed and added to Victim Notification Guidelines directory next week.

Victim Notification Guidelines

The Victim Notification Committee convened on Thursday February 2nd, 2018 to review and discuss the changes that were made to the guidelines. The SAKI specialist made minor additional changes based on feedback from the committee and created a member center directory to add to the guidelines. This serves to assist with collaborative team building. Additionally there was discussion of having Detective Dalling and Chief Porter work together on a letter to the Police chiefs across the state, discussing the collaborative notification teams as well as looking at next steps for PD trainings.

Members agreed that its member names should be added to the Acknowledgements section of the Victim Notification Guidelines as well.

A response to the comments and feedback that the group received from BJA along with the revised Guidelines has been sent to BJA.

Discussion:

Trainings for 2018

The team has several ideas for trainings in 2018. Kevin has stated that based on the turnaround time, a training that we initiate planning for now would be ready to roll out for a date in July. The team specified a need for more case specific trainings, including more workshops. Suggestions were also made to make these trainings more available by providing them in different formats such as webinars/

e-trainings or doing a training in multiple areas of the state. There was also a discussion of making the training more interdisciplinary, allowing it to be a space.

Kevin will be working with Laura and Kerry on contacting key partners such as the training leadership for the state's attorneys.

Legislation in 2018 Session

The Legislative session began on Wednesday. Laura Cordes provided a summary of the Governor's Bill SB 17 which will be raised in the Public Safety Committee. The bill is based on the recommendations and the best practices from the SAKWG and the Evidence Commission. Copies of the bill and fact sheet were distributed. Maureen made a suggestion for an addition of a clause stating that the omission of a barcode from a kit does not compromise the validity of a kit. It was also suggested that a request for training of hospital staff be included in the bill.

Members voted to support SB 17. Several members will attend the hearing and testify in support of the bill.

2018 Meeting Dates:

- Friday March 9, 2018 2:30 - 4pm
- Friday April 13, 2018 2:30 - 4pm
- Friday May 11, 2018 2:30 - 4pm

Meeting Adjourned at 4:17 PM