

Crime Laboratory Commission Meeting

December 3, 2007

Department of Attorney General

150 South Main Street

Providence, RI 02903

3rd Floor Conference Room

10:30 a.m.

In attendance were Assistant Attorney General Alan Goulart, Rhode Island Department of Attorney General; Jefferson Guimond, Rhode Island Department of Attorney General; Christopher Cotta, Rhode Island Department of Attorney General; Director Dennis Hilliard, Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory; Lieutenant Dennis Pincince, Rhode Island State Police; Nancy Haley; Chief George Kelley, RIPCA; Joan Lausier, University of Rhode Island; Dr. David Uliss, Rhode Island Department of Health.

I. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Commission Members

Assistant Attorney General Alan Goulart representing Attorney General Lynch welcomed Commission members calling the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Introductions were made of Commission members.

B. Minutes of August 6, 2007 meeting

Assistant Attorney General Alan Goulart entertained a motion to approve the minutes of August 6, 2007. Chief George Kelley made a motion to accept the minutes, with Nancy Haley seconding the motion. All being in favor, the August 6, 2007 minutes were approved.

II. LABORATORY STATUS

A. Review of Laboratory Progress Report – 2007 to date

Director Hilliard provided Progress Report from January 1, 2007 to November 30, 2007. Currently there are 605 cases compared to 616 in 2006. We expect to exceed last year's numbers.

Also enclosed is a summary of lectures given, training courses taken, meetings and tours given to different organizations by the Crime Laboratory staff.

Assistant Attorney General Goulart asked if there has been a significant increase in any particular city or town submitting evidence for review. Director Hilliard noted there has been a large increase in Cranston and East Greenwich with Providence as the main supplier. At one point, Providence was 80% of case work. They are now 55-60% of casework, showing there is an increase throughout the state. Director Hilliard stated that more people have been trained as Crime Scene Investigators through the College. Anytime you do

training you start to see increase in caseloads. Director Hilliard is seeing more requests for fingerprints on B&E cases coming into the Crime Lab.

a. Case Confidentiality Issue

Director Hilliard spoke regarding the Case Confidentiality Issue. While going through the process of accreditation, the Crime Lab had to input certain requirements regarding the release of case information. The accreditation guidelines state you only give back the information to the customer and that's the police department. In law enforcement there is a need to share information and the Laboratory would like to be able to give information directly to the requesting law enforcement agency. The Laboratory investigated how best to handle this. A Memorandum was worked out with the Providence Police Department that said, unless they tell us otherwise, we can share our information with an official representative of law enforcement in Rhode Island.

The question was would there be any objection to that happening throughout the state. Chief Kelley had a discussion with Colonel Esserman and he had no problem with sharing the Memorandum. Chief Kelley then went to the Police Chiefs' Association and Director Hilliard came to the Police Chiefs' meeting and explained the situation. Everyone was in agreement. We thought it could be addressed by putting a general statement on the Crime Lab Evidence Submission Form saying that this information will be shared with

other official law enforcement agencies in the state, unless you state otherwise. If the box isn't checked off then the information could be shared. This has not been implemented as of yet as Director Hilliard wanted to bring this before the Commission for their input.

Assistant Attorney General Goulart stated it seemed it would be a much easier task then trying to execute a Memorandum of Understanding for all the cities and towns. Director Hilliard stated it was Deputy Attorney General Coyne's suggestion and could be adopted very easily. Director Hilliard has language that he will be sending to the Attorney General's office for review before it is incorporated into the Evidence Submission Form. There was no need for a vote, and the Commission members present were all in agreement.

b. Reference Gun Collection

The purpose of the reference gun collection is to provide parts to use on weapons that come down that may not be operable. If we have the parts in house, it makes it easier to interchange them we can now test fire the weapon, get the cartridge case out, get the bullet out and do the comparisons that are necessary.

The problem is the law states, that all firearms that are confiscated need to be either returned back to its original lawful owner, or be destroyed through the police chiefs of their departments. There was no option for police departments to turn over weapons that they were

going to destroy for us to keep for parts. Last year legislation was introduced adding the Crime Lab as one of the options, and was opposed by the gun lobbyist in Rhode Island. Director Hilliard suggested having them down to the Lab to show them what was going to be done with them.

Assistant Attorney General Goulart noted that for charging purposes the legislation makes sense, because the statute reads, it can easily become operable. We can charge them with possession of a pistol without a license and unless we have the ability to see whether it can easily be made operable.

Director Hilliard noted they do have the ability but have to borrow materials from Connecticut or Massachusetts. It is still possible to do it, it just takes more time and effort. We have somewhat of a gun collection from previous years; however, many of them are antiquated. There are guns out there that the departments are going to melt down and could be very useful to the Lab in future cases but we can't get them.

Jefferson Guimond, Director of the Policy and Legislation Unit for the Department of Attorney General, stated it is in the draft legislative agenda of the Attorney General and he looks forward to working with Director Hilliard on putting the bill in again this year.

B. ISO/IEC Accreditation

a. Quality Manager Position

Director Hilliard stated now that the Lab is ISO accredited, there is a need to bring in a full-time position for managing the quality system. Currently it is being maintained by a part-time person who is working an average of 25 hours a week. Now the University is saying no more than 15 hours. Currently we have two people, one working 10 hours a week and one working 15 hours a week. As long as the money is available we can fund at least a part-time position. Director Hilliard would like to see this Commission argue that position needs to be made full-time permanent within the Laboratory.

Assistant Attorney General Goulart asked if the Grant money would fund a full-time position.

Director Hilliard stated there is not enough to fund a full-time position. The Coverdell Grant is being split three ways, we received \$30,000. Part went to the Medical Examiner, State Forensic Laboratory and the Crime Laboratory. We used it to pay for the 25 hours a week for Quality Manager and also for training purposes in the Laboratory to maintain accreditation. There's no guarantee this grant money is going to go on indefinitely either. We always have to be aware of that. As long as the Coverdell money continues to come in we can fund it at 25 hours a week.

This Commission needs to know we are going to need a full-time position to maintain accreditation, regardless of consolidation. Our

backlog became huge while we were doing accreditation because nobody could do case work. They all had to be reviewing policies, procedures and things of that nature. We're just catching up to some of the things that we were letting go. It's a lot of time and effort. It will be in the 2009 budget, whether or not we can do it or not will depend on the numbers.

Nancy Haley asked me last meeting how much the accreditation cost. We spent well over \$300,000 on the accreditation process. We were doing it in conjunction with the Department of Health Forensic Science Lab, part of that money paid for their accreditation so it wasn't all us. We were hiring people at the Crime Lab for 25 hours a week, at the Forensic Lab for 20 hours or more a week. That's where the bulk of the money goes and to bring everything up to standard, produce the paperwork, bring in the auditors twice, once as an initial review analysis, and then as the final review. We had to change the locks on the doors. We had to create locks that provided audit trails, we upgraded our alarm system, especially in the evidence room, environmental control in the evidence room and every room is being tracked for temperature and humidity. We have to provide calibration units, so sometimes it's cheaper to replace a unit every two years than to have it recertified. We have to recertify all our balances and scales, etc. It becomes an ongoing process to get to that point and then every one or two years you have to recertify or replace things that need to be in line with accreditation.

We are on a three-year cycle, which means they will come in at the third year; however, at the end of each year we have to provide them with documentation. If you don't provide documentation they will have to come and visit, like an audit. It's a desk audit for the first two years and then they come onsite and do an onsite audit every three years.

C. Systems Updates

a. NIBIN Update

We maintain the system in our Laboratory and the Attorney General provides an analyst, Adel Irizarry, to come in and work on the system.

Adel puts in all the cartridge cases that have no weapon associated with them and Lawrence Pilcher our Firearms Examiner, inputs all the cartridge cases that have a weapon, so they share the information. ATF pays maintenance for NIBIN through the contract they have with the company.

b. AFIS Update

AFIS system is maintained in the Laboratory as a network device to the Attorney General's office. Ed Downing and Mark Zabinski use that every day. It's become a regular work tool for them. The only question is the maintenance contract. We have not seen any bills as of yet.

Chief Kelley spoke regarding the AFIS System. What it has cost the state for the maintenance contract it has saved a great amount of

money for the local police departments on investigations. We can put a partial print in and it directs them to a suspect versus following people for days, weeks or months at a time.

D. Laboratory Personnel

a. Reappointment of staff members on an annual basis

i. R. I. General Laws 12-1.1-8(10)

This Commission approves the reappointments of positions in the Laboratory by statute. Since the Commission hasn't met since December of 2005, there had been no reappointments. They have not been reappointed since the meeting before July of 2005. That would have been the last time the Commission would have had to deal with the appointments. The Commission needs to reappoint on the Director's recommendation, the six analysts, Robert Hathaway; Lawrence Pilcher; Ed Downing; Mark Zabinski; Amy Duhaime and Kim Freeland. Those are the full-time non-classified people who work in the Laboratory. The University hires but the Commission appoints.

I would request the Commission to do that for them that would take them through June 30th of 2008.

Nancy Haley asked if annual reviews are done of the Laboratory personnel?

Director Hilliard stated that it was just done recently for the merit increase that the Commission approved. It's part of the procedures and policies that we do in order to get a merit increase. Without the

Commissions approval, we upgraded two positions, updated and provided a merit increase for one position and then we did the other three positions at the last meeting. They all have been done and they all have positive reviews otherwise they wouldn't get a merit increase.

Assistant Attorney Goulart not being familiar with the statutes is uncomfortable voting on reappointing any staff at this meeting.

Chief Kelley made a motion to table the discussion with Lieutenant Pincince seconding the motion with all Commission members in favor. Assistant Attorney Goulart will talk to Deputy Attorney General Coyne and have it put on the agenda at the next quarterly meeting.

b. Reappointment of Director – five year appointment

i. R.I. General Laws 12-1.2-5(a)(b)

Director Hilliard stated there is the reappointment of the Director also. That is under another statute. I was initially appointed in 1995 and then reappointed in 2000. The appointment technically came up in 2005. The statute states the Director shall sit a period of five years and may be reappointed by the Commission thereafter to subsequent five-year terms. Again, I was looking for the Commission to reappoint to another five-year term. It's up to the Commission to decide how they want to undertake that. In 2000, Sheldon Whitehouse did a full review of the Laboratory and appointed a Committee to report back to the Commission.

Chief Kelley noted that he was on the Subcommittee which brought some recommendations back to Director Hilliard and he followed all the recommendations along with getting the Crime Lab accredited. Chief Kelley recognized what a fantastic job the Director has done; however without the Attorney General or Deputy Attorney General Coyne present Nancy Haley made a motion to table the discussion with Lieutenant Pincince seconding, the motion with all Commission members in favor, it will be put on the agenda at the next quarterly meeting.

ii. Salary Survey

Director Hilliard spoke regarding the issue of the Director's pay as well as the pay scale throughout the Laboratory. Consolidation effort brought to light discrepancies between what's being paid at the Health Department as to what's being paid at the Crime Lab. I have always maintained with my increase responsibilities in the Crime Laboratory, with personnel, caseload, accreditation that there should be some compensation for upgrading my salary within the Crime Laboratory itself. The recommendation of the Commission back in 2005 was to wait for the consolidation. It doesn't appear that the consolidation is going to happen anytime soon, so the Commission at the August meeting requested I bring some numbers to the table.

Provided in your packet is a pay scale comparison to what is being paid in the Crime Laboratory and what's being paid at the Forensic

Science Laboratory, so there are instate comparison between jobs. The footnotes dictate what happens in terms of longevity, so the numbers that were passed out last time to Commission members, which were the numbers being paid to individuals at the Forensic Lab today included their steps and longevity. Nearly everyone at the Forensic Lab is at the top of their step, which are automatic and only one is at the top of their step at the Crime Lab because the steps are not automatic.

The salary, longevity differentiation is pretty great. The maximum longevity for people in the University is 10% after 20 years, for those in classified their longevity is 20% after 25 years. What I've done in the Forensic Science Laboratory is show you what the pay scale should be in terms of Criminalist I, II, III and IV. We don't have a Criminalist IV but you can see three years and five years of Criminalist I, it has been three years that our youngest employee has been there. Criminalist II is at 14 years, 8 years and 3 years of service so two of them would be entitled to some longevity benefit and the Criminalist III would also be entitled to some longevity benefit. My recommendation to the Commission, as it was to the Governor's office when we looked at consolidation, was to raise the pay grade of the Criminalist in the Crime Lab by two pay grades. That could amount to \$100,000 depending on what they do with the Director's job. Without the Director's job you're looking at probably \$50-\$60,000 differential if you would upgrade two grades. They are all looking at \$3-6,000 difference in base salary. Nancy Haley questioned why if the

employees of both the Crime Lab and Forensic Science Lab are state employees why such a difference.

Director Hilliard noted because the Forensic Science Lab are classified employees of the State and the Crime Lab are non-classified employees of the Board of Governors.

Chris Cotta asked if the issue of the Forensic people going to the Crime Lab had been resolved. Are the Forensic people going to come over as non-classified or were the Crime Lab going to go classified?

Director Hilliard stated they were going to come over and maintain their status as classified employees until they left the position and then the position would then be converted to a non-classified position. They could opt to go non-classified if they want to, but anyone who has been in the job more than 5 years wouldn't want to do that. The retirement is the same, but they still maintain the benefits of the classified employee so they wouldn't have to switch retirement programs. They remain ERS, where most of our employees are TIA retirement.

Doctor Uliss mentioned the main issue was that they were going from classified to non-classified, they were going from regular state employees with all of the seniority benefits to a year-to-year contract, which was a major issue.

Director Hilliard stated the union wouldn't lose the positions they would just change titles, so NEA would maintain those positions within their bargaining unit, but instead of being under PSA Health it would be under PSA URI. I provided this Commission with information about job titles and salaries. Charlotte came out with one, there was a survey done by ASCLD for directors and their supervisors. You can see the states they surveyed they sorted them out by different segments of the US population. This would go to the question of the Director's salary. There's the bar chart first of all that shows the Director's versus the next subordinate. In the Northeast there's an average of \$84,900. I would like to see for the Director's position that it gets at least the mid-point of the salary range. Current salary range for the Director at URI is \$59,800 to \$118,188. My base salary is \$76,774 and I do get a 10% longevity above that, where the Chief Forensic Scientist in the Health Department is base salary is \$80,893 being eligible for 20% longevity, it's around \$97,000.

Assistant Attorney General Goulart asked Director Hilliard why he used the City of Charlotte?

Director Hilliard stated that they do a nationwide search every year, so it's not just the City of Charlotte. We had participated in that survey and that's why he provided a copy of the survey.

E. Consolidation Efforts

a. University of Rhode Island Plan

Director Hilliard provided in the packet two charts. The positions without the gray are the positions that exist today. If the Laboratories were to be consolidated as a single unit, these are the sections that would be created within that Laboratory and the positions that currently exist within that Laboratory. Director Hilliard was told that one of the Forensic Scientist in Toxicology is on loan and would probably not be coming over. The next page has the grayed out boxes. Those grayed out boxes are essentially new positions that would be request to be added to the consolidated Laboratory to basically bring it up to the manpower that was recommended by a study that was done on both Laboratories in 2002, by an outside agency. We have already brought our manpower up to the suggested recommendations, where we hired three new people over the course of the last 5 years. Forensic Science has not been as successful in hiring new people and they are looking for at least two more DNA analyst and two more Forensic Scientist in their Tox Lab to meet the accreditation requirements. Especially when the Medical Examiner becomes accredited and the increase of turn over rate for the Medical Examiner case is in the Toxicology Unit. This was something the Commission requested to see what it would look like brought together.

Assistant Attorney General Goulart asked if there is any current status on efforts to consolidate.

Directed Hilliard spoke regarding a final meeting he had with the

Budget office in September. What was provided to them was a proposed budget where we took all the positions that existed and sat down with URI grant people and inputted all the number for FY09, which include cost of living increases. Health has gotten cost of living increase this year, URI has not; however, this assumes the 3% cost of living increase for FY08 and into FY09 when the consolidation was planned to happen, which would have been July of 2008. These numbers are based upon current salaries with the cost of living increases over those next two years. The positions are identified with URI above and Forensic Science below, as well as the fringe benefit costs, which are exceedingly high in the classified service, more than 50% of salary goes towards fringe benefits. Then it goes into what we would require for equipment costs and travel, supplies. These were all estimates and we came up with a number of nearly \$4 million dollars. That's what is based on just what's there. That was 3.1 million dollars for employee expenses and supplies and equipment and then we costed in the overhead to the University.

When we had our meeting with the University about space allocation, Director Hilliard sat down with Dean Letendre and Bob Weygand and explained to the Commission at the last meeting that we had requested additional space from the University when it was determined that we would not be part of the State Police Headquarters. The University sat down with us last May with Bob Weygand, who is the Vice President of Finance, our Personnel Director, our University Architect, myself and Dean Letendre, the

former Executive Chair, Executive Secretary and we discussed the needs of going from current 3,000 square foot of space to some 30,000 square foot of space. My request was two floors in the building we are in now, because eventually the Pharmacy would move out in 2010-2011 and we could occupy that space. Mr. Weygand had the University Architect cost out what that space newly built would cost the University and it was 14 million dollars. Since we didn't have 14 million dollars, Mr. Weygand said if we had to borrow that money it would cost us approximately \$400,000 a year for 20 years. So he's saying the cost of that 30,000 square feet was \$400,000. That was a starting point, but when Director Hilliard asked the University what they would charge as an overhead the recommendation was a 25% overhead. So you can see we built in a 25% overhead on top of that 3.1 million dollars and that was \$749,000. So that brought the number to 4 million dollars.

Of course, the same recommendations that we just talked about were being made here to add positions and that's the second page. We need to add the Quality Manager position, we need to determine whether or not we need to bring people off of grant funds and on to hard money but at minimum to add Toxicology positions, DNA positions, Evidence Technician positions, which would include an IT person. All the people you need to run a Laboratory of 30 plus people. When we added those costs along with the benefits and the upgrade recommendations that I just mentioned for the Criminalist and my job, it came to nearly another million dollars. We're looking at

base cost of approximately 4 million dollars and 25% overhead of a million dollars. Director Hilliard's budget was recommending approximately 4.7 million dollars. When we showed these numbers to the Budget office, they took those numbers and came back with 5.11 million dollars and apparently when this was presented to the Governor he objected to giving URI another 2 million dollars to operate the Crime Laboratory. At that time JR Paglarini who was the Chief of Staff for the Governor, told Director Hilliard the issue was not dead but that Colonel Doherty was going to be the point person for now starting a Memorandum of Understanding for all parties involved and restarting this project.

i. Health Forensic Science Laboratory

Dr. Uliss stated that Dr. Gifford had met with the Governor and a decision was made to move the Health Forensic Science Laboratory to the new department of Public Safety under the Colonel on paper. There is no indication that there is going to be a physical move at this time.

Lieutenant Pincince stated he thought what's going to happen is that it's going to turn out exactly like Dr. Uliss said, that everything is going to stay status quo.

Director Hilliard questioned if it was to remain separate?

Lieutenant Pincince stated it will fall under the Department of Public

Safety.

Director Hilliard noted there's no indication that the State Crime Lab would move under the Department of Public Safety. This Commission has not heard anything. He felt the Attorney General had not been informed of anything. Director Hilliard has had no discussions about moving to the Department of Public Safety nor is he in favor of moving.

Dr. Uliss stated that his understanding is that for FY10 we will on paper move our budget and personnel to the Department of Public Safety but stay where we are physically. The current Laboratory will be refurbished. The combined consolidated Laboratory will be in Cranston.

b. Memorandum of Understanding

i. Colonel Doherty – Governor's position

Director Hilliard mentioned the Colonel was going to bring the Governor's point of view on future consolidation efforts by the Governor's office. If their plan is to now move into the Public Safety Complex, the Commission would probably make the determination as to which way to go. At this point I'm not in favor of it, but it's something for the Commission to determine. Overtures haven't been made to the Commission yet, it's at least two years down the road. There will be no more meetings on this consolidation unless something actually comes forward to the Commission.

Chris Cotta asked in the meantime what's the status with the RI State Crime Lab as far as facilities, etc. At the last Commission meeting you mentioned the University might have other plans for budgeting.

Director Hilliard felt they would maintain the facilities they are in presently. They did get a small room so we have increased our room size so we're pretty much where we need to be. If we were going to jump from 3,000 square feet to 30,000 square feet they might have other plans for us. We wouldn't have to worry about moving out of Fogarty for at least three years now, because they would still have to have some sort of plan once the Pharmacy building started breaking ground in May of 2008.

Joan Lausier stated they are planning of moving in August of 2010.

Assistant Attorney General Goulart asked what the plans are for the Fogarty building.

Joan Lausier stated the University is going to use it as a surge building so people who need Laboratory space, office space will be able to use it. She thought Pharmacy wants to keep the animal quarters and a little bit of space.

Director Hilliard felt there wouldn't be a problem with us staying where we are. The University likes having us there but if we're going

to jump to a 30,000 square foot facility they may want compensation. I thought Colonel Doherty would bring the Governor's position to the meeting. Dr. Uliss has brought some of it and perhaps we will hear from Colonel Doherty after he reads the minutes of this meeting. Maybe he can call the Attorney General and let them know where we are.

III. Funding

A. FY2007

Director Hilliard included in the packet the budget that was approved for 2007, showing us having a \$629,000 funding. The following pages show how that money was portioned by the University throughout the year. You'll see there was a surplus for 2007 of \$9,673. That's savings because we had the STAC Grant, which provided some funding for positions in the Laboratory. We offset that funding under our budget with those monies.

B. FY2008

FY2008 is the proposed budget that was approved by the Commission at the August meeting. It included the pay grade increase for Kim Freeland and the merit increases for the other staff members that are being put through now. It also shows the adjustment that was made by the STAC Grant where 25% of the technician's salary adjusted and 5% for the Criminalist III. We ended up with besides the surplus in 2007, a 2005 and 2006 surplus, which the University needed permission to move.

The Commission authorized Director Hilliard to send a letter to the budget office requesting that any additional monies left in any accounts for the Laboratory be moved to this years budget FY2008. There was a budget surplus in 2005 of \$9,125; a surplus in 2006 of \$29,368 for a total surplus rollover of \$48,168.50. We took the number that was allocated to us for \$654,964 and added the \$48,168.50 to that number. We have available funding for this year of \$703,000. All the money was moved. That's why the \$48,168 is reflected in the revised 2008 budget. The extra money rather than being split out anywhere else was placed into capital equipment. The \$654,000 is all we can bill the Attorney General for this year, but there is extra funds available. If there was any movement on salaries we can take care of those. The problem with doing salaries with this surplus is you have to break into next year's request. There is a provision in the URI contract that if you give merit increases and the money's not available next year they go back to where they were. We don't want to do that. We don't want to get in that situation, but if you wanted to take that money and make the increases recommended to either the Director's position or the other positions, that would be available this year and probably through next year but at 2010 you'd be wanting to bump up your request dramatically to the General Assembly to account for those increases in salary. It's something the Commission has to work with and see how they want to do this. For next year URI has a breakdown for payments out for 2008 through November 25, 2007. These are pay outs, we still have approx.

\$500,000 available to us this year.

C. FY2009

The last sheet is the projected FY2009. This is based on a number that Chris Cotta gave Director Hilliard. \$675,000 is what is placed into the request for the General Assembly. Director Hilliard added the Quality Management position at \$43,540. That's what we think the Quality Manager full-time position would pay, including the benefits, so this changes the request to \$722,000 based on that position. If we were not to fill that position next year, it would bring under the \$675,000 and find other areas to spend that money. We would add more to capitol and more to supplies and equipment.

Chris Cotta stated the Governor is recommending the \$675,000.

Director Hilliard noted the surplus run over could justify numbers upward to make sure we can hire the Quality Manager. It was his recommendation to hire but we may have to put it off for a year or so. We'll probably have some grant money to pay that person, so it could be a split between the hard money and the grant money. We could maintain that for a couple of years that way. He would like to be able to hire a full-time Quality Manager sometime in the next year or so.

D. Byrne/Coverdell Grants

We have completed spending all our Byrne Grant monies.

Coverdell money has been going up. It was \$90,000 this past year, which was split three ways. Health Department got some, we got a piece, Medical Examiner this year to get new microscopes, they got \$30,000. That will probably be split up again three ways next year. Maybe we'll come to 1/3 of the pie unless someone else jumps in on it. We're never sure how much that money is. It will probably be around \$90,000 next year. There is a potential for requesting competitive side to that grant which can get up to \$130,000. I always thought if we had the consolidation that would be a good basis for applying for that money.

E. STAC Grant

This is the Science/Technology grant that's offered by the State government to work with private industry. Kim Freeland has been working with a private agency Iron Technologies to test the program in arson cases. It has provided some offset in our Laboratories to save some monies.

F. Potential Funding for Consolidation/Renovations of Fogarty Hall

i. Federal Senatorial and Congressional Contacts

Director Hilliard mentioned monies to do renovations. The federal government has explained they do not provide money for brick & mortar. Part of the monies they give can be used to recondition or refurbish facilities but not build Laboratories. What I asked RGB to do was to provide the cost estimate in hard copy. This is a basis to go to the federal government and say, this is what it's going to cost

us to outfit a new Laboratory for 30 people. The building shell was \$4.5 million; about \$5-6 million in internal construction to outfit that facility. I would use the four numbers up above here to go to Senator Whitehouse and Senator Reed if we were going to do something like this and say, these are the numbers that we were getting to outfit a new Laboratory and that's where we ask them to help with the \$6 million. These are figures going back to 06 so you have to figure a cost increase of about 8%-10%. This will at least be a basis to start the discussion.

At the last meeting the Attorney General asked for information of what we're going to ask for and how we're going to ask for it. You can start asking for money now and the money will come two or three years later.

In regards to Homeland Security, Director Hilliard stated the Crime Laboratory hasn't seen any money. They seem to be consumed with prevention as opposed to apprehension and detection. We thought it was going to be a big boom for us but it never did turn out to be that way.

Chief Kelley noted they haven't seen any money in a couple of years. It seems the President has cut down Homeland Security at least in half.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Items from the Floor

There was no new business to discuss. Assistant Attorney General entertained a motion to adjourn. With Nancy Haley making the motion with Lieutenant Pincince seconding the motion, all Commission members being in favor the meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Minutes taken and transcribed by:

Teresa A. Dorrance, Department of Attorney General