



**Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence Kit
Policy and Funding Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 12, 2018
1:00 pm
Office of the Attorney General
200 St. Paul Place
22nd Floor, Kornblatt Conference Room
Baltimore, Maryland 21202**

MEETING SUMMARY

In attendance: Brian Frosh, Daniel Katz, Teresa Long, Lisae Jordan, Pamela Holtzinger, Randi Walters, Jennifer Witten, Russ Trow, Scott Shellenberger, Keva Jackson-McCoy, Justice Schisler, Ron Levitan, Tianna Mays, Claire M. Kelleher-Smith, Carrie Williams, Zenita Hurley, Linda Forsyth, Rob Taylor, Ron Levitan, Liliana Rocha, Alexandria Ciccone, Angela D. Wharton

Committee Meeting

Welcome & Opening Comments by Carrie Williams, Chair

The new Committee Chair Carrie Williams welcomed everyone, introduced new Committee member Randi Walters from the Department of Human Services as well as guest speaker Liliana Rocha from the Joyful Heart Foundation.

Joyful Heart Foundation Presentation

Liliana Rocha, Policy and Advocacy Manager for the Joyful Heart Foundation, gave a presentation on national best practices relating to SAEK tracking systems, model legislation for SAEK reform and feedback on the Committee's preliminary recommendations. Committee members asked Ms. Rocha for the Foundation's thoughts on whether to test SAEKs that were determined to be ineligible for submission to CODIS. Ms. Rocha promised to reach out to other jurisdictions and get back to us with additional information.

Survivor Testimonies

The Committee Chair introduced two survivors of sexual assault, Alexandria Ciccone and Angela D. Wharton, who shared their experiences with the criminal investigation of their cases, including their understanding of how their kits were handled. Attorney General Frosh thanked the survivors for sharing their stories.

Legislative & Other Updates

Assistant Attorney General Zenita Hurley provided an update on several 2018 session bills related to the Committee's preliminary recommendations: HB639; HB1124; and HB1125. Ms. Hurley also provided an update on the status of the Committee's preliminary recommendations, OAG's proposed regulations implementing HB255 (2017) and the statewide SAKI grant application.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 pm.