



**Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence Kit
Policy and Funding Committee
Meeting**

**Tuesday, February 6, 2018
10:00 am
House of Delegates Building
Room 145
Annapolis, Maryland 21401**

MEETING SUMMARY

In attendance: Daniel Katz, Teresa Long, Del. Shelly Hettleman, Lisae Jordan, Pamela Holtzinger, Justice Schisler, Jennifer Witten, Russ Trow, Scott Shellenberger, Elizabeth Embry, Zenita Hurley, Angela Williamson

Committee Meeting

Welcome & Opening Comments by Elizabeth Embry, Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone and introduced the speaker, Dr. Angela Williamson.

Overview of Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) Grants & National SAEK Best Practices

Angela Williamson, PhD, Senior Policy Advisor (Forensics), Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, US Department of Justice, gave a presentation on how the USDOJ National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) has helped solved sexual assault cases in other jurisdictions. Specifically, Dr. Williamson described how Detroit and Cleveland had used their SAKI grants to identify numerous serial offenders and resolve cold cases. Dr. Williamson also described the SAKI grant application process and the National SAKI Grantees meeting. Finally, Dr. Williamson described the free training offered by the SAKI National Training and Technical Assistance providers.

Review of Committee Preliminary Recommendations

The Chair led a review of the Committee's draft preliminary recommendations and accepted feedback from Committee members. The Committee discussed preparations for submitting a statewide SAKI grant application, due April 30th. Finally, the Committee discussed which representatives to send to the 3rd Annual National SAKI Grantees Meeting, March 27-28, in Arlington, VA., and noted that applications were due within the next few weeks.

2018 SAEK Legislation

The Chair led the Committee's discussion of several proposed and pending bills related to the following areas: SAEK tracking; the "Notice & Demand" statute; and expanded testing. The Committee reached consensus to support each proposal with recommended amendments.

HB255 (2017) Draft Implementing Regulations

Zenita Hurley led the Committee's discussion of draft regulations implementing the victim notification and SAEK retention requirements of HB255 (2017). Ms. Hurley asked that any comments be sent by email to her attention as soon as possible so that the regulations could be finalized for submission to AELR.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 pm.