

**Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board**  
**July 29, 2022**  
**Full Board Meeting**  
**Minutes**

**Meeting Date:** July 29, 2022

**Time:** 9:08 am CDT

**Location:** Tennessee Department of Health  
Division of Health Licensure and Regulations  
Metro Center Complex, Poplar Room, Ground Floor  
665 Mainstream Drive  
Nashville, TN 37243

**Members Present:**

Michael Johnson, MT-Med.Technologist-Gen. - Chairman  
LeeAnne Briggs, MT- Med. Technologist, Educator  
Danielle Gibson, MD-Pathologist  
Jennifer Gidcomb, MT-Medical Technologist, General  
Matthew Hardison, Ph.D., Independent Lab Mgr/Adm.  
Theodore Kieffer, MD-Pathologist  
Chris Litle, MT-Medical Laboratory Supervisor  
Andrew Stanton, CT-Cytotechnologist  
James A. Vaughan, MD-Pathologist Educator

**Vacant Positions:** Non-Pathologist Physician

**Members Absent:** Jerry Barker, MT-Hospital Lab Mgr/Admin. Dir.  
Gaye G. Jolly, MT-Hospital Administrator  
Lynn Stewart, Citizen Representative

**Staff Present:** Sandra S. Bogard, MT Consultant, Director  
Nina V. Smith, MT Consultant Administrative Office  
Ronda Webb-Stewart, Senior Associate Counsel  
Debbie Haggard, MT Consultant/Supervisor WTRO  
Richie Scruggs, MT Consultant/Surveyor ETRO  
Fowlen Anders, MT Consultant/Supervisor ETRO  
Lori Reynolds, MT Consultant/Surveyor ETRO

**Staff Absent:** None

**CLIA Manager/Representative:** Erika Haire, CLIA Manager

**Introduction of Board Members:** Board members and staff made their introductions to the audience.

**Quorum:** Nine (9) board members were present, which constituted a quorum.

**Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 am CDT by Michael Johnson, the Board Chairman.

**Presiding Officer:**

Mr. Johnson conducted the meeting.

**Recognized New Board Members & Staff**

Dr. Theodore Kieffer, a new board member, and Ms. Ronda Webb-Stewart, the new legal counsel to the Board, were recognized at this meeting.

Ms. Webb-Stewart presented a review of the Conflict of Interest Procedure for the Board members.

**Approve Minutes:**

P & E Committee Meeting

A motion to approve April 27, 2022, Personnel & Education Committee minutes was made by Ms. Gidcomb.  
Second: Ms. Briggs

The minutes were approved.

Full Board Meeting

A motion to approve April 28, 2022, Full Board meeting minutes was made by Mr. Stanton.  
Second: Dr. Hardison

The Board minutes were approved.

Ratification Of Initial Determinations  
P & E Committee Meeting:

Ms. Briggs reported the actions of the Personnel & Education Committee meeting, July 28, 2022.

Motion to ratify Committee actions: Dr. Kieffer.  
Second: Dr. Vaughan

The report was accepted as presented by Ms. Briggs.

**Consent, Agreed, Compliance Orders, And Letters of Reprimand:**

Consent Order:

Ms. Brandy Porter, Medical Laboratory Technician, her license was suspended under a consent order. Ms. Porter was directed to undergo an evaluation by the Tennessee Professional Assistance Program (TNPAP). Based on the recommendation of TNPAP, she may receive a TNPAP monitoring agreement. In conjunction with the monitoring agreement, her license will be stay on probation for no less than two years. If TNPAP does not recommend a monitoring agreement, Ms. Porter's license will stay on probation for a period of one year. At

the completion of the probation, her license will be returned to an unencumbered status.

Motion: Dr. Vaughan  
Second: Mr. Litle

The motion was approved.

### **Presentations To The Board:**

**Tennessee Professional Peer Assistance Program (TNPAP)**  
Teresa Phillips, Executive Director

The statistical report for July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022, was presented by Ms. Teresa Phillips, Executive Director.

Zero (0) individuals were monitored during this period.

Ms. Phillips also clarified that three (3) years is the standard monitoring period for the Board. The monitoring usually lasts four (4) years when substance abuse is involved.

Motion to accept the TNPAP report: Ms. Briggs.  
Second: Ms. Gidcomb

The report was accepted as given.

**Investigations Report**  
Roger Knowlton  
Disciplinary Intake Coordinator

Mr. Knowlton's investigative report included the following:

Monitored Practitioners (Personnel and Facilities):  
(January-July 2022)

Investigative Licensed Laboratory Personnel: (2022)

Zero (0) new complaints

One (1) complaint closed

Zero (0) currently open

Investigative Licensed Laboratory Facilities: (2022)

Five (5) new complaints:

Two (2) malpractice/negligence

Two (2) COVID

One (1) unprofessional conduct

Four (4) closed complaints:

Two (2) referred to OGC

Two (2) closed-warning letter

Eight (8) currently open complaints

Motion to accept the report: Dr. Gibson.  
Second: Dr. Hardison

**Financial Report**

Alicia Grice  
Fiscal Director

**Legislative Update**

Olivia Spears, Esq.  
Legislative Liaison

The investigations report was accepted as given.

No report was given.

Olivia Spears, Esq. the Legislative Liaison, presented the following legislative update:

Non-Health Related Legislative Activity of Note

- The legislature addressed legislative and Congressional redistricting.
- The “Truth in Sentencing” Act made mandatory sentences for certain criminal offenses.
- The “Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement (TISA) Act” reformed the school funding approach.

Highlights and Noteworthy Health-Related Legislation

- The Department had two successful legislative initiatives that became law relating to local county health departments and the Controlled Substance Monitoring Database, respectively.
- Healthcare Facilities will move to the Health Services and Development Agency (HSDA)/Health Facility Commission on July 1, 2022
- Healthcare providers can continue to utilize telehealth and receive reimbursement for telehealth services.
- The Board of Pharmacy and the Board of Nursing will now hire and fire the Executive Director of the Board.
- A registry within the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability was created to combat the operation of unlicensed facilities.

*Pertinent Public Chapters*

\*All Public Chapters are Hyperlinked to the Document on the Secretary of State’s Website\*

[Public Chapter 644—SB1823/HB1867—Johnson/Zachary](#)

Re: Covid-19 Vaccine Exemptions. This public chapter requires that an employer grant certain exemptions to requirements of proof/receipt of vaccinations if the request for exemption is either (1) supported by signed/date statement by a licensed physician that the

staff member has a condition recognized under generally accepted medical standards as a basis for the medical exemption or (2) the staff member attests in writing (including electronic means) that the staff member has a sincerely held religious believe that prevents the staff member from complying the requirement in accordance with guidance from Medicare and Medicaid services. This public chapter creates a civil penalty of \$10,000 for violation of this statute.

Effective as of March 11, 2022.

[Public Chapter 680—SB1909/HB1904—Johnson/Faison](#)

Re Autoclave Requirements. This public chapter exempts autoclaves from the clearance requirements of the Board of Boilers Rules if the autoclave sterilizes reusable medical or dental equipment used by an individual licensed under title 68 or 63, is installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations, contains a boiler, and is regulated by the FDA.

Effective as of March 28, 2022. The Governor did not sign this public chapter.

[Public Chapter 729—SB1737/HB1818—Roberts/Ragan](#)

Re Board Extension. This public chapter extends the Medical Laboratory Board to June 30, 2027.

[Public Chapter 756—SB1789/HB2858—Briggs/Kumar](#)

Re Conditions of Participation. This public chapter removes the requirement that a healthcare provider enrolled in Medicare or Medicaid be subject to conditions of participation to be exempt from the definition of “private business” or “governmental entity” for purposes of the Title 14/Covid-19 state laws.

Effective as of March 31, 2022.

[Public Chapter 769—SB568/HB702—Johnson/Lamberth](#)

Re Anatomical Gifts. This public chapter prohibits a healthcare provider, a hospital, an ambulatory surgical treatment center, a home care organization or any other entity responsible for matching anatomical gifts or organ donors to potential recipients from, solely on the basis of whether an individual has received or will receive a Covid-19 vaccine, (1) consider an individual ineligible for transplant or receipt of an anatomical gift, (2) deny medical or other services related to transplantation, (3) refuse to refer an individual to a transplant center or specialist, (4) refuse to place an individual on an organ or tissue waiting list, or (5) place an individual at a

position on an organ or tissue waiting list lower than the position the person at which the individual would have been placed if not for the individual's vaccine status. Effective as of April 8, 2022.

[Public Chapter 833—HB1997/SB1936—Cochran/Jackson](#)  
Re UAPA. Clarifies that the ALJ shall decide a procedural questions of law. Allows the director of the administrative procedures division of the secretary of state's office to issue subpoenas. Allows electronic participation in hearings, by agreement of the parties. The hearing officer may allow electronic testimony if the absence of the witness would otherwise cause of delay of the hearing. Requires that a final orders be issued within 90 days. Allows that a petition for reconsideration be filed within 15 days of the entry of the final order or initial order. Effective as of April 19, 2022.

[Public Chapter 854—HB2733/SB2879—Windle/Bailey](#)  
Re Veteran's Day Holiday. Requires that private businesses provide a veteran with Veteran's Day as a non-paid holiday if the veteran provides proof of status, notice to the employer and the employee's absence will not cause the employer significant issue. Effective as of April 20, 2022.

[Public Chapter 856—HB2864/SB2889—Rudd/Gardenhire](#)  
Re Public Meetings. Permits boards or agencies of state government to have electronic meetings. If an electronic meeting is being held, requires that members of the public be allowed to view and/or listen to the meeting in real time. There must also be a method of members of the public to participate in the meeting electronically, if they would otherwise be permitted to participate in person. Instructions for participate are to be included in the notice of the meeting. An electronic meeting shall be recorded and that recording must be posted on the website of the organization within 3 days. The governing body shall maintain that electronic record of the meeting for at least 3 years. Effective on July 1, 2022.

[Public Chapter 883—SB2285/HB1749—Bell/Ragan](#)  
Re UAPA and Judicial Review Standards. Requires that a judge over a contested case not defer to an agency's interpretation of the statute or rule and shall interpret it

de novo. Remaining ambiguity shall be resolved against the agency.

Effective as of April 14, 2022.

[Public Chapter 896—SB896/HB1960—Bowling/Hulsey](#)

Re Title 14. Eliminates the sunset provisions in Title 14 for the definitions section and for the section that prohibits government entities from mandating vaccinations. Deletes a variety of definitions from the Title.

For the deletion of definitions, effective July 1, 2022 at 12:01 AM. For all other purposes, effective as of April 19, 2022.

[Public Chapter 911—HB2309/SB2464—Freeman/Reeves](#)

Re Professional License Requirements. Mandates that a person seeking a professional license have US citizenship or be authorized under federal law to work in the US as verified by the SAVE Program (allows DACA children who are now adults to obtain professional licensure if not otherwise prevented by the license).

Effective July 1, 2022.

[Public Chapter 930—HB1871/SB1982—Hulsey/Hensley](#)

Re Covid Vaccinations and Acquired Immunity. Amends Title 14 to mandate that acquired immunity from a previous Covid-19 infection be treated the same as a Covid-19 vaccination by a governmental entity, school, or local education authority. Mandates that private businesses who require vaccinations also include recognition for acquired immunity for Covid-19.

Effective as of April 11, 2022—This was not signed by Governor.

[Public Chapter 1073—HB2665/SB2449—Sexton, McNally](#)

Re Covid Visitation Policies and Limitations on Covid Treatment Exemptions. Clarifies that a prescriber can be disciplined for prescribing controlled substances and/or narcotics for treatment of Covid, if appropriate. In addition, creates a patient advocate process that hospitals must follow during times of covid concern. Allows that person to enter a facility if they agree to follow procedures but provides certain exceptions to access to locations within the hospital.

Effective as of May 25, 2022.

[Public Chapter 1094—SB1891/HB1905—Hulsey/Doggett](#)

Re Mandatory Reporting of Fatal Drug Overdoses.  
Requires that a fatal overdose be reported to law enforcement, including by doctors and nurses.  
Effective July 1, 2022.

[Public Chapter 1117—SB2448/HB2671—White/Farmer](#)

Re: Extended Liability Protection Against Covid Claims.  
Extends the liability protection against claims based on Covid exposure until July 1, 2023.  
Effective as of June 1, 2022.

[Public Chapter 1123—SB2574/HB2535—Crowe/Alexander](#)

Re: End-of-Life Visitation at Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities. Requires that nursing homes and assisted living facilities allow for visitation during a disaster, emergency, or public health emergency for Covid-19. Provides an exemption if the visitation would violate federal or state law.  
Effective July 1, 2022.

Motion: Ms. Briggs  
Second: Mr. Stanton

The report was accepted as given.

**Point of Care Exemptions 1200-06-03-.16(1):**

- 1. STRHS-Winchester**  
185 Hospital Road  
Winchester, TN 37398  
Blakely Jones, MLS(ASCP)-Admin. Director Lab Services

The gavel was turned over to the Vice-Chair, Dr. Gibson.

The first request is to permit Respiratory Therapists to perform and report pH, pCO<sub>2</sub>, pO<sub>2</sub>, TCO<sub>2</sub>, HCO<sub>3</sub>, BE, and sO<sub>2</sub> in the Cardiopulmonary Department utilizing the Abbott i-STAT (CG4+ cartridges) instrument and methodology.

Motion: Dr. Hardison  
Second: Mr. Litle  
Recused: Mr. Johnson

The exemption request was approved.

The second request was to permit Registered Nurses and Nurse Practitioners to perform and report sodium, potassium, ionized calcium, glucose, hematocrit, hemoglobin, pH, pCO<sub>2</sub>, pO<sub>2</sub>, TCO<sub>2</sub>, HCO<sub>3</sub>, BE, and sO<sub>2</sub> utilizing the Abbott i-STAT (CG8+ cartridges) instrument and methodology.



Motion: Dr. Kieffer  
Second: Mr. Litle  
Recused: Mr. Johnson

The exemption request was approved.

- 2. Lab Plus, LLC-Saint Thomas Midtown**  
2000 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37203  
Russell Ashley, MT-Point of Care Coordinator

The gavel was returned to the Board Chairman, Mr. Johnson.

The request was to permit Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) to perform and report pH, pO<sub>2</sub>, pCO<sub>2</sub>, TCO<sub>2</sub>, ACT, sodium, potassium, chloride, ionized calcium, glucose, BUN/Urea, creatinine, hematocrit, and hemoglobin in the Operating Rooms (facility-wide) utilizing the Abbott i-STAT instrument and methodology.

Motion: Dr. Gibson  
Second: Mr. Litle

The exemption request was approved.

- 3. Lab Plus, LLC-Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital for Specialty Surgery**  
2000 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37203  
Russell Ashley, MT-Point of Care Coordinator

The request was to permit Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) and Registered Nurses (RNs) to perform and report pH, pO<sub>2</sub>, pCO<sub>2</sub>, TCO<sub>2</sub>, HCO<sub>3</sub>, BE, sO<sub>2</sub>, sodium, potassium, hematocrit, and hemoglobin in the St. Thomas Hospital for Specialty Surgery Operating Rooms and ICU utilizing the Abbott i-STAT instrument and methodology.

Motion: Dr. Hardison  
Second: Dr. Kieffer

The exemption request was approved.

- 4. East Tennessee Children's Hospital Laboratory**  
2018 W. Clinch Avenue  
Knoxville, TN 37916  
John Ritter, MT-Admin. Lab Director

The request was to permit Respiratory Therapists to perform and report sodium, potassium, chloride, CO<sub>2</sub>, ionized calcium, glucose, BUN, creatinine, hematocrit, hemoglobin, lactate, pH, pCO<sub>2</sub>, pO<sub>2</sub>, TCO<sub>2</sub>, HCO<sub>3</sub>, BE, and sO<sub>2</sub> in the PICU, NICU, Emergency Department, Operating Rooms, and Pediatric Transport utilizing the Abbott i-STAT (CG4+, CG8+, and CHEM8+ cartridges) instrument and methodology.

Motion: Dr. Vaughan  
Second: Dr. Gibson

The exemption request was approved.

**Direct More Than Three (3) Labs 1200-06-03-.13(5):**

**1. Benjamin K. Chamberlain, MD**  
Nashville, TN 37217

Dr. Chamberlain appeared before the Board to request approval to direct a total of five (5) laboratories.

Dr. Chamberlain currently serves as a medical laboratory director for the following Tennessee licensed laboratory facilities:

- TriStar Mt. Juliet ER – 100 Wilfong Parkway, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122 (Lic. # 4402)
- Baptist Memorial Hospital-Huntingdon – 631 R.B. Wilson Dr, Huntingdon, TN 38344 (Lic. # 2052)
- Associated Pathologists, LLC dba PathGroup (Skyline) – 3441 Dickerson Pike, Nashville, TN 37207 (Lic. # 3290)-NEW
- TriStar Skyline Medical Center - 3441 Dickerson Pike, Nashville, TN 37207 (Lic. # 2094)-NEW
- TriStar Skyline Medical Center ABG Laboratory- 3441 Dickerson Pike, Nashville, TN 37207 (Lic. # 3332)-NEW

Motion: Dr. Gibson

Second: Ms. Gidcomb

Recused: Mr. Stanton

The request for Dr. Chamberlain to direct five (5) laboratories was approved.

**2. John R. Olson, MD**  
Columbia, TN 38401

Dr. Olson appeared before the Board to request approval to direct a total of five (5) laboratories.

Dr. Olson currently serves as a medical laboratory director for the following Tennessee licensed laboratory facilities:

- Wayne Medical Center-103 JV Mangubat Drive, Waynesboro, TN 38485
- Marshall Medical Center-1080 North Ellington Parkway, Lewisburg, TN 37091
- Northcrest Medical Center-Anatomic-100 Northcrest Drive, Springfield, TN 37172
- Perry Community Hospital-2718 Squirrel Hollow Drive, Linden, TN 37096-Closed
- Northcrest Medical Center-Clinical-100 Northcrest Drive, Springfield, TN 37172-NEW

Motion: Dr. Hardison  
Second: Dr. Kieffer  
Recused: Dr. Gibson  
Recused: Ms. Gidcomb

The request for Dr. Olson to direct five (5) laboratories was approved with the Chairman voting.

Dr. Olson requested that Perry Community Hospital lab be removed from his list of laboratories because the facility is closed.

**3. Elizabeth Culler, MD**  
Chattanooga, TN 37403

Dr. Culler appeared before the Board to request approval to direct a total of twelve (12) laboratories.

Dr. Culler currently serves as a medical laboratory director for the following Tennessee licensed laboratory facilities:

- Blood Assurance, Inc.-705 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Chattanooga, TN 37403 (lic. # 2274)-high complex testing
- Blood Assurance, Inc.-201 Keith Street, SW, Ste 19, Cleveland, TN 37312 (lic. # 2159)-waived testing
- Blood Assurance, Inc.-1920 North Point Blvd, Ste A, Hixson, TN 37343 (lic. # 3342)-waived testing
- Blood Assurance, Inc.-1748 Gunbarrel Rd, Ste 104, Chattanooga, TN 37421 (lic. # 4017)-waived testing
- Blood Assurance, Inc.-155 W. Broad Street, Cookeville, TN 38501 (lic. # 4070)-waived testing
- Blood Assurance, Inc.-604 N. Jackson Street, Tullahoma, TN 37388 (lic. # 4093)-waived testing
- Blood Assurance, Inc.-1412 Trotman Ave., Suite 69, Columbia, TN 38401 (lic. # 4339)-waived testing
- Blood Assurance, Inc.-1767 Wilma Rudolph Blvd., Clarksville, TN 37040 (lic. # 4441)-waived testing
- Blood Assurance, Inc.-60 Parris Avenue, Nashville, TN 37403 (lic. # 4432)-high complex testing-NEW

- Blood Assurance, Inc.-600A Frazier Drive, Suite 110, Franklin, TN 37067 (lic. # 4454)-waived testing-NEW
- Blood Assurance, Inc.-4686 Lebanon Pike, Hermitage TN 37076 (lic. # 4463)-waived testing-NEW
- Blood Assurance, Inc.-7112 Hwy 70 S, Suite D1, Nashville, TN 37221 (lic. # 4465)-waived testing-NEW

Motion: Dr. Vaughan

Second: Dr. Hardison

Recused: Dr. Kieffer

The request for Dr. Culler to direct twelve (12) laboratories was approved.

### **Discuss, Review, And Take Action, if Needed:**

Strategic Plan & Workload Report.

Erika Haire, the CLIA Manager, presented a strategic plan to address the backlog of lab surveys.

Surveys will be prioritized based on the following criteria:

- State licensure complaints that meet the criteria identified for the federal definition of immediate jeopardy
- Revisits/follow-up to resolve enforcement actions
- Backlogged initial and biennials for State licensure
- P.T. desk review (as required)
- Non-immediate jeopardy complaints (to be performed in conjunction with another survey type)
- Addition of specialty
- Current FY2022 biennial and initial surveys

No motion was needed.

Discuss Lab Surveyor Workload.

The Board reviewed a Remote Laboratory Survey form developed by the Board Director. After discussion, the Board requested the following changes be made to the form:

- On page one (1), change the word "tests" to "specialties or subspecialties."

- Add “submit letters of accreditation” to the checklist on the last page.
- Move the “Accreditation Organization” section to the front of the form.

The Board decided to draft a policy statement regarding the performance of remote laboratory surveys. The policy would continue to require an onsite survey for complaint investigations and initial surveys of high-complexity laboratories, and when the facility had any previous poor performance, that was a cause for concern.

The remote survey process will be utilized in two modes: extensive review and short review.

The extensive review will be utilized for initial surveys of moderately complex labs and the addition of specialty labs.

The short review will involve a self-audit for accredited laboratories. The surveyor may use this option for labs that are not accredited at their discretion.

The remote paper survey process would be limited to a two (2) year period and would fulfill the onsite survey requirement.

The Board tabled any action on the policy statement until the October meeting.

Discuss the Use of State-Issued Laboratory Personnel Licensure as a Primary Source Verification Document.

CMS asked if the Medical Laboratory Board would consider adding additional educational information to the personnel license so it could serve as verification of the licensee’s highest level of education for CMS surveys.

After discussion, the Board decided there was no guarantee that all CMS surveyors would use the revised license format, so the decision was made not to move forward with the request.

Motion: Mr. Litle  
Second: Dr. Hardison

The motion to deny the request was approved.

Discuss Routes to Upgrade a License from MLT to MT to Supervisor.

The Board received the following questions regarding the current routes to qualify as a state-licensed laboratory supervisor:

Is it possible for the state of TN to drop the Organic Chem requirement from the conversion of MLT to MT?

Is it also possible to waive the five (5) years of work experience as a Med Tech before becoming a supervisor?

Is it possible to have an amendment that states "x" amount of years of work experience as MLT followed by the completion of a bachelor's degree with whatever remaining science courses are necessary (minus organic), and then passing the MT exam followed by a briefer period of time (1 year) working as a Med Tech?

After discussion, the Board indicated that the NAACLS curriculum requires a course in either organic chemistry or biochemistry. The work experience requirement for a medical technologist to become a supervisor was recently shortened to three (3) years by a regulation change.

The Board decided to form a task force to review the current laboratory personnel regulations and discuss these concerns.

Motion: Dr. Gibson  
Second: Mr. Litle

The motion was approved.

Discuss the HemataStat II Centrifuge and RPM (Revolutions Per Minute) Checks.

The Board reviewed the Operator's Manual for the HemataStat II Centrifuge. After discussion, it was decided that the regulation at 1200-06-03-.09(3)(a)5. which requires annual verification of centrifuge accuracy does apply to the HemataStat II centrifuge. The Operator's Manual stated, "The rpm on the LCD should be within 2% of a tachometer reading". The Board indicated that annual rpm checks were required by regulation.

Motion: Mr. Litle  
Second: Mr. Stanton  
Absent: Dr. Hardison

The motion was approved.

Discuss the Possibility of Having Laboratory Surveyors that only Survey State-Licensed Facilities.

The Board indicated they wanted surveyors that inspected only state-licensed facilities. A justification has been submitted requesting the surveyor positions. The Board stressed that the current salary ranges for lab surveyors were not competitive in the current job market. They wanted to raise the maximum pay scale and asked the Board's administrative staff to check on this option. The Board Director indicated she would contact the Human Resources Office for guidance on the request.

No motion was needed.

**Review and Discuss the Licensure of Medical Laboratory Directors:**

1. Annapoorani Chockalingam, Ph.D.  
Jacksonville, FL  
Director - Molecular Diagnostics

Dr. Chockalingam received her D.M.V. degree in Veterinary Medicine at Madras Veterinary College in Chinnai, India, in 1995.

She received her Ph.D. in Animal Science from the Pennsylvania State University in University Park, PA, in 2006.

Dr. Chockalingam is certified by the American Board of Bioanalysis (ABB) HCLD in Molecular Diagnostics through Dec. 31, 2022.

She received her Clinical Cytogenetics and Molecular Diagnostics training at the Genetics Associates Laboratory in Nashville, TN, from 2011-2014.

Dr. Chockalingam received a Clinical Genetics and Genomics Graduate Certificate from the University of Connecticut in Storrs, CT in 2021.

She is seeking licensure as a Director in Molecular Diagnostics.

Motion: Dr. Vaughan  
Second: Ms. Briggs

The license was approved.

2. Carlee McClintock, Ph.D.  
Lenoir City, TN  
Director – Toxicology

Dr. McClintock received her B.S. degree in Biology from the University of Texas in Austin, TX, in 2004.

She received her Ph.D. in Genome Science and Technology from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, TN, in 2010.

Dr. McClintock is certified by the National Registry of Certified Chemists (NRCC) as a Toxicological Chemist in 2022.

She received her post-doctoral fellowship training at the Biochemistry & Cellular and Molecular Biology Department at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, TN from 2010-2013.

Dr. McClintock received her post-doctoral training in Toxicology at Pain Consultants of East TN by Select Laboratory Partners of Knoxville, TN from 2013-2022.

She is seeking licensure as a Director of Toxicology.

Motion: Dr. Gibson

Second: Mr. Stanton

The license was approved.

3. Lihui Yin, Ph.D.  
Brentwood, TN  
Director of Molecular Diagnostics

Dr. Yin received her B.S. degree in Molecular Biology & Biochemistry from Nankai University in Tianjin China, in 2000.

She received her M.S. degree in Molecular Biology from Nankai University in Tianjin China, in 2003.

Dr. Yin received her Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI in 2009.

She is certified by the American Board of Clinical Chemistry (ABCC) in Molecular Diagnostics through Dec. 31, 2024.

Dr. Yin received her post-doctoral fellowship training in the Department of Pathology at Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University from 2009-2011. She is currently in molecular training at PathGroup in Nashville, TN 2020-2022.

She is seeking licensure as a Director of Molecular Diagnostics.

Motion: Dr. Hardison.

Second: Dr. Kieffer



4. Kara Levinson, Ph.D.  
Madison, TN  
Medical Laboratory Director (PHLD)

The license was approved.

Dr. Levinson received her B.S. degree in Microbiology at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ, in 2007.

She received her M.P.H. degree in Hospital and Molecular Epidemiology at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI, in 2009.

Dr. Levinson received her Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences, Immunology & Infectious Diseases from the University of New York at Albany in Albany, NY, in 2016.

She is certified by the American Board of Medical Microbiology (ABMM) through Dec. 31, 2022.

Dr. Levinson received her post-doctoral fellowship training in CPEP Medical and Public Health Microbiology at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, NC from 2016-2018.

Dr. Levinson is requesting to change her license to Medical Laboratory Director (PHLD) based on her extensive work experience in public health laboratories. She does not have the American Board of Bioanalysis (ABB) certification as a Public Health Laboratory Director (PHLD). Still the Medical Laboratory Board has a licensure category that has been approved based on work experience in public health laboratories. Refer to October 17, 2013 minutes.

She is seeking licensure as a Medical Laboratory Director (PHLD).

Motion: Mr. Stanton  
Second: Dr. Gibson

The license was approved.

#### Reports/Requests:

##### Board Director's Report

Sandra Bogard, MS, MT(ASCP) QLC <sup>cm</sup>

The report included statistical data concerning laboratory personnel, facilities, training programs licensure, and health fair/health screening events during the Second Quarter of 2022.

The website continues to be updated daily/or as needed.

Staffing updates:

- Middle Tennessee surveyor positions remain vacant.

Board meeting dates for 2022 and 2023 were presented.

One (1) New Board Member:

- Theodore Kieffer, MD-Pathologist position.
- James Vaughan, MD-Pathologist Educator position (reappointed).

One (1) Vacancy on the Board:

- Non-Pathologist Physician

Board positions that expire on December 31, 2021:

- Gaye Jolly-Hospital Administrator
- Lynn Stewart-Citizen Member

Continue to work on the collaborative database between CEDEP (Communicable and Environmental Diseases and Emergency Preparedness) and the Medical Laboratory Board. The Board Director is currently working with a Project Manager on the design components of the database.

A copy of this report is kept on file in the administrative office.

Motion to approve the report as given: Dr. Vaughan.

Second: Ms. Briggs

Absent: Mr. Hardison

The report was accepted as given.

**Board Attorney Report**  
Ronda Webb-Stewart  
Senior Associate General Counsel

Counsel Ronda Webb-Stewart gave her report for the Second Quarter of 2022:

- The Conflict-of-Interest Policy was reviewed with the Board members.
- One (1) open case is currently in the Office of General Counsel.
- One (1) consent order will be presented to the Board.

- No outstanding rule packets at this time.

Motion to accept the Office of General Counsel Reports as given: Ms. Briggs.

Second: Ms. Gidcomb

Absent: Dr. Hardison

The reports were accepted as given.

**Regional Surveyor Reports:**

Complaint Investigations  
Proficiency Testing Events  
Regional Offices:  
East, Middle, West TN

**ETRO Report: 2nd Quarter**

Fowlen Anders, MT  
Consultant/Surveyor

East Tennessee Regional Office –Second Quarter 2022:

Complaint Investigations: One (1)

- One substantiated

Unsuccessful Proficiency Testing: One (1)

- First Occurrence (two in a row or two out of three unsatisfactory scores: One (1)
- Second Occurrence (three in a row or three out of five unsatisfactory scores: Zero (0)

**MTRO Report: 2nd Quarter**

Middle Tennessee Regional Office–Second Quarter 2022:

No report was given.

**WTRO Report: 2nd Quarter**

Debbie Haggard, MT  
Consultant/Surveyor

West Tennessee Regional Office –Second Quarter 2022:

Complaint Investigations: Zero (0)

Unsuccessful Proficiency Testing: Zero (0)

- First Occurrence (two in a row or two out of three unsatisfactory scores: Zero (0)
- Second Occurrence (three in a row or three out of five unsatisfactory scores: Zero (0)

Motion to accept the reports as given: Ms. Gidcomb.

Second: Dr. Gibson

Absent: Dr. Hardison

Reports were accepted as given.

**Addition/Deletions to the Board's Health Screening  
Test List:**

Nothing to present.

**Board Ratifications Initial Facility Applications:**

- 1. Associated Pathologists, LLC dba  
PathGroup Bartlett**  
2170 Business Center Drive, Suite 17  
Memphis, TN 38134

Specialties: Histopathology

Laboratory Director: Christopher Golembeski, MD  
Anatomic/Clinical Pathology

Surveyor: Debbie Haggard, MT Consultant II/WTRO

Motion: Ms. Briggs

Second: Mr. Litle

Abstained: Mr. Stanton

Absent: Dr. Hardison

The license was approved with the Chairman voting.

**Other Business/Discussion:**

**Adjournment:**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was  
adjourned at 1:15 pm CDT.

Motion to adjourn: Ms. Briggs.

Second: Mr. Litle

Absent: Dr. Hardison

The meeting was adjourned.