

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
January 2, 2025 1 pm Eastern

1. Welcome and Introductions

Steve Arms welcomed everyone to the meeting. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent (see Attachment 2). The minutes from December 5, 2024, were unanimously approved after a motion by Sharon, seconded by Stacie.

2. Updates

Jacksonville Conference

Jerry noted that registration is up to about 150 and still growing. The room block rate expires on January 10.

3. Review, Comment and Approve Draft Letter to C&EN

Jerry provided a revised draft of the letter to the editor of C&EN about the article titled "Shopping for cannabis testing labs", published on September 9, 2024, and the related editorial, "Cannabis testing needs culture change", published on September 7, 2024. Stacey Fry of California's Department of Cannabis Control joined the meeting as a resource.

Participants discussed whether to use "management system" or "quality management system (QMS)" as the appropriate phrase, since most of C&EN's readers will relate management system to the ISO 9000 standard, but TNI seeks to brand QMS for the additional elements included in the TNI Standards. The conclusion was to refer to "the TNI Quality Management System (QMS) standard, which is based on ISO/IEC 17025, but contains additional specificity to address many of the issues you brought up, especially related to ethics and data integrity" and move that explanatory language into the first paragraph of the letter. This revised draft also includes a suggestion that the state cannabis programs find a way to collaborate and share information, much as we did in the early NELAC days and continue doing into the present.

Sharon moved and Mike seconded that the revised draft be approved, and the vote was unanimously in favor. Jerry will present the letter to the TNI Board at its January 8 meeting for consideration and endorsement, prior to sending it to Britt Erickson, author of both the article and editorial referred to above. The approved letter is being shared with committee members along with these minutes.

4. Discuss Updated NELAP Vision and Outreach Plan

The meeting time was expired, so this topic will be postponed for a future meeting.

5. New Business

There was no new business offered.

6. Next Meeting

The TNI Ambassadors will hold their quarterly meeting on **Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 2 pm Eastern.**

The next meeting of the Advocacy committee will be at conference, 3 pm on Wednesday, February 5, in Jacksonville, FL. This will be a short meeting, focused on reviewing conference activities for Advocacy involvement.

The next scheduled teleconference is planned for **Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 1 pm Eastern.** An agenda and any needed documents will be provided prior to the meeting.

Attachment 1

	Name	Stakeholder Group	Present/Absent
1.	Steve Arms, Chair	Other	Present
2.	Stacie Crandall	Lab	Present
3.	Mike Delaney	Other	Present
4	Zonetta English	Lab	Present
5.	Marlene Moore	Other and NEFAP	Present
6.	Janice Willey	Federal	Absent
7.	Robin Cook	Lab	Absent
8.	Sharon Mertens, Vice Chair	Lab	Present
9.	William Lipps	Other	Present
	Associate Members		
	Sheela Agrawal	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Celeste Crowley	Other	Absent
	Stephanie Drier	AB	Absent
	Paul Junio	TNI Ambassador	Present
	Silky Labie	Other	Absent
	Ashley Larssen	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Judy Morgan	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Devon Morgan	TNI Ambassador	Present
	Lily Sanchez	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Aurora Shields	Other	Absent
	Elizabeth Turner	Lab	Absent
	Staff		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Present
	Lynn Bradley	TNI PA	Present
	Guest		
	Stacey Fry	CA Dept. of Cannabis Control	Present

Attachment 2 – Agenda as approved, January 2, 2025

- Welcome and Roll Call
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes (December minutes attached)
- Update on Conference (if any)
- Review, Comment and Approve Draft Letter to C&EN (Jerry to send prior to meeting)
- Updated NELAP Vision and the Outreach Plan (see attached documents)
- New Business, if any
- Adjourn