

Summary of the TNI Credentials Committee Meeting
Wednesday, August 23, 2023 1:00 pm Eastern

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Ken welcomed to the meeting. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1. Scott moved and Steve seconded that the July 26 minutes be approved and the vote was unanimously in favor. Alfredo moved and Elizabeth seconded that the conference minutes from August 3 be approved and again, approval was unanimous.

2. Updates

Jerry stated that he has either compiled or created over 700 questions, enough for 60 for each digital badge, and is presently getting them entered into a spreadsheet (for transfer into the custom software being created for us by TNI's IT Administrator) and entering the answers into that spreadsheet. Both Alfredo and Scott provided questions for this effort. Additionally, several of TNI's trainers have volunteered to vet the questions and answers – Silky Labie, Tony Francis and Marlene Moore.

One participant suggested checking the approved responses to Standard Interpretation Requests. Jerry reported after the meeting that he found a number of additional useful questions from that source. Further software development is now awaiting the spreadsheet of questions and answers.

Ken and Jerry briefly discussed the joint conference session with the Training Committee, noting that all involved believe that the joint sessions should continue. Many similar questions were asked by different people in the different parts of the session.

3. Continued Review of Draft Handbook

This review resumed at section 2.2.2, from the June meeting. Section 2 relates to the “full credential” exam. Jerry noted that this exam will have 15 questions from each badge category, about half of which will be “high difficulty” – at least for the Certified Quality Management Professional credential. Issues discussed and resolved are noted below.

§2.2.2 – note-taking will not be allowed, so several questions that would have required looking up an answer and then transferring that answer to the test will need to be rephrased to a format of “how would you find this information” rather than “what is the answer to this question”. A remote view of the test surroundings will be required either using the detached video monitor or a hand-held mirror, and artificial intelligence (e.g., ChatGPT) will not be allowed as part of the “open book” permissions.

§2.3 – some wordsmithing and fine-tuning but no major changes.

§2.4 – a decision was made not to count a question as part of the scoring if its answer is reasonably questioned by a test-taker. Also, participants discussed how much information we can or should provide to those who fail the test or who appear particularly weak in one of the badge errors. Jerry will check with TNI's IT Administrator and the committee will revisit this question in September.

At this point, the meeting time was expired. Review will resume with §2.4 and the issue of whether and how much to tell test-takers about their weak areas at the September meeting.

4. Next Meeting

The next video/teleconference will be on **Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 1 pm Eastern.**
The agenda, a Teams meeting link, and any necessary documents will be sent in advance.

Attachment 1

Competency Task Force Roster

NAME		EMAIL	AFFILIATION	STAKE-HOLDER CATEGORY	Present?
Paul	Banfer	paul.banfer@eisc.net	EISC	Other	No
Kenneth	Brown	kbrown@escondido.org	City of Escondido	Lab	Yes
Patricia	Carvajal	pmcarvajal@sara-tx.org	San Antonio River Authority	Lab	Yes
Steve	Drielak	drielak-associates@usa.net	Drielak & Associates	Other	Yes
Amanda	Dutko	adutko@fairway-laboratories.com	Fairway Laboratories	Lab	Yes
Stacey	Fry	sfry456@aol.com	CA Dept. of Cannabis Control	Other	Yes
Salima	Haniff	Salima.haniff@bvlabs.com	Bureau Veritas Labs	Lab	No
Harold	Longbaugh	Harold.Longbaugh@houstontx.gov	City of Houston	Lab	Yes
Theresa	Johnson	Theresa.Johnson@mccampbell.com	McCampbell Analytical, Inc.	Lab	Yes
Joann	Slavin	joann.slavin@health.ny.gov	NY DOH	AB	No
Scott	Siders	siders6six@yahoo.com	Retired	Other	Yes
Alfredo	Sotomayor	asotomayor@mmsd.com	MMSD	Lab	Yes
Elizabeth	Turner	Elizabeth.turner@pacelabs.com	Pace Labs, Inc.	Lab	Yes
Associate Members:					
Jerry	Thao	Jerry.thao@pacelabs.com	Pace Labs, Inc.	Lab	No
Staff:					
Jerry	Parr	Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org	TNI Executive Director		Yes
Lynn	Bradley	Lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org	TNI Program Administrator		Yes