

Summary of the TNI Credentials Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 27, 2023 1:00 pm Eastern

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Ken welcomed to the meeting. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1. In the absence of a quorum, Ken asked that approval of the August 23 minutes be postponed until the October meeting.

2. Updates

Lynn offered the update from Jerry about the question development. The near-complete set of digital badge questions is developed and has been provided to the volunteer TNI trainers for review – Silky Labie, Tony Francis and Marlene Moore. Their timeline for completing the review of all 700 questions is not established.

The technical module committees (Asbestos, Chemistry, Microbiology, Radiochemistry and Toxicity/WET Testing) have been asked to provide at least thirty questions each for the QC Specialist badge. Questions for Chemistry and WET already exist, and just need to be vetted by the committees; the other three are under development.

3. Continued Review of Draft Handbook

In Jerry's absence, Alfredo graciously handled the screen-sharing and editing for this review, after Ken realized that his lab network does not allow for screen-sharing.

The review resumed at section 2.4, from the August meeting. Issues discussed and resolved are noted below.

§2.4 – discussion of 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 continued. Several participants reported on what other organizations do: ISO and the Texas Professional Engineer exams will only report pass/fail results, but some other credentialing groups either give a numerical grade or if a live (in-person) test, review the answers once the tests are completed and turned in for grading. Consensus was that exam takers should be provided with an indication of their performance in each of the content domains upon request.

NOTE: After the meeting, Jerry advised that TNI's IT Administrator says the automated system will not be able to provide this information, that it would need to be obtained from manual review of test results. The Training Committee is working on a draft SOP for test questions, and its recommendation is that weak areas could be provided after manual review of test responses. The draft SOP is being distributed with these minutes.

Additionally, participants recommended that the option to appeal one's test results, while discussed later in §6, should be mentioned in this section.

§2.5 – no edits offered

§2.6 – the digital certificate cannot reasonably be reclaimed once issued and this sentence was deleted. The prohibition of its use outside of the valid dates cannot be enforced, but the certificate itself should have the beginning and end dates of the term (if applicable) on it. A question was raised about whether we should to include a QR code on the certificate – this may require additional consideration.

§3.0 – this paragraph was edited to reflect the existence of multiple badges.

§3.1 – revised the header and text, changing “certification/certificate” to “badge(s)” for clarity and to distinguish this section’s purpose more clearly from section 2.

At this point, the meeting time was expired. Review will resume with §3.1.4 at the October meeting.

4. Next Meeting

The next video/teleconference will be on **Wednesday, October 25, 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	No
Steve	Drielak	drielak-associates@usa.net	Drielak & Associates	Other	Yes
Amanda	Dutko	adutko@fairway-laboratories.com	Fairway Laboratories	Lab	No
Stacey	Fry	sfry456@aol.com	CA Dept. of Cannabis Control	Other	No
Salima	Haniff	Salima.haniff@bvlabs.com	Bureau Veritas Labs	Lab	Yes
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	No
Alfredo	Sotomayor	asotomayor@mmsd.com	Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewer District	Lab	Yes
Elizabeth	Turner	Elizabeth.turner@pacelabs.com	Pace Labs, Inc.	Lab	No
Associate Members:					
Ezekiel	Lebron	Ezekiel.Lebron@waterboards.ca.gov	CA ELAP	AB	Yes
Jerry	Thao	Jerry.thao@pacelabs.com	Pace Labs, Inc.	Lab	No
Staff:					
Jerry	Parr	Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org	TNI Executive Director		No
Lynn	Bradley	Lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org	TNI Program Administrator		Yes