



PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS QUALIFICATION COMMISSION

State of Georgia

Investigative Panel Regular Open Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

4:00pm VIDEO CONFERENCE

This regularly scheduled meeting of the Investigative Panel (IP) of the Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission (PAQC) of the State of Georgia was held via video conference. IP Chairman Randy McGinley Chaired the meeting. Ms. Abigail Ramirez served as Record Secretary.

Investigative Panel

Commissioners:

Mr. Randy McGinley, Chairman - Present

Mr. Jason Saliba, Vice Chairman – Not Present (Excused
Absence)

Mr. Judge John Ott, Commissioner - Present

Mr. Steve Scheer, Commissioner - Present

Mr. Joey Cowar, Commissioner - Present

PAQC Staff Member:

Mr. Ian Heap, Executive Director - Present

Mr. Greg Blackmon, Investigator – Not Present

Ms. Nicole Magnani, Investigator - Present

Ms. Abigail Ramirez, Executive Assistant - Present

Members of the Public:

1 Member

Chairman's Comments:

Mr. McGinley called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. and determined that a quorum of the Panel was present.

Mr. Ott made a motion to approve the open meeting minutes from the regular IP Meeting held on March 11th, 2026. Mr. Scheer seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Mr. Ginley recognized Mr. Heap for his ongoing involvement at the State Capital and working to get the PAQC bills passed. Mr. McGinley also acknowledged that if the bills are signed, changes to the rules must be discussed.

Director's Report:

Mr. Heap provided updates on how each bill would affect the PAQC. He provided a summary on Senate Bill (SB) 216, 218, 605 and the FY2027 budget. SB 216, 218 and the FY2027 budget will go into effect July 1st, 2026, unless vetoed by the Governor. SB 605 will only go into effect July 1st, 2026, if signed by the Governor. He also stated the FY2026 amended budget has been signed. Mr. Heap also mentioned the appeals process for PAQC will continue to go by the operation of law and the appropriate jurisdiction for the county in which the DA/SG reside.

Additionally, Mr. Heap discussed the need to update rules due to the impact of the new SB bills that could go into effect. Mr. Heap outlined proposed changes in his Legislative Update Presign document. Mr. Heap also discussed the desire to hire a deputy director or attorney to assist with the steady incline in caseload. He discussed the possible salary and the means to hire an attorney within budget limits.

Rules Amendment Timeline and Process:

Mr. McGinley made a comment highlighting the PAQC's role to discipline and not fix the system in which DA/SGs operate. He also discussed speaking to Mr. Saliba, the Vice Chairman, about forming a committee with 2 commissioners to discuss and create rule changes.

Executive Session:

At 4:32 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. McGinley and seconded by Mr. Ott to go into Executive Session for purposes of discussing the active docket, which is confidential per statute. For this reason, Members of Public were invited into a digital waiting room. The Executive Session ended at 4:56 p.m. and the Members of the Public were welcomed back into the meeting.

New Business:

A motion by Mr. McGinley was made to approve the hire of a Deputy Director Attorney position. Mr. Ott seconded the motion. The individual must be a member of the GA State Bar and licensed in the State of Georgia within the constraints of the budget; pay guided by Assistant District Attorney pay scale. All in favor.

Old Business:

None Reported.

Review and Approve Summary of this Meeting:

Mr. McGinley reviewed and approved the summary of this meeting.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.