



# ALABAMA COMMISSION ON THE EVALUATION OF SERVICES

## Meeting Minutes

[evidence.alabama.gov](http://evidence.alabama.gov)

### Date and Location

The Alabama Commission on the Evaluation of Services met virtually on December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 2:02 p.m. via Microsoft TEAMS.

### Attendance

| Member                                                                        | Present                             | Teleconference                      | Absent                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Chairman Orr                                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Vice-Chair Filmore                                                            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Commissioner Albritton                                                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Commissioner Carlton                                                          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Commissioner Coleman-Madison                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Commissioner Green                                                            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Commissioner Gray                                                             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Commissioner Sawyer                                                           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Commissioner Sells                                                            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Commissioner White                                                            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Commissioner Whitt                                                            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Commissioner Poole, <i>ex officio</i> (Taylor Nichols representing)           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Commissioner Fulford, <i>ex officio</i> (LSA Fiscal Division Deputy Director) | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |



A lawful quorum of voting members was present to conduct business.

### **Notice of Meeting:**

Sufficient notice of the meeting was posted on October 27th, 2025, to the Secretary of State's Open Meeting Act Posting Board.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting on September 4th, 2025.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sells to adopt the minutes as written. Commissioner Carlton seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.

### **Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair:**

Chairman Orr opened the meeting by announcing that Vice-Chair Filmore has agreed to continue in her current role and as such nominated Commissioner Filmore for Vice-Chair. A motion was made by Commission Gray. Commissioner Sells seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.

Chairman Orr opened nominations up for the role of Commission Chair stating that he believed it was time to step aside and let someone else hold the position as Chair. Commissioner White made a motion to nominate Commissioner Albritton. Commissioner Allred seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.

Newly elected Chairman Albritton took over the meeting and asked the Director to go over the remaining agenda items.

Director Morgan shared some preliminary thoughts on subjecting the evaluation work to peer review. Stating that although this process is not required under current standards of practice, the staff thought there would be value in having an independent third party assess the evaluation policies and practices post evaluation and limited to specific work product. Mr. Morgan said the peer review process could be completed by a national association for which the Commission is already a member. Continuing, he said the peer review process would primarily be a quality control and assurance check.

Commission White asked if the national association was a well known group and questioned if it was the best evaluation group or if there were others. Mr. Morgan replied and said there were others and specifically referenced the American Evaluation Association which would probably be the best but for which we were not as familiar with, albeit having membership.

Chairman Albritton asked when the staff would like to get the peer review process started. Mr. Morgan said that the staff was still gathering information. He raised the idea to the national associations executive committee, for which he is a member, and said that they were in favor of the idea. In addition other non-audit offices that complete evaluations were also interested in subjecting their work to a peer review process.

Commissioner Carlton asked if the association the director was considering had completed peer reviews in the past. Mr. Morgan replied that the organization has and does routinely provide peer reviews but for audit offices, similar to the examiners of public accounts. He also mentioned the audit offices that have evaluation departments have been subjected to peer review. Commissioner Carlton followed up by saying that if we were to subject the work to peer review that it should be done by an organization that has done many reviews and that could be objective. Not simply an organization that the Commission is a member of. Mr. Morgan said the review would be done by an independent third party.



Commissioner White suggested getting examples of previous peer reviews and associated costs so the a comparison could be drawn before selecting an organization. Commissioner Albritton followed the statement saying that there seems to be a consensus to get more information regarding quality and cost. Members of the Commission agreed.

Director Morgan spoke on the topic of data security training/certification and said these efforts are also in the beginning stages and more would have to be done to determine what specific training would be beneficial to the Commission's staff as well as what cost would be associated with the ongoing training. He mentioned the possibility of some local universities providing the training. He continued to say that these trainings/certifications would help alleviate some concerns agencies and program managers have around the sharing of sensitive data.

Commissioner Calton asked that there be more information gathered around the cost of the training and what the training would entail. She also noted the issue with the last report was related to personal health information (PHI). Commissioner Carlton wanted to know more details around the use or access to PHI as well as using the data or information for analytics. Director Morgan, responded and agreed with the issue in the last report being about PHI.

Commissioner White noted that Medicaid, DHR, Mental Health, and other agencies deal with PHI. He wondered if they would be helpful in giving tips on the trainings. He also mentioned our department of information technology being a less expensive option.

Director Morgan said that any annual training and certification process would address the consistent compliance with the strictest confidentiality and IT standards. Trainings/certification would complement the confidentiality and IT practice agreements all staff already sign, as well as the policies and procedures we are developing.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

None

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, at 2:19 p.m. Chairman Albritton moved the meeting be adjourned.