American Academy of Forensic Sciences Pathology/Biology Section Kim A. Collins, MD, Chair

Report to the Intersociety Pathology Council, 2/27/2011

Pathology/Biology section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS)

The AAFS is divided into 9 sections. The Pathology/Biology section, the second largest, is composed of: Medical Examiners/Forensic Pathologists, Veterinarians, Biologists (eg. Entomologists), Forensic Epidemiologists, Forensic, Neuropathologists, and Clinical Pathologists

Recent Activities

The AAFS has been very involved with the proposed forensic science legislation "To establish an Office of Forensic Science and a Forensic Science Board, to strengthen and promote confidence in the criminal justice system by ensuring consistency and scientific validity in forensic testing, and for other purposes." Section members were individually solicited twice for their assessment of the proposed legislation. Additionally, the section formed an ad hoc group composed of 20 active section members with varying geographical locations, practice types, years in practice, and Academy membership status. These individuals were tasked with further examining the legislation for definitive comments and feedback. A formal report was provided to the AAFS Board of Directors for their review this month. The Pathology/Biology section feels strongly that forensic pathologists should be actively involved in this legislation and in the final product, i.e. an Office of Forensic Science and a Forensic Science Board.

<u>Future Meetings</u>

- •February 20-25, 2012 Atlanta
- •February 18-23, 2013 Washington, DC
- •February 17-22, 2014 Seattle
- •February 16-21, 2015 Orlando
- •February 15-20, 2016 Las Vegas