

Illinois Sex Offender Management Board

Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2025

Called to order 10:00

Attendance: Sarah Brown-Foiles, Najma Adam, Brian VanMeter, Marshon Conrad, Andrea Kirch, Shataun Haily, Dan Hunt, Elizabeth Tarzia, Dan Hunt, Scott Watkins, Carrie Ward, Mary Jackovac, Tracy Tholin

Absence: Jacqueline Bullard, Sharon Coleman, Patrick Delfino, Alison Foley, Vernon Foli, Ky Newsome, Dr. Abdi Tinwalla, Kristoff Petro, Jonathan Warshawsky

ATSA 2026 Conference Updates

- Illinois ATSA conference keynote speaker Jill Levinson is unavailable; search for a new keynote speaker is underway.
- Approval was previously granted for the keynote speaker budget (\$5,000 each plus expenses).
- Stephen Sawyer is confirmed as one keynote speaker: awaiting replacement for Jill Levinson.
- Conference dates are set for March 19-20, 2026

Audit Updates

- SOMB audit is still pending; a few financial documents from IDOC are outstanding but expected to be submitted soon.
- Improvements noted in board management and compliance with state requirements.
- Previous audit findings addressed, including improved posting practices on the Illinois State Library site (though the site is currently being updated by the state).

Continuing Education Provider Approval

- SOMB is now approved as a continuing education (CE) provider for psychology, social work, and counseling in Illinois.
- SOMB can now offer CE credits for all major mental health disciplines, meeting statutory training obligations.
- SOMB and Illinois ATSA collaboration is crucial for effective training delivery and logistical support, including registration and event organization.
- Illinois ATSA manages heavy lifting for registration via their platform (transitioning away from Eventbrite to a new, lower-fee platform). SOMB members will receive complimentary registration codes.
- Illinois ATSA also handles the storage and issuance of CEU certificates, maintaining records for replacement requests.

Training Planning and Board Updates

- The board typically aims for two training courses per calendar year, often including the Illinois ATSA conference and a summer/fall event (sometimes three if budget allows).
- Suggestions for topics or speakers for the second 2026 training are requested; May-July is the target window.
- Board is currently full and functioning efficiently.

- Collaboration between SOMB, IDOC, and Illinois ATSA is essential, especially regarding financial processes, reporting, and MOUs.

License Renewal and Processing Times

- Social workers are reminded to renew licenses by 11/30/2025; delays between application and receipt remain at about eight weeks.
- Similar processing times observed for LSOTP clinician license applications.

Suggested Action Items

- Submit any remaining financial documents for the SOMB audit as soon as possible.
- Identify and confirm a replacement keynote speaker for the ATSA conference.
- Communicate registration details and complimentary code to SOMB members once the new conference platform is live.
- Board members to propose topics or speakers for summer/fall 2026 training.

Meeting adjourned at 10:13