



Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board

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MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 18, 2021 MEETING OF THE ARIZONA PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING BOARD PHOENIX, ARIZONA

A public meeting of the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board was convened on August 18, 2021, at the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board, located at 2643 E. University Drive, Phoenix, AZ.

Members Present (in person):

Sheriff Mark Dannels, Cochise County Sheriff's Office, Chairman
Commander Matthew Figueroa, Jail Commander, Coconino County Sheriff's Office
Assistant Attorney General John Johnson, representing Attorney General Mark Brnovich
Deputy Director Joe Profiri, representing Director David Shinn, AZ Department of Corrections
Rehabilitation & Reentry
Professor Kevin Robinson, Arizona State University
Colonel Heston Silbert, AZ Department of Public Safety
Chief Chris Vasquez, Eloy Police Department

Members Present (via online video/telephone conferencing):

Ms. Jamie Kelly, Public Member
Ms. Leesa B. Weisz, Public Member
Chief Jeri Williams, Phoenix Police Department

Members Absent:

Officer Matthew Medina, Prescott Police Department

Staff in Attendance (in person):

Matt Giordano, Executive Director
Ben Henry, Deputy Director
Michele Blanco, Compliance Specialist
William Caldwell, Compliance Specialist
Dan Ciernia, Digital Media Supervisor
Mike Deltenre, Compliance Specialist
Amanda Faust, Training Program Administrator
Mike Giammarino, Compliance Program Administrator
Steve Jacobs, Compliance Specialist
Robin MacIntire, ADC Compliance Specialist
Chuck Miiller, Training Specialist
Mike Orose, Compliance Program Administrator
Mike Puente, Training Specialist
Rita Mae Schaefer, Administrative Assistant
Sandy Sierra, Executive Assistant
Aaron Thomas, Training Specialist

David Toporek, Compliance Specialist
Rick VanKeuren, Training Specialist
Lori Wait, Training Program Administrator
Dale Wyman, Digital Media Specialist

Assistant Attorneys General (in person):

Mark Brachtl
Gino Duran
Monique Coady

A. Call to Order

Chairman Dannels called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Colonel Silbert to lead everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Introductions, Presentations and Announcements

Matt Giordano, Executive Director

- Roll Call was taken. Ten Board members are present, seven are here in person and three are participating via telephone/video conferencing. Officer Matt Medina is absent.
- Assistant Attorney General Monique Coady is the Independent Advisor today for final action case #1 – Brandon D. Baeuerlen 19-106.
- Three employees have been added to the Training side of the house. Chuck Miiller is a retired assistant chief with the Phoenix Police Department and also worked as an assistant chief with Grand Canyon University. Chuck will be part of the Advanced Leadership training team. As previously stated, we have created great curriculum, but if we put the wrong person in front of a room teaching really good curriculum, it always fails. When we recruit individuals, we look for people with good credibility and that are good instructors. Chuck clearly fits that bill. Heather Lappin is currently a lieutenant with the Pima County Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Nanos has allowed her to come and work for us for one year as a contract employee, we will be splitting her salary costs with Pima County. The IGA was just finalized and she will join us on August 28th. She is the final piece for the Advanced Training side of the house. We fully endorse regional training as much as possible and with Heather being from the Southern part of the state, she will be able to teach and organize training in the Southern region. Mike Puento joined us this week. Mike was a sergeant with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office and was also the chairman of the Defensive Tactics Committee. Mike created and is teaching the Seven Principles of Defensive Tactics. Mike will be on the Basic Training side of the house working for Lori Wait. Based on manpower allocations, we have not been able to be as engaged with our academies as I would like to be. Under Lori's leadership, her team will begin meeting with academies and auditing classes to make sure we are putting out a really good product. We are excited to have these individuals as part of our team.
- The agenda item dealing with the AZPOST DUI Subcommittee will be removed from today's agenda. Due to scheduling conflicts, the meeting scheduled for August 9 had to be cancelled. We are hoping to schedule a meeting in September.

C. Executive Director's Report

Matt Giordano, Executive Director

- The front lobby was remodeled for safety precautions. A new door and wall were added to create an extra level of security.

- House Bill 2462 relates to training for civilian oversight committees. Chuck Miiller will take on this project. He has already had a stakeholder’s meeting with the local police department as well as working with the APA to put together the 80 hours of training. AZPOST will put out 80 hours of training and agencies can use these hours if they want. If the agencies want to create their own 80 hours of training that they believe meets the statutory requirement, we will work with that as well.
- We are revising the Executive Leadership Program. We will change the format and instead of conducting the class for five days in one week, we will now do two and half days in one month and two and a half days the next month. I have reviewed the new schedule and it is really well done. Our next class is scheduled for one week at the end of October and the second week will be the first week of November. These classes will not be held regionally, this is the only class we will host specifically at AZPOST.
- We are hosting a Field Training Leadership class next week in Show Low. This class will also be revised. This class is the first level of our leadership platform.
- Both the Advanced and Basic Training units are putting together the training calendars for 2022. We are pushing out a lot of training next year and we will be doing most of this regionally.
- Last week I was invited by Jeff Fine, Clerk of the AZ Superior Court, to be a guest for his quarterly training meeting. He was meeting with all private process servers from around the state and they had some concerns with interaction with law enforcement while they are out trying to serve documents. We had some good dialogue and I committed AZPOST to creating a brief training program to push out to all law enforcement officers on successful interactions with private process servers, as well as our constables.
- I like to travel around the state. I learn a lot from attending regional chiefs and sheriff’s meetings plus having one-on-one meetings with different chiefs and sheriffs around the state. On Monday, I spent half a day with Chief Lance Spivey of the St. Johns Police Department just to get a perspective of what goes on in the city of St. Johns as well as the police department. Chief Spivey is very engaged and is making great strides up in St. Johns.

D. Consent Agenda

Mr. Johnson (AAG) recused himself from this matter.

Professor Robinson made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Colonel Silbert and passed unanimously.

The following items were approved:

1. Minutes of the Board meeting held on July 21, 2021.
2. Certification Waivers:

Kareem Wheeler	Arizona Attorney General’s Office
Andrew Stephens	Buckeye Police Department
Jason M. Beard	La Paz County Sheriff’s Office
Kenneth J. Solum	Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office
Juvier Bryant	Phoenix Police Department
Justin Brodrick	Gilbert Police Department

Nicholas Blasko	Scottsdale Police Department
Jared Fries	Scottsdale Police Department
Kevin E. Adamowski	Tempe Police Department
Patrice Adamowski	Tempe Police Department
Luiz D. Gonzalez	Tempe Police Department
Metui C. Tautuaa	Tempe Police Department
Bret Wojcik	Tempe Police Department

3. Consent Agreements for Voluntary Relinquishment/Denial of Peace Officer Certification. The following individuals, without admitting to any misconduct, requests the Board accept their request to permanently relinquish their Arizona peace officer certification:

Brian W. Gray	21-105	Mesa Police Department
Travis G. Mattern	21-048	Tombstone Marshal’s Office

4. Training Audit Deficiencies. The following individuals are deficient in their required annual training for calendar year 2020. The Board shall restrict certified status until the deficiency is corrected:

David R. Bothof	Tohono O’odham Nation Police Department
Ronald A. Honyumptewa	Tohono O’odham Nation Police Department

- E. Review, Discussion and Possible Action on recommendations from the AZPOST DUI Subcommittee regarding off-duty DUIs.

This item was tabled. The Subcommittee Meeting scheduled for August 9, 2021, was cancelled, it will be rescheduled.

- F. Review, Discussion and Possible Action on a Grand Canyon University Police Department Petition for Waiver pursuant to A.A.C. R13-4-103(G) requesting a restriction of peace officer certification for Applicant Michael V. Caputo.

Assistant Attorney General Mark Brachtl addressed the Board regarding a Grand Canyon University Police Department petition requesting a restricted peace officer certification for Applicant Michael V. Caputo. Applicant Caputo has successfully passed the waiver process except for the solid fence climb of the POPAT test. Commander Rob Kuhn, Grand Canyon University Police Department, addressed the Board to request that the petition be granted.

Chief Williams made a motion to grant a restricted peace officer certification to Applicant Michael Caputo. The motion was seconded by Chief Vasquez and passed unanimously.

- G. Final Action Cases:

1. 19-106 – Brandon D. Baeuerlen – AZ State Parks
Mr. Johnson (AAG) recused himself from this case. The Board considered comments from Assistant Attorney General Gino Duran; who provided a brief overview of the Motion for Reconsideration. Colonel Silbert made a motion to grant the State’s Motion for

Reconsideration and dismiss the March 17, 2021, Complaint. The motion was seconded by Deputy Director Profiri and passed unanimously.

2. 20-156 – Colin A. Klingler – Tucson Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Steve Jacobs; who provided a brief overview of the case. Chief Vasquez made a motion to revoke Mr. Klingler's peace officer certification. The motion was seconded by Commander Figueroa and passed unanimously.

3. 21-041 – Crystal R. Martinez – Tucson Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Steve Jacobs; who provided a brief overview of the case. Professor Robinson made a motion to revoke Ms. Martinez's peace officer certification. The motion was seconded by Deputy Director Profiri and passed unanimously.

4. 21-051 – Eric G. Melgar – Gila River Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Steve Jacobs; who provided a brief overview of the case. Chief Vasquez made a motion to suspend Mr. Melgar's peace officer certification for 18 months beginning March 4, 2021, and ending September 4, 2022. The motion was seconded by Chief Williams and passed unanimously.

5. 21-045 – Mickaela A. Roberts – Chandler Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Steve Jacobs; who provided a brief overview of the case. Colonel Silbert made a motion to revoke Ms. Roberts' peace officer certification. The motion was seconded by Commander Figueroa and passed unanimously.

H. New Charging Cases:

1. 19-252 – Jason J. Philpot – Pinal County Sheriff's Office

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist William Caldwell, who provided a brief overview of the case. Professor Robinson made a motion to Initiate Proceedings against Mr. Philpot's peace officer certification. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnson (AAG) and passed unanimously.

2. 20-200 – Jason J. Philpot – Pinal County Sheriff's Office

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist William Caldwell, who provided a brief overview of the case. Chief Williams made a motion to Initiate Proceedings against Mr. Philpot's peace officer certification. The motion was seconded by Professor Robinson and passed unanimously.

3. 21-056 – Daniel A. Gonzalez – Glendale Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Mike Deltenre, who provided a brief overview of the case; a short video was also presented. Colonel Silbert made a motion to close this case with No Action. The motion was seconded by Ms. Weisz and passed unanimously.

4. 21-075 – Julian A. Navarrette – Pinal County Sheriff’s Office

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Mike Deltenre, who provided a brief overview of the case. Colonel Silbert made a motion to Initiate Proceedings against Mr. Navarrette’s peace officer certification. The motion was seconded by Chief Vasquez and passed unanimously.

5. 21-040 – Brian G. Espinoza – Pima County Sheriff’s Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Steve Jacobs, who provided a brief overview of the case. Professor Robinson made a motion to Initiate Proceedings against Mr. Espinoza’s peace officer certification. The motion was seconded by Deputy Director Profiri and passed unanimously.

6. 21-072 – Jared M. Jake – Winslow Police Department

Chief Vasquez recused himself from this case. The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Steve Jacobs, who provided a brief overview of the case. Commander Figueroa made a motion to Initiate Proceedings against Mr. Jake’s peace officer certification. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnson (AAG) and passed unanimously.

7. 21-039 – Ashlee R. Smith – Ft. Mojave Tribal Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist David Toporek, who provided a brief overview of the case. Chief Williams made a motion to close this case and Resolve in the Future. The motion was seconded by Chief Vasquez and passed unanimously.

I. Future Agenda Items

The DUI Subcommittee meeting will be rescheduled to September and we hope to have more information for the full Board regarding the Subcommittee’s recommendations next month.

Prop 207 funding will be added to next month’s agenda for discussion.

J. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.