

## MINUTES

### **Louisiana Automobile Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Authority (LATIFPA)**

January 14, 2009

## CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Warren Byrd called the meeting of the **Louisiana Automobile Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Authority (LATIFPA)** to order at 11:10 a.m. Director Denise Cassano called the roll.

## ROLL CALL

### Members Present

Mr. Warren E. Byrd, Chairman  
Treasurer John Kennedy by Jason Stagg, Designee  
Mr. Larry Hinton  
Mr. Ryan Marine  
Mr. Richard Soileau  
Attorney General James D. "Buddy" Caldwell  
by Trey Phillips, Designee

### Members Absent

Representative A.B. Franklin  
Senator Donald R. "Don" Cravins  
Lieutenant Allen Carpenter

### Staff Members Present

Ms. Denise Cassano  
Mr. Kevin Smith  
Ms. Alydia Washington  
Ms. Virginia G. Benoist, Assistant Attorney General  
and Legal Counsel to the Louisiana Department of Insurance  
Ms. Clara Couvillion

### Staff Members Absent

Chairman Byrd declared that a quorum was present. The minutes of the August 19, 2008 meeting were presented for review and approval. Mr. Larry Hinton made a motion to adopt the minutes as presented. Mr. Jason Stagg seconded the motion. The minutes of the August 19, 2008 were approved and adopted by unanimous consent.

A motion was made by Mr. Richard Soileau to approve the time change of the January 14, 2009 **LATIFPA** quarterly meeting from 2:00 p.m. to 11:00 a.m. to accommodate a board member's schedule. Mr. Hinton seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent. The members of the board requested that the staff schedule all future quarterly meetings on a Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. instead of at 2:00 p.m.

Director Cassano reported on fundraising efforts, donations, contributions and expenditures of the Louisiana Automobile Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Authority. Director Cassano also gave a report on the expenditures of the Conference on Insurance Fraud and Vehicle Theft that was hosted by the Louisiana Department of Insurance in October, 2008. The reports were accepted as given.

Director Cassano gave a report on the development and implementation of the **LATIFPA** public awareness radio ad buy that would promote public awareness about vehicle theft and insurance fraud. Mr. Soileau made a motion to approve the radio buy as determined by **LATIFPA** staff and the Louisiana Department of Insurance Public Relations Division. Mr. Hinton seconded that motion. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Director Cassano gave a report on the November 13, 2008 meeting of the Steering Committee on Equipment Purchases. This report included a request by the steering committee to receive board approval to purchase an additional license plate reader for a qualifying law enforcement agency as approved, at a later date, by the Steering Committee on Equipment Purchases. The report also included a second request by the steering committee to receive board approval to be able to choose the license plate reader vendor for the next license plate reader purchase. Mr. Soileau and Mr. Ryan Marine were both opposed to approving the purchase of an additional LPR for the next grant recipient as determined appropriate by the steering committee. Mr. Marine requested instead that both matters be brought up again at the next quarterly meeting of the Louisiana Automobile Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Authority for vote by the board members and that the staff provide the board with the Selection Applications of those law enforcement agencies who made grant application to the Louisiana Automobile Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention authority to receive a license plate reader. Mr. Stagg made a motion to table the first request by the steering committee. Mr. Soileau seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent. Mr. Stagg made a motion to table the second request by the steering committee. Mr. Soileau seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Mr. Charlie Peters gave a report on the installation and operation of the license plate reader that had been provided by **LATIFPA** to the Baton Rouge Police Department. A motion was made by Mr. Stagg to approve expenditures in the amount of \$2,100 for the cost of the installation of the Baton Rouge Police Department LPR. The motion was seconded by Mr. Soileau. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Mr. Peters gave a report on the bait vehicle activity by the Baton Rouge Police Department, Shreveport Police Department and the Bossier City Police Department.

Assistant Director Kevin Smith reported on the recent middle and high school curriculum presentations.

The board requested that the **LATIFPA** staff present to them, at the next quarterly meeting, information about funding mechanisms used by other state Auto Theft Prevention Authorities.

There was no further business offered by any member. The meeting adjourned at 12:32 p.m.