1	LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF PRIVATE SECURITY EXAMINERS
2	QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING
3	AND
4	ADJUDICATORY HEARINGS
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9	Louisiana State Board of Private Security Examiners
10	15703 Old Hammond Highway
11	Baton Rouge, Louisiana
12	
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15	December 5, 2013
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20	Reported By
21	ANNETTE ROSS, CCR, RPR
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1	APPEARANCES
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3	BOARD MEMBERS:
4	Thomas L. Baer, District 3
5	Donald O. Cotton, District 5
6	Charles V. Duplechain, District 4
7	Kenneth R. Kennedy, Member at Large
8	George Rojas, Member at Large
9	James H. "Chip" Romero, Member at Large
10	Christine Vinson, Vice Chairperson, Member at Large
11	Mark Williams, Member at Large
12	COUNSEL:
13	Frank D. Blackburn, Esq.
14	Adrienne Aucoin, Esq.
15	BOARD STAFF:
16	Mr. Wayne R. Rogillio
17	Ms. Jane Ryland
18	Mr. Dickie Thornton
19	Reported by: ANNETTE ROSS, CCR NO. 93001,
20	Certified Court Reporter, in
21	and for the State of Louisiana
22	(Annette Ross officiated in administering the oath
23	to the witnesses.)
24	
25	

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1	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
2	MS. VINSON: We want to stand for The Pledge and
3	a moment of silence. Do you mind leading The Pledge?
4	(Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.)
5	MR. ROGILLIO: I received a phone call two days
6	ago from Mr. Gurvich. He was with the flu, so he said he
7	would try and make it if possible.
8	MS. VINSON: I just spoke to him a few minutes
9	ago
10	MR. ROGILLIO: You did? Okay.
11	MS. VINSON: And he is not going to make it.
12	MR. ROGILLIO: I didn't think he would.
13	MS. VINSON: If we could do a roll call.
14	(Roll call.)
15	MR. ROGILLIO: Reading of the minutes.
16	MS. VINSON: Reading of the minutes, do I have a
17	motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes?
18	MR. ROJAS: I make a motion.
19	MR. ROMERO: I will second.
20	MS. VINSON: All in favor?
21	ALL BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
22	MS. VINSON: Start with the hearings.
23	ROLLO SECURITY SERVICES, INC.
24	MR. ROGILLIO: Yes, ma'am. Dickie, would you
25	call for the roll out outside, please, see if they are

there. 1 (Mr. Thornton leaves room.) 2 MR. BLACKBURN: Anyone here from Rollo 3 Security? Madam Chairman, the first adjudicatory hearing 4 is Rollo Security. I'd like to call Wayne Rogillio. 5 (Mr. Thornton reenters room.) 6 MR. THORNTON: There are no witnesses outside. 7 MR. BLACKBURN: Thank you. Do you want to swear 8 him in? 9 MS. VINSON: Do you want to swear any 10 witnesses -- I mean all that are going to testify. 11 (Mr. Rogillio is administered the oath.) 12 EXAMINATION OF MR. ROGILLIO BY MR. BLACKBURN: 13 Mr. Rogillio, did your office have an opportunity to 14 conduct an audit of Rollo Security? 15 Yes, sir, we did. Α. 16 What were the results of that audit? Ο. 17 The findings in that audit indicated that there were 18 a number of copies of terminations, quard cards, etc., 19 that were missing. And we received a check from Rollo 2.0 Security in the amount of \$842.50. It was far less than 21 the fining of the audit. The audit fine total was \$2490. 2.2 And what we got was that check and a copy of our 2.3

audit letter with notations out to the side of each

name. Some of those, I couldn't understand what they

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- 1 | were. I couldn't read them. But the fact is that those
- 2 | in the first section, those officers who were not
- 3  $\parallel$  registered, that's what we found in the audit. So I
- 4 | don't know ---
- $5 \parallel Q$ . The results of your audit is indicated in the
- 6 | September 4, 2013, letter --
- 7 | A. Yes, sir.
- 8 | Q. -- that they received and returned with explanations
- 9 on it to the right?
- 10 | A. Yes, sir.
- 11 | Q. Did you agree with any of those explanations?
- 12 | A. No, sir.
- 13 | Q. So the number of violations is still a total of --
- 14 | how many is that?
- 15 A. This is the last page.
- 16 Q. Total number is 35 violations?
- 17 A. Right.
- 18  $\parallel$  Q. So the total fine would have been or is \$2,490?
- 19 | A. Yes, sir.
- MR. BLACKBURN: We'd move, Madam Chairman, that
- 21 the September 4th letter of 2013 be State's Evidence 1.
- 22 | (Exhibit No. S-1 identified.)
- MS. VINSON: And it looks they submitted no
- 24 other letter or explanation?
- 25 MR. ROGILLIO: No, ma'am. All that I received

1	well
2	MS. VINSON: Just this package?
3	MR. ROGILLIO: Jane, is that letter?
4	MS. RYLAND: All the packages are in there, the
5	audit letter.
6	MR. ROGILLIO: Yes. You will notice, in the
7	first section, they put out to the side, like the name
8	John Boynton, they put "Late." That was the only
9	explanation we had for that particular section.
10	BY MR. BLACKBURN:
11	Q. Even if that were the case, they still owe the fine?
12	A. They still owe the fine, yes, sir.
13	MR. ROMERO: Madam Chairman.
14	MS. VINSON: Yes, sir, Mr. Romero.
15	MR. ROMERO: Have we been able to verify that
16	proper service has been made?
17	MR. ROGILLIO: It was done through the mail.
18	Yes, sir.
19	MR. ROMERO: Okay. And you are providing
20	testimony at this point. Are we beginning with the
21	hearing in their absence and presenting information in
22	their absence?
23	MR. BLACKBURN: Yes, sir.
24	MR. ROMERO: And is that proper procedure for us
25	to be able to do so at this time?

MR. BLACKBURN: What we do is put just a preliminary case on if they don't show up. 2 But, Jane, if you would, give me the green card on 3 this. 4 BY MR. BLACKBURN: 5 Mr. Rogillio, did you send them a notice card? 6 Yes, sir. Α. 7 And it was signed by somebody at their office? 8 I can't make out the name. Yes, sir, it was. 9 Α. And what was that date? 10 Q. 11/27. Α. 11 And that advised them to be here today? 12 Α. Yes, sir. 13 MR. BLACKBURN: Submit the card and submit the 14 file in globo as. 15 MR. ROMERO: Thank you. 16 MS. VINSON: Do I have any motions from the 17 board? 18 Do we know if any of these have been 19 MR. BAER: taken care of, like if they weren't registered, they are 20 now registered or not? 21 No, sir. 2.2 MR. ROGILLIO: MR. BAER: Nothing? 2.3 MR. ROGILLIO: No, sir. The only thing we got 24

was an \$842 check, which is their summation of the audit,

1	and nothing since then.
2	MR. DUPLECHAIN: I'd like to make a motion.
3	MS. VINSON: Mr. Duplechain.
4	MR. DUPLECHAIN: That we notify them by mail,
5	they have 30 days to pay the complete fine or their
6	license will be revoked.
7	MR. ROMERO: I will second that.
8	MR. WILLIAMS: I will second that.
9	MS. VINSON: Motion on the floor. All in
10	favor?
11	ALL BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
12	MS. VINSON: Any opposed? Motion passes.
13	MR. ROGILLIO: Ready for the next matter? Next
14	one is
15	MS. RYLAND: We need to take a little recess for
16	a second.
17	MS. VINSON: Okay. A recess for a minute? Five
18	minutes?
19	MS. RYLAND: Five minutes.
20	(Recess taken.)
21	SECURITY EXPERTS AND LEADERS 1, INC.
22	MS. VINSON: Second matter, Security Experts and
23	Leaders 1, Inc.
24	MR. ROGILLIO: A representative is here from the
25	company this morning.

1	MR. BLACKBURN: Anybody here who is expected to
2	testify, would you stand up and be sworn.
3	(Mr. Michael Austin, Sr.; Mr. Reginald Rowe; and
4	Ms. Natalie Rowe are administered the oath.)
5	MR. BLACKBURN: You may take a seat at that
6	table down there if you would like.
7	MS. VINSON: If y'all need to move an additiona
8	chair over, that's fine.
9	MR. BLACKBURN: Mr. Austin, could you name
10	everybody name themselves and what their position is.
11	MR. AUSTIN: I'm Mike Austin. This is Reginald
12	Rowe.
13	COURT REPORTER: What's his name again?
14	MR. ROJAS: Can't hear you.
15	MS. VINSON: Can't hear you.
16	MR. AUSTIN: This is Reginald Rowe, chief of
17	security; Ms. Natalie Rowe, chief administrative officer
18	COURT REPORTER: You're going to have to speak
19	up. You have to make it try to really speak up.
20	MR. BLACKBURN: Madam Chairman, I would like to
21	call Wayne Rogillio.
22	DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MR. ROGILLIO BY MR. BLACKBURN:
23	Q. Mr. Rogillio have you been sworn?
24	A. Yes, sir.
25	Q. Did your office have the opportunity to investigate

- A-1 International Security doing business as SEAL and Security Experts and Leaders, Inc.?
  - A. Yes, sir.

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- Q. What were the results of that investigation?
- A. I received a phone call from an April Celestine, who said she had been employed by SEAL Security and that she started July 23rd, 2013. She did provide copies of time sheets for pay periods showing her employment with SEAL.

She stated, as a former employee with the New Orleans Police Department, while an officer of the New Orleans Police Department, was convicted of a felony and was terminated from the police department. Her former partner, Mr. Rowe, Reginald Rowe, now employed with SEAL, hired Ms. Celestine knowing that she was a convicted felon and told her not to worry about it, that he would take care of it.

On or about the 25th of September 2013, she was advised to fill out another application, even though she had been working since July 23rd. Her application was never sent to the board office.

I sent Mr. Thornton, our investigator, down to an elementary school in Marrero, and they found a Jovanni Kelly working for SEAL armed with a 9-millimeter. His firearms had expired August 9th, 2013. The date that he checked this individual was October 16th, 2013.

1	I understand Ms. Celestine just arrived here, the
2	lady who made the complaint.
3	MS. VINSON: Counsel, does she need to be
4	sworn?
5	MR. BLACKBURN: Yes, as soon as I call her. I
6	was going to wrap up this other one.
7	MS. VINSON: Okay.
8	BY MR. BLACKBURN:
9	Q. Mr. Thornton, our investigator here
10	A. Yes, sir.
11	Q found the one with a firearm?
12	A. Yes, sir. The firearms had been expired from
13	August 9th, and he was checked on the 16th of October, so
14	it was two months.
15	MR. BLACKBURN: Okay. Mr. Austin, I have a
16	couple more witnesses to call, but if you would like to
17	ask any questions of Mr. Rogillio now, you have that
18	opportunity to do so now if you would like, or you can
19	wait until your rebuttal.
20	MR. AUSTIN: I will wait.
21	MS. VINSON: Are we doing the matter of
22	Mr. Kelly, firearms or?
23	MR. BLACKBURN: I was going go ahead, just
24	that's hearsay testimony handle that. Ms. Celestine,
25	would you come forward, please. Would you stand and be

- 1 | sworn.
- 2 (Ms. April Celestine is administered the oath.)
- 3 | DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MS. CELESTINE BY MR. BLACKBURN:
- 4 Q. Ms. Celestine, thank you for coming. Would you
- 5 state your full name and address, please.
- 6 A. April Celestine. My address is 7240 Read Boulevard,
- 7 New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 8 Q. Did you have an opportunity to work for Mr. Rowe,
- 9 Mr. Austin, A-1 International Security and Security
- 10 Experts and Leaders, Inc.?
- 11 | A. Yes.
- 12 | O. And what were those dates?
- 13 A. I officially started working July, I want to say,
- 14 | 21st of this year, and the last day I worked was
- October 9th of this year.
- 16 Q. And Mr. Rowe was your former partner at NOPD?
- 17 | A. Yes.
- 18 | Q. And you were, while employed with NOPD, convicted of
- 19 | a felony?
- 20 | A. Yes.
- Q. What felony was that?
- 22 | A. Malfeasance.
- 0. Was Mr. Rowe aware of that then --
- 24 | A. Yes.
- 25 | Q. -- being your partner?

ı || A. Yes.

- 2 Q. Was he aware of that when he hired you at SEAL?
  - A. Yes, sir.
- Q. What did he tell you about that problem of not being qualified because you were a convicted felon?
- A. He said, don't worry about it, he will take care of it, and told me where I was going to be stationed at was at John Mac High School. And he just told me not to worry about and he will take care of it.
- 10 Q. Did you wear a uniform?
- 11 | A. Yes, sir.
- 12 Q. Did he give you a blue card --
- 13 | A. Yes, sir.
- 14 | Q. -- or a private security card?
- 15 | A. Yes, sir.
- 16 Q. Did you ever get a permanent card?
- 17 | A. No, sir.
- Q. Was there ever an application sent on you so that the permit was declined or denied?
- A. I actually did two. So one when I originally was
  hired in July, and then I did another one in, I'm going
  to say, the end of I'm going to say the end of
  September/mid September. And they gave me another card,
- September/mid September. And they gave me another card, and I filled that one out.
- 25 And when I filled that one out, that's when Natalie

1	Rowe called me and stated that she wasn't going to send
2	my card and she was going to hold it until I can get
3	whatever expunged and she would so I could continue
4	working.
5	MR. BLACKBURN: Okay. Okay. Ms. Celestine, if
6	you would Mr. Austin, at this time, you can ask her
7	some questions or you can call her back or not.
8	MR. AUSTIN: I'd like to refer everything to
9	Ms. Natalie Rowe, who is handling everything, if you
10	don't mind.
11	MR. BLACKBURN: I could not really hear what you
12	said.
13	MR. AUSTIN: I'd like to refer everything to our
14	chief administrative officer who handles all that.
15	MR. BLACKBURN: Is that Ms. Natalie Rowe?
16	MR. AUSTIN: Ms. Natalie.
17	MR. BLACKBURN: Ms. Rowe, do you have any
18	questions of either of these people now, or are you ready
19	to
20	MS. ROWE: Sure. I'd like to ask
21	Ms. Celestine.
22	CROSS-EXAMINATION OF MS. CELESTINE BY MS. ROWE:
23	Q when did you and Reginald Rowe work together on
24	the police department; what year was it?
25	A. I'm not sure, 2009.

- Q. And how long did you all work together on the police department as riding together?
  - A. I don't know, a couple of months, I'm not sure.
  - Q. So when did you leave the New Orleans Police
- 5 | Department?

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- 6 A. May 2013.
- Q. Okay. And, okay, so you left in May 2013. At the time you left, were you still riding with Reginald Rowe?
- 9 | A. No.
- 10 Q. What district were you assigned to?
- 11 | A. I was in Juvenile.
- 12 | Q. Okay. At the time you left the police department?
- 13 | A. Yes.
- MS. ROWE: Thank you.
- MR. BLACKBURN: Any further questions of these two?
  - MS. ROWE: Not at this time, I don't have any questions. I just, I have things that I wanted to present, but no questions.
  - MR. BLACKBURN: Sure. Ms. Celestine, you can step down if you'd like to or you can stay there. And, Ms. Natalie, go with your defense.
  - MS. ROWE: Okay. The first defense is that all hires are done through me. I'm kind of a human resources we are new company, so we are kind of

starting out. Everyone interviews with me. They go through the same process. Reginald Rowe doesn't do an interview process.

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Ms. Celestine came to us as a referral from another police officer who couldn't be here today, because he couldn't get off duty, who is currently a reserve officer with the New Orleans Police Department. As a referral, I interviewed with her in the office. That officer was in the office that day. It was no mention — we were under the assumption that she left the department. And Mr. Rowe will talk about as their time that they rode together, because they were not considered partners.

It's a New Orleans Police Department that you have ride-alongs, and she rode with him, but not for a very long period of time. And, as you see, when Mr. Rowe left the police department, they were not even in communication or even in the same platoon at the time.

When she came into the office, she had an interview. She technically did not start on July 23rd. Her check stub shows that, because we go through a training process, and, also, because we are working with the schools, the school requires to know everyone that's going to be in the school and the principals do kind of like an interview process.

So she was there for a couple of days, maybe four

days or so, to see if it was going to be a good fit. And because this school is — I don't want to say — it's kind of a rough situation with the students and the faculty, so they need to make sure that they have the appropriate person that's in the school.

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So once all of that was cleared, she then said that she could deal with it. The principal approved of it.

Ms. Celestine actually has a job offer, and I have 12 copies here for the board, that was signed and dated on July 29th. Her official start date was August 11.

This letter states here, and I'm contesting to the fact that we knew she was a convicted felon. I have paperwork to show that we did not know that. Her offer letter states that, the second paragraph (as read by Ms. Rowe):

Our offer is contingent upon you verifying your identify, legal authorization to work in the United States by completing and submitting an INS form, I-9, successfully passing a criminal background check, and successfully passing a drug screen. Should you accept this offer with your employment, it will be both satisfactory to -- and furthermore.

And she signed and dated this on July 29th that she agreed to the terms of this letter. And it's signed by

me and Ms. Celestine.

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I also have 12 copies with the blue card. There's a couple of copies. Ms. Celestine did fill out two blue card applications. The first one was filled out under — we — it was the old qualifying — we have had a couple of changes in the business. We had one qualifying agent that left, and it was filled out under Gregory Scott. We had to get new paperwork filled out.

We gave that new paperwork to Ms. Celestine to fill out. She filled out her initial background process, and I have her W-4 just to show that it is the same handwriting. She took the blue card application out of the office and said that she needed to get some address information. I think it was a part of like past employment history. That's half of the blue card application. It was not returned to us.

Now, I will say that there was a lapse in time when we followed through, because we have been going through a couple of changes. As a new company, we had to change our name and go through some insurance issues.

When we realized that things were behind in September, and it was actually September 28th, I asked for the blue card packet, because I had half of a packet to submit, and her fingerprints and her passport photo.

She then said that she was going to get that

information, but she said she lost the original, the first application. The next application that I gave her, my instruction to her was, "You will have to come into the office and fill out another one, because if you lost it, I need to send it in."

She took off from work the first Friday in October, because she was supposed to be going get her fingerprints and her passport photo, come into the office that Monday, and fill out another blue card application, because she lost it. That did not happen.

She was terminated on October 8th for that reason.

And I have the letters that I sent to the Louisiana Work

Force Commission stating the reason of her termination.

The letter states that — this letter is dated on October

9th. (As read by Ms. Rowe):

To whom it may concern: April Celestine's employment ended for several reasons:

Ms. Celestine did not provide this office with needed information to process her license with the State Board of Private Security Examiners office. She was asked on numerous occasions by her supervisor to obtain her fingerprints and her passport photos so her application could be processed.

And then it goes into the details of what happened

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the date of -- on why I had to discharge her, her behavior, the things that she said.

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I also had the response from the Louisiana Work Force Commission that denied her unemployment based on (as read by Ms. Rowe): You were discharged from your employment because of your failure to abide by company rules and policies. I also have 12 copies for the board.

When I interviewed with Ms. Celestine, I discussed to her about — because she told me she resigned from the New Orleans Police Department. I discussed with her about going to the security class. I said, "Well, if your POST is up to date, you don't have take the security class."

Ms. Celestine presented to me a valid POST verification that says peace officer standard, which means that she is still in good standing in the law enforcement community. And it was dated, and it was updated April 2nd, 2013, and it expires April 2nd of 2014.

All of these things that I have, have no indication that Ms. Celestine was a convicted felon. And as far as her telling Mr. Rowe and him having knowledge of that, I'll let him sign to it. But there is no way that we would have hired or gone through these steps with a

convicted felon.

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MS. VINSON: Question.

DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MS. ROWE BY MR. BAER:

- Q. Ms. Rowe, when you speak of the blue card packet you said packet or app what are you speaking of, the application?
- A. I'm sorry. The application.
- Q. Do you have a copy of what she filled out?

MS. VINSON: Yes. Do you have a copy of that?

MS. ROWE: The one that she — she took it out of our — this was the issue. She never returned it to the office. She took it home the day —

BY MR. BAER:

- Q. Right, but you submitted one to the state, correct?
- A. No, because we never got it back from her.
- 16 Q. Oh, you never did. Okay.
  - A. And this is what I'm stating in the letter to the Louisiana Work Force Commission. That was the problem: She never turned it in to the office.
  - Q. So she was never registered at all with the state.
  - A. She was not registered with us, because she hadn't given us the complete packet and after several times of trying to get this. Now, I will admit that --
- 24 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MS. ROWE BY MS. VINSON:
- 25 | Q. Now, how long did you let her work without returning

the blue application?

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- A. She worked the entire month of August and in September. And that's what I was going to say: I kind of let things slip away. I was traveling a little bit. I wasn't full-time in the company. I still had another job, so I was traveling. But then once I got situated and I got on top of it, I was on her, because her response —
- Q. Do you know how many days you have to get the blue application in?
- A. Yeah. I know now. It's 20 days. So we were past the date. We were past the date. And I can acknowledge that we were way past the date. It was a learning process for us. We realize our mistake, and we have been sending in our blue cards now on time, but, you know, it's a growth process. We are growing and we are learning, but it wasn't an intentional mishap of not sending it in. Things got behind. As I stated, it was an ongoing process.

She took from off work to actually get this information, and when she didn't, on Monday, I said. "That's it. We can't go anymore."

Her response to me — you will see it in the letter — was argumentative and not cooperative. And so, therefore, we just decided it was best to part ways with

her.

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BY MR. BAER:

- Q. What about your application, like, for the company application? Did she state on there she was arrested or convicted?
- A. No. I don't do company applications. I do resumés, but I do a interview process. And I did not bring her interview questions. And in the question, I asked, "Can you successfully pass a background screening?" At the end of it, I asked, "Is there anything else that you need to tell me that will prohibit you from working with the company?" Those things were not provided.

Also, Mr. Kevin Veal (phonetic,) he is the police officer who referred her. No one knew that she had this conviction. And Mr. Rowe can attest to the time where they were on the New Orleans Police Department together, because I'm not familiar with everything that transpired while they were working together.

So no one knew that she was a convicted — and there was no way that we would put a convicted felon on our other people's children. I mean, we care about the kids that we are providing security services for. So this is kind of just not of the character of this company or anyone here.

MR. ROJAS: Madam Chairman, I have a question of

- 1 | Ms. Rowe.
- 2 | DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MS. ROWE BY MR. ROJAS:
- Q. I have a question, Ms. Rowe. You let your future employees take the blue application home with them to
- fill out; you don't -- fill it out in your office and
- 6 give it back to you right then and there?
- A. She took it. Well, I have never had anyone to ask me.
- Q. If you take the blue application, you have the original, you make a copy, keep it in your files, and send it to the state. Why would you let her take it home?
- A. It wasn't complete. She took it home, because she said she needed to go and verify addresses that were because it asks for history parts. I think it was the past employment history. She didn't have that information.
  - Q. Oh, excuse me. But if you have a company application, that address would be on the company application at the same time, so maybe, to me, you should have a company application first.
    - A. You mean us do an application?
- 23 Q. Yes, absolutely.
- 24 A. Okay.

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MR. KENNEDY: Are you saying you don't do an

application at all? 1 We take resumés. I don't do an MS. ROWE: 2 I do resumés. I ask them to submit a application. 3 resumé. That's how we get people and they call in. 4 on our web site, they have to send in a resumé and not an 5 actual application. 6 MR. BLACKBURN: Okay. Ms. Rowe, I've got a 7 couple other questions for you. Can we --8 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MS. ROWE BY MR. BLACKBURN: 9 You didn't address the firearms issue. 10 Ο.

- 11 | A. Oh, I thought we were on one thing at a time.
- Q. Well, we are. I'm just cleaning this up. The firearms issue, Mr. Kelly --
- 14 | A. Yes.

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- Q. -- was he or was he not expired?
  - A. He was expired at the time, yes. He is not expired. When we were made aware that he was expired, we quickly registered him into firearms and we have that he was recertified on October 26, 2013.
    - Q. Okay. Back to your -- so that one is resolved.
      - MR. KENNEDY: I have a question on that one.
      - MS. VINSON: Mr. Kennedy.
- 23 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MS. ROWE BY MR. KENNEDY:
  - Q. Did you not get your notice from the state of board that his firearms license was going to expire on a

certain date?

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- $2 \parallel A$ . I did not get a notice.
  - Q. The board sends those notices to us regularly.
  - A. I think the reason why, because he was a new hire.
- 5 He had a firearm with the previous security company, and
- 6 that's where the confusion came in, because I thought
- 7 | that I would get something once I submitted the
- 8 | information. But he wasn't -- when he got initially
- 9 | trained, he wasn't employed with us. He was employed
- 10 | with, I think, Blackhawk Security, maybe, or I can't
- 11 remember, because he has worked for three different
- 12 security companies. So, his firearms training, he did
- not obtain it while working with us. But now I have
- 14 something on my Outlook that's going to give me a pop-up
- 30 days before this training expires.
- 16 Q. Did he show you proof that he had been firearm-
- 17 | trained?
- 18 A. He did.
- 19 Q. It should have had a date on it, then. You should
- 20 have been able to check that by the date and know when it
- 21 would expire.
- 22 A. Well, it was my fault, because it wasn't -- I didn't
- make a copy, and I am now learning everything that I am
- 24 | supposed to keep in my files and everything that I'm
- supposed to make copies of to keep in those files. So,

going forward, we won't have that problem. But I did not make a copy of that actual signatures.

But once we found out it was expired, we immediately made the correction to get him up-to-date.

- EXAMINATION OF MS. ROWE BY MR. BLACKBURN (CONT'D.):
- Q. Ms. Rowe, a couple of last things is, you admit that
  it was late coming, the application, because you worked
  from August to September and it was not in on time,
  correct?
- 10 | A. Correct.

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- Q. Okay. After you didn't get the blue application
  back from her that's all accurate did you consider
  sending in a termination notice that she would no longer
  be working for you?
  - A. Send a termination to whom?
- 16 Q. State Board of Private Security.
- 17 A. No, I did not.
- Q. I know you haven't sent in an application. But once that didn't occur, if you had sent in a termination notice, you would have there would have been some record of it. Now we wouldn't even know she worked for you, unless this complaint had been filed.
  - A. I did not send in a termination letter. I will be honest with you. The whole paperwork process was kind of new to me, and I really got familiar with everything once

Mr. Rowe was going to be the qualifying agent for the 1 company, because, once reading over the rules and the 2 regulations and everything, we were going over it in the 3 office, and that's pretty much how I got familiar with 4 everything. 5 But, in the beginning, I think I was kind of 6 operating like a standard human resources office. 7 mean, I've been a sources specialist for many other 8 companies. So things were a little bit different with 9 10

- the guidelines and everything else. So it was a learning curve for us. Tt. wasn't. a --Okay. We are at this point. She wasn't registered, which she should have been, on time. You didn't send in a termination notice. You had Kelly with expired
- firearms. So there's one last thing I want to nail down. Your testimony under oath is, y'all did not know she was a convicted felon?
  - We had no idea that this young lady was a convicted Α. felon.
  - It had to have made the paper. Y'all didn't -- and he is an ex-policeman. Y'all did not observe that?
    - MR. ROWE: Let me --

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- MR. BLACKBURN: Yes.
- MR. ROWE: Just because I'm an ex-policeman, I moved on once I retired and I left. I don't try to get

information from the police department. Once I left the police department, I started a new life. So I didn't 2 know or have any information on that. 3 MR. BLACKBURN: You are under oath testifying 4 that you did not know she was a convicted felon? 5 MR. ROWE: Yes, yes. 6 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MS. ROWE BY MS. VINSON (CONT'D.): 7 When you ask for resumés, do you not check for 8 references? 9 Yes, I do. And here is the thing. The New Orleans 10 Police Department, you have to fax in a form that you 11 have to fill out so they can verify. And I am still 12 waiting on a response. I did my part to send it in 13 because it goes to headquarters and they respond back to 14 you and I am still waiting on them to respond back to 15 We do, I do verify references and I fill it out. 16 me. 0. Well, you attempt to verify references? 17 Right. 18 Α. If it's not verified, you still proceed? 19 2.0 Α. Right. only -- you know, sometimes I get companies that will 21

A. Right. I still go forth. And, I mean, that's the only — you know, sometimes I get companies that will just, you know, send me something back or they will say something over the phone, but I verify everyone's references, because people can put anything on the resumés.

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MR. ROJAS: Madam Chairman, I have another question. 2 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MS. ROWE BY MR. ROJAS (CONT'D): 3 Q. The time she was in school the four or five days, 4 did you give her a company check? 5 Α. Yes. 6 She was in your employment, then, because you paid 7 her? 8 She was paid, right, because it was paid time. 9 one of the reasons why we paid her too was because of her 10 child care situation, because we needed her to go and 11 12 see. And, I mean, we do pay training, because, just 13 because you come in for an observation -- we have 14 employees now, and when they first started with us, and 15 their paycheck will reflect it, it says SEAL training, 16 because you may not be cut out to do this job. You may 17 not be cut out for it. 18 So once you decide, hey, two or three days -- and 19 you are not there by yourself. You are working, you 20 know --21 MS. VINSON: The first day you pay them is their 2.2 date of hire. 2.3 MS. ROWE: Okay. 24 25 MR. ROWE: Duly noted.

DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MS. ROWE BY MR. KENNEDY (CONT'D):

- Q. Was she armed?
  - A. No.
- $\parallel$   $\Diamond$ . She was not armed.
- 5 | A. No.

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- Q. I have one other question: Do you hire people without having confirmation on a criminal background?
  - A. I do. And that's why, in the offer letter, it states that it's contingent, because, and this is just the practice that I have had in previous employment when I have done hiring for Coca-Cola and offshore hiring. It takes a while sometimes for a background process to come back, and it's always been covered with the labor board, that if you state that the employment is contingent upon you successfully passing the exam. If you don't pass it, then, automatically, your employment is terminated.

And so that's kind of the practice that I have put in place here. And maybe I need to, you know, regroup that. But that's how her office letter stated (as read by Ms. Rowe): "Your employment is contingent on you successfully completing each one of these tasks."

Q. My major concern is a public safety issue. You are putting people out there on post to protect the public, and you don't — you do not know whether they have a criminal record or not. That is a concern.

MR. BLACKBURN: Okay. Ms. Rowe, Mr. Rowe, do you have anything further before I call a rebuttal witness?

MR. Rowe: No.

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MS. ROWE: Well, I do want to say this: I mean, I know that it's not that I'm putting them out there knowing if they have a criminal record or not, and I know that the state is going to do an intensive background check. The people that we have, the few employees that we have working for us now have come from previous security companies, so, therefore, you know, we — it's not that we are just putting people out there knowing this.

I mean, this was a learning process. And, of course, we are concerned about safety, public safety. But I think that, given an offer letter stating that it's contingent once the background is complete, then you terminate.

I'm not sure if every security company, or maybe you guys can educate me on this, that they don't work before that information comes back or not. I'm not sure what that process is.

MR. DUPLECHAIN: If I would be you — most companies hire background check companies. It usually takes 24 to 48 hours to get a determination if they have

at least a felony. 1 MS. VINSON: Or they wait for their references 2 to come back. 3 MR. KENNEDY: Or you can go to the courthouse 4 and do a records check yourself. It's public 5 information. 6 MR. BLACKBURN: Anything further, Ms. Rowe? 7 That's it. MS. ROWE: 8 MR. BLACKBURN: I would like to call, Madam 9 Chairman, Ms. Celestine. 10 MS. CELESTINE: Yes. 11 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF MS. CELESTINE BY MR. BLACKBURN: 12 Ms. Celestine, anything you just heard, do you 13 Ο. disagree with? 14 Α. Yes. 15 What was that? Q. 16 From the beginning, the one thing I can say she is 17 correct is, Officer Veal (phonetic) did contact me 18 stating that Mr. Rowe was trying to get in touch with me, 19 because he knew what happened. 2.0 Like I say, I'm not proud of it, but I was all over 21 the news, newspaper and everything, all the way. 2.2 resigned shortly after he resigned from NOPD. And when 2.3 he called me, he said, "I understand the situation." I 24 25 talked to him on the phone, because I did change my phone number. But that's how I got in touch with him, through Officer Veal (phonetic), and I gave him the number. He stated, "I understand what's going on with you and it's hard to find work right now. Come in. I have a — I started a security company."

When I came into the office with her, I spoke with her, and she said, "I don't know why he told you to come in, because he said you used to be partners and I'm taking his word for it, y'all — you are good. Can you handle working at John Mac?"

I said, "Yeah."

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I went to John Mac. I worked every day. He knew. When they first gave me the first card, she told me to hold the card, because — I don't remember if it was 20 or 30 days before they have to report or send in something to the state. I'm not really sure, but that's what she said. That's why she let me leave with the card. And we did do a application. We did a whole orientation.

And I can state that Mr. Austin was not there. He did not know any of that was going on, because he was not there for the — any of the interviews or anything with that.

We did a application. I got a handbook, the blue card. That's what she told me, to keep it. That's why I

had the card.

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And when she stated that's why I was fired, I went to NOPD and got my fingerprints. And this has it dated. I just don't have it with me. I didn't know I needed to bring it, but I showed it to the investigator.

The day she gave me the card, she said they need to change the date, because they didn't send the information in correctly. Her — the other officer, her stepfather that works for the company, he came in and took the card and said, "Don't put a date on it, because she has to send it and go over it." That's when I — when she did realize I got my fingerprints, she told me to hold on to my fingerprints until everything gets over.

And I really take back for the statement for her saying that she would have never had a convicted felon work with kids. She knew it from the beginning. Even the principal, I even sat down and talked to him about it. And he was like, I knew who you were or whatever. That's, that's on them. He said that I told him I was fine with you working with us, that was okay.

I am not the only convicted felon that was working for them. I am the only one who hasn't had theirs expunged. And I take real offense into that for her stating that. I know I'm a convicted felon. I didn't — I'm not denying nothing that happened. But for them to

say, like, I just came in with eye — with their eyes closed, you knew. And it wasn't a resumé. I never brought in a resumé.

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When she asked me did I — about my POST card, was I certified and how long did that take. And I told her my probation officer said, by January, I should — they will — the judge said she will expunge it for me, because I paid all my court fees off. Told her that. She sat there in her office. When we first had it, no one else was in the office but she and I.

So for her to say that, like, I just "snuck" in and kept things back, and for her husband to say that he didn't know, he knew. That's why the conversation, he was saying he's understanding I have three kids, I have a home, I have a house payment and everything, you need to work.

And, again, until I brought it to Mr. Austin's, like, after they fired me, she fired me because, and I'm dealing with that also, with the pay — with my payment. They didn't pay me. The principal even wrote a statement on my behalf stating I was there on those days.

And I didn't contact Mr. Austin till after they fired me, because he wasn't in town. And he didn't know that I had — he's the only one who did not know I had a felony. I can vouch for that: He is the only one who

did not know, because they never told him. And when she told me not to say anything, she said, "Be low key. Just chill. Don't worry, just chill. Say to yourself, stay under the radar, and when we can handle this, that's when we'll do it."

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And so, like I said, from the beginning to the end, I worked every day. I'm not the only person who worked. I was at John Mac from the summer all the way till mid—school started. So I didn't lie to them. He knew. She knew. So I don't, I don't appreciate them lying, saying that I worked, because how would I have known there was a grace period or anything, her not saying anything?

And there is a date on the fingerprints, because I didn't even have to do the fingerprinting. They just printed it up for me at headquarters.

MR. ROJAS: I have a question.

## REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF MS. CELESTINE BY MR. ROJAS:

- Q. The blue form, you had the whole three- or four-page application, or just the blue, the temporary --
- A. Just the blue card, the folder, the blue card.
- Q. They said that you had taken the whole blue form to fill out and bring it back. You never had that?
- A. No. I had it. They gave it to us at the orientation, and we all filled it out. She told me to keep mine, to hold it.

Q. The whole four pages?

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- A. Uh-huh. The whole, the front and back. And then when she came back and gave us a new card, because they had the date on it from July. She gave us a new card, that was in September. And she said, "Don't put a date on it, but go get your fingerprints." She said, "and I will get" because I told her, with my money situation, she said, "I will get your passport ID." She said, "I'll get that. Just go get your fingerprints." And that's the same day she called me back and told me they weren't going to turn in my card to the state.
- 12 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF MS. CELESTINE BY MR. KENNEDY:
- Q. Did she give you a reason for telling you to hold the app --
  - A. Yes, because, she said, I have a felony and the state wouldn't allow felons to work for the security company. And she told me to hold the card and to keep my fingerprints until I was able to handle that or whatever I whenever I got it expunged or however I would be able to.
  - Q. So it's your opinion, then, that the second one that they gave you was contingent on you having the matter expunged and they would submit that one to the board?

    A. Yes. And I turned that one back in to her. She
- A. Yes. And I turned that one back in to her. She just didn't put a date on it.

And how long have you been working --Q. Since July, since the end of July. Α. 2 MR. BLACKBURN: Anything else, Ms. Celestine? 3 MS. CELESTINE: No. 4 MR. BLACKBURN: Madam Chairman, we have no 5 further, and I will close whenever you're ready. 6 MS. ROWE: I'm sorry. Can I, if it's 7 appropriate? I don't know. 8 MR. BLACKBURN: It's -- you need to request of 9 the board. I would object to her questioning any more. 10 I called her as a rebuttal witness. There is no rebuttal 11 to the rebuttal. But, your call. This is relaxed rules. 12 MS. VINSON: Go ahead. 13 MS. ROWE: I'm sorry, because I'm just --14 MS. VINSON: You can give a statement. 15 MS. ROWE: My statement is, one, I don't use 16 slang, so I never said "chill." That wouldn't be 17 something that I would say. I am a professional. I have 18 been in human resources for 15 years before coming to 19 this company. 2.0 The second thing is, I would never tell some -- if 21 -- I never received fingerprints and a passport photo. 2.2 So if I was going to pay for a passport photo, it's never 2.3 been in my possession. As I stated to the labor board 24 and to the Louisiana Work Force Commission, the reason 25

42 why the employment was terminated is because we never received the needed information that we needed to process 2 the application. 3 The labor board has received all of this young 4 lady's check stubs. They denied her unemployment, 5 because they stated in her time sheet of when she 6 worked. And she was paid for every day that she worked. 7 Also, just as a reference, Ms. Celestine also went 8 to the EEOC to file a complaint against the company after 9 she was terminated, in conjunction with all this, based 10 on Title VII. And the complaint was that she was 11 discriminated against because she was a black female and 12 she was treated unfairly at the company because she was a 13 black female, when where she worked, she actually made 14 more than the gentleman that --1.5 MR. BLACKBURN: Madam Chairman. 16

MS. ROWE: I'm just saying that is just to show that all this came --

> That has nothing do with this. MS. VINSON:

MS. ROWE: Okay. Go ahead.

MS. VINSON: Do I have --

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May I make one statement? MR. AUSTIN:

MR. BLACKBURN: If I can close, Madam Chairman, what we have here is admission to a violation of failing to register on time, admission to not filing a

1	termination and a firearms license that expired, and then
2	a dispute over whether or not they knew she was a
3	convicted felon and hired her knowing that. You have
4	heard both sides of that dispute. That's for you to
5	determine, if that's you believe they knew or did not
6	know and then make a determination of penalty for the
7	three violations, maybe four.
8	MR. KENNEDY: What was the middle one again?
9	MR. BLACKBURN: Failing of termination notice.
10	MR. DUPLECHAIN: Is it open for a motion?
11	MS. VINSON: Are you open for motions?
12	MR. DUPLECHAIN: I'd like to make a motion that
13	they would be fined \$400, plus court costs, and six
14	months' probation and an audit within that six months.
15	MS. VINSON: By "court costs," do you mean the
16	admin fee?
17	MR. DUPLECHAIN: Yes. The costs, yes.
18	MS. RYLAND: 125.
19	MR. ROMERO: I will second the motion.
20	MS. VINSON: We have a motion on the floor. Is
21	everyone in favor?
22	ALL BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
23	MS. VINSON: Any opposed? The motion passes.
24	MR. BLACKBURN: Ms. Rowe, you will get a letter
25	within 30 days to lay it all out for you.
۷ )	within to days to ray it air out for you.

Madam Chairman. 1 MS. VINSON: Mr. Blackburn. 2 LEGAL UPDATE/LEGISLATION 3 MR. BLACKBURN: The next thing on the agenda is 4 Legislative Update. And as you recall at our last 5 meeting, if there were any legislative ideas, they should 6 have submitted them to the board or myself. And we 7 haven't received any. I haven't, but Wayne has a list of 8 them that we probably need to go over and decide, yeah, 9 go with that piece of legislation or form a committee or 10 do whatever y'all want to do. 11 Are they in our packet or? MS. VINSON: 12 MS. RYLAND: No. 13 MR. BLACKBURN: All in favor of turning the 14 thermostat up? 15 Should we give everyone time to MS. VINSON: 16 review them and then maybe just do a vote on each one? 17 MR. BLACKBURN: Sure. You can discuss if you 18 19 want. MS. VINSON: And discuss, take one at a time. 2.0 MR. DUPLECHAIN: I have been for this for years. 21 Can I get an explanation on Item 2.2 MR. ROMERO: No. 5 regarding the qualifying agent and what we are 2.3

MR. ROGILLIO: We found that folks that come in

trying to accomplish here?

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45 from out of state that have had testing in other states 1 are not familiar with our law, and we seem to have 2 problems with them. As this company expressed it, they 3 don't know the rules here. They don't understand the 4 rules here in Louisiana. And it's been somewhat of a 5 problem for us. 6 There is a rule that exempts MS. RYLAND: 7 somebody that has -- like a qualified manager agent in 8 another state, there is a rule or a law that exempts them 9 10 11

another state, there is a rule or a law that exempts ther when they come here. If they have that, then they don't have to take the test. But more often than not, we have major problems with those companies that don't come and take our tests on our rules, because every state is different.

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MR. DUPLECHAIN: Like this one right here.

MR. ROMERO: Is there a process that we might be utilize to allow the QA to take the test outside of the state with a proctor online, some type of situation like that, rather than requiring them to come in and actually take the test, but still take the test?

MS. VINSON: I think other states make you go there.

MR. ROMERO: Actually, that's why I bring it up, because I have had to do it many times.

MS. VINSON: Yes. I have had to do it many

1	times too.
2	MR. ROMERO: And I think it's an unnecessary
3	expense, and some states do allow a proctor environment
4	where you can go and take the test. So I'm just trying
5	to be considerate of those having to make the trip for
6	that. Is there anything in the process that does require
7	them to come to the state of Louisiana?
8	MS. RYLAND: If they have to take the test, they
9	have to come.
10	MR. ROGILLIO: Well, if they have to take the
11	test, they come here, yes.
12	MR. ROMERO: But is there anything else during
13	the process that requires them to come here?
14	MR. ROGILLIO: I can think of only one occasion
15	where we actually sent a test to a proctor to have them
16	oversee the giving of the test.
17	MS. RYLAND: The Alaska State Police.
18	MR. ROMERO: I would certainly be in favor of
19	testing them. I wouldn't necessarily be in favor of them
20	having to come to Louisiana to take the test, but
21	Christine, I certainly understand your reason.
22	MS. VINSON: I think it's just the cost of doing
23	business. Like, if you want to come into Louisiana and
24	do business, come here to our capitol and take the test.
25	MR. BLACKBURN: You can send it to the other

licensing agency of private security in that state and have them do it for you.

MS. RYLAND: Not necessarily.

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MR. ROGILLIO: Well, it doesn't always work that way. Some of the states that we — that do the same thing that we do don't — they don't get involved in our business, basically. And, I mean, I think, only one occasion, the Alaska State Police and the state police there had somebody actually give the test. But, again.

MS. RYLAND: And, actually, we had another one from Alaska and I called and they didn't really want to do it. So we didn't. We just said you have to come here. So we have two companies from Alaska.

MR. ROGILLIO: It's difficult. I understand your concern, and that's my concern as well for them having to come here, because, you know, the question has come up before: Do I have to come to Louisiana? Well, of course, if you are licensed in another state and you tested in another state, no, you do not have to.

But, there again, we offer classes for those individuals. Jane gives those classes periodically for companies that are interested in coming here and learning the process, so. You know, we try to bend over as far as we can to help them in their efforts to police their industry, but it doesn't always work right. So that's

the problem that we have been having.

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MR. ROMERO: That answered my question. Thank you.

MS. RYLAND: And, honestly, we have a better rapport if they come here and meet us. It just seems to work out better than if we have to talk to you on the phone and — I mean, that's my opinion after 20 years. But, you know, they don't really mind, honestly.

MR. ROGILLIO: It seems like they don't take it as seriously, unless they come here. You know, it's just like, oh, take a test, no big deal, I have taken tests before. So, again, it is a problem.

MR. ROMERO: Right.

MS. VINSON: Can we talk about No. 1?

MR. ROGILLIO: We are getting lots of instructors complaining that if they only have one or two students in a class, that it's difficult to make it last eight hours. Now, it's in the statute, it's in the law that it has to be the 16 hours. The first eight hours, of course, is spelled out by two-hour increments as to what will be taught. So it will take a legislative change if you guys decide that that's what you want to do. But we are getting a lot of complaints from them.

MS. VINSON: I'd like to ask, how is it difficult, because your curriculum is your curriculum,

1	right? I mean.
2	MR. BAER: Yes. I mean, how does it differ if
3	you have one person or ten people?
4	MR. DUPLECHAIN: You have two employees in the
5	class and you have a two-hour curriculum.
6	MS. VINSON: But your videos and your lecture is
7	the same time, based on.
8	MS. RYLAND: What they're mostly complaining
9	about is the attention span, the like they do take the
10	two hours, like.
11	MS. VINSON: Might be a poor structure.
12	MS. RYLAND: So I would not say that all of them
13	are. Actually, I wouldn't say that any of them that's
14	been complaining about it is.
15	MR. WILLIAMS: Go to sleep and wake up and pick
16	back up where they left off at.
17	MS. RYLAND: Yes. This has been a long-going
18	three-year thing that people have been talking about, and
19	we just brought it up.
20	MS. VINSON: How do y'all think that we would
21	manage it; like, would every instructor
22	MS. RYLAND: Well, they took hours off of
23	firearms. They took hours off of firearms. If you would
24	do a minimum hour required, first and second eight
25	hours. I mean, do it, minimum, at four Frank was

talking about this yesterday: Do a minimum of four or five hours. But you if you went eight hours, you went 2 eight hours. 3 MR. KENNEDY: You can base the minimum off of 4 what it would take to teach one student who had prior 5 experience somewhere else. It's easier to teach that one 6 student, because they already have knowledge of the 7 information you are giving them. You are going to drag 8 it out with them for eight hours. You may be able to get 9 it done in five or four. That, to me, the minimum would 10 be something subjective. We would have to decide what 11 would that minimum be. 12 MS. RYLAND: When I ask the question, well, what 13 would you suggest, they say five hours and then the test. 14 MS. VINSON: Because the eight hours includes 15 lunch and breaks too, right? 16 MR. BAER: No. It's not supposed to. 17 MR. ROGILLIO: Not the way it's spelled out in 18 the first eight in the statute. 19 MS. RYLAND: You see, that's the whole problem 2.0 I mean, Wayne has instructor after instructor come 21 into his office and say, "Look, I'm done at five hours, 2.2 and I just make them sit there while companies are paying 2.3 for these three more hours and they are just sitting 24

there doing nothing, basically." But they are keeping

them there because there is nothing else to instruct. 1 MR. KENNEDY: Now, if you have a class of ten, 2 you are not going to get done in five hours --3 MS. RYLAND: Right. 4 MR. KENNEDY: -- because you have classroom 5 participation. You should, at least, be asking them to 6 give input. Do you understand this? Discuss it. So if 7 you've got ten people, you're going to have more 8 discussion. It's going to take more time. If you've got 9 one, you've got minimum discussion. 10 MS. VINSON: Are we going to ask companies, 11 thought, to submit a curriculum, then, if it's going to 12 be curriculum-based, you know, tell them what --13 MS. RYLAND: Well, change the first eight hours 14 in the law to -- because Wayne can attest to this. 15 the second eight hours that companies submit to us, the 16 first part of their second eight hours is the review of 17 the first eight hours, a lot of them are. 18 That's right. It's generic. 19 MR. ROGILLIO: MS. VINSON: I'm just asking what we want to do 20 instead. Like, if we're not going to say, you know, make 21 it curriculum-based, we realize that we're going to have 2.2 people --2.3 MS. RYLAND: Well, you will have to change the 24 first eight hours, for one thing. And then you could do 25

curriculum-based on the -- you could basically do what you're doing now. It's not curriculum-based, but you are 2 going to have to change that first two hours in that 3 first eight hours. 4 MR. KENNEDY: Obviously, the first eight hours, 5 the curriculum is set. The subject matter is already set 6 by law. 7 Right. And you're mandated --MS. RYLAND: 8 MR. KENNEDY: It's just the time frame that you 9 would change. 10 MS. RYLAND: Right. 11 The second eight hours, the MR. KENNEDY: 12 trainer has to submit to you a curriculum, a subject 13 matter, and you have to approve it. So that would be 14 your curriculum of the second eight. It's at the 15 discretion of the board to either accept it or not accept 16 it. Again, I think what we are looking at here is a time 17 frame, what kind of time frame. 18 I would think a minimum of five MR. DUPLECHAIN: 19 If you have a class with 10 or 15, well, then 2.0 it's going to go eight hours. We are dictating the 21 minimum, the minimum amount of hours. 2.2 MS. VINSON: Right. I mean, I think, if we're 2.3 going to dictate minimum, we should probably just say 24

four, because there are people that can get both classes

done in one day.

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2.3

MS. RYLAND: Wayne and I have thought about something, and we see this too. Wayne and I have talked about, I'm not so sure that it all can be done where you can do firearms right now, first and second. Maybe only two classes taught a day, because if you do that, you — I mean, some firearms classes take four to six hours. If that's the case, you're talking about jamming it up and really not doing the training they need to do. So if you did go down less hours, you could just be able to say you can do one classroom training and a firearms or both classroom.

MS. VINSON: If we go down to less hours, can we add in a refresher every two years, like a four-hour refresher?

MS. RYLAND: You're still getting the same information, though. You're still getting the same curriculum. It's just — really, the curriculum is there. It's just less time to do it.

MR. ROMERO: I don't know the necessity for setting a minimum at all. I understand that we may have people who have tried to not provide the curriculum-based instruction. And I understand the reasoning behind wanting to put a minimum.

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MS. RYLAND: Just like firearms.

MR. ROMERO: But curriculum-based in itself 1 2 suggests that there is no minimum. It's based on curriculum. 3 MS. RYLAND: Right. And firearms is that way. 4 It's firearms training, regardless of how long it lasts. 5 MR. DUPLECHAIN: I understand what you are 6 There will be some people that will go in, in 7 one day and try to do both eight hours and the firearms 8 9 training in one day. And I don't think you -- I think it 10 should be like the classrooms like for the first and second eight hours. That can maybe be done in one day, 11 and the firearms would have to be a second day. Or, like 12 Jane said, you have 30 days more after your first eight 13 hours, so you could do a first eight-hour curriculum and 14 15 firearms where you can get your man to work right away, then send him back for his second course within 30 days. 16 17 MS. VINSON: Yes. I mean, there are companies that do it all on the front end, pre-hire. So that would 18 19 totally be. MR. DUPLECHAIN: Some of the small companies 20 21 can't afford to lose that kind of money. MR. BLACKBURN: There's one other thing that 22 needs to be cleared too. This is a slippery slope. But 23 going to the legislature, I'll tell them how great we are 24 25 professionally, and then we're going to reduce our

training way below where it probably ought to be anyway, 2 you know, compared to POST or somebody like that. 3 MR. ROMERO: And here's the -- I mean, we do have organizations that are providing training above and 4 5 beyond what required by our state board as well. So I think some personal and professional responsibility 6 surrounding. But I understand what you are saying. 7 Was it a slippery slope when we applied the same with 8 9 firearms? MR. BLACKBURN: I don't recall that being the 10 11 case. MR. ROGILLIO: I don't think so. 12 13 MS. RYLAND: That one went right on through. It seems, you are trying to MR. DUPLECHAIN: 14 15 take away with the firearms and they went ahead with no problem. I don't see how they can squawk about it. 16 17 MR. BLACKBURN: It was the great lobbyist you 18 had. 19 MR. DUPLECHAIN: That are still here. 2.0 MR. KENNEDY: I agree with Chip. In a perfect world, we don't need a minimum. But we don't live in a 2.1 perfect world. We have people who will take shortcuts. 2.2 That's why I would think a minimum would probably have to 2.3 24 be attached if we want to avoid people taking advantage

of the system. The key is, what would be an acceptable?

1	MR. DUPLECHAIN: I would say four hours. That
2	way, a company can get their guards especially, the
3	unarmed companies can get their guards trained in one
4	day, which saves money and the overtime you pay to have
5	someone work that guard shift while he is in school.
6	MR. KENNEDY: You know, to me, the key is the
7	curriculum. You teach the curriculum. It's irrelevant
8	whether it's taken you eight hours or six hours. It
9	depends on the number of students, the background of the
10	students, how quickly they learn, how much participation
11	you have in class. All those things are variable.
12	MS. VINSON: How mixed your class is.
13	MR. KENNEDY: Right. Absolutely. So that's
14	where, to me, your difficulty in the minimum thing comes
15	in, because every class is different. The mixture is
16	different.
17	MR. ROJAS: Excuse me. Can any companies come
18	back that we fined for not doing eight hours now, if we
19	change the law and do it only four hours' training and
20	reducing it, come back and say, hey?
21	MS. RYLAND: There will have to be an effective
22	of the law, right?
23	MS. VINSON: There would have to be an effective
24	date of the law.

MR. BLACKBURN: Yes. I don't think anyone will

come back, though. 2 MR. KENNEDY: Well, you remember, we had a case of a company that trained employees at a restaurant, if 3 4 you remember, years ago. Is there any requirement currently 5 MR. ROMERO: that the companies provide the training dates to the 6 7 board? MS. RYLAND: On the training forms. 8 9 MR. ROMERO: So you know and you are able to go in and -- do we do that? Do we go into the training 10 classes, what I'm saying, in advance? 11 MS. RYLAND: 12 No, no. MR. ROMERO: There is not a mechanism in place 13 now? 14 MS. RYLAND: No. 15 MS. VINSON: They have investigators go in and 16 apply with you. 17 18 MS. RYLAND: We have done that in the past. MR. ROMERO: I'm just, but would that be an 19 2.0 option to police it even more so if the company --MS. RYLAND: Well, the only problem with that 2.1 is, they may have a company call somebody or you may have 2.2. an in-house instructor that has to jump up and train 2.3 24 somebody, like -- I mean, we do have companies that train people at night, four-hour increments or whatever. So, I

mean, for them to notify us that they might have a 2 training class --3 MS. VINSON: But also, and I think --MS. RYLAND: -- I don't know. 4 MS. VINSON: -- if I had you to go sit in my 5 training classes, they would know who you are, so, of 6 course, my instructor is going to be fully on point that 7 day. 8 9 MR. ROGILLIO: Yes. And you've got to do it as an operative where -- and we've done that. 10 MR. DUPLECHAIN: That's true. We're making all 11 kinds of -- we're looking at problems that are not 12 there. Now, if we would be trying to -- I had a concern, 13 when we did the armed guard, but it seemed to work fine 14 15 there. 16 MS. RYLAND: I tell you what we are going to 17 start doing beginning in January is, we're going to start 18 auditing instructors. And, right now, we audit 19 companies. We have been working on this for about a year. And so now we've got it in place where we can pull 2.0 up a list of every one of your instructors. We can tell 21 2.2. you, just by pulling up on a list on a computer of what -- who your instructor has trained, what instructor 2.3

trained who. So that's helping us go into the auditing

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instructors procedure.

Any

So after January 1st, we are going to start auditing 1 2 instructors. So that should keep them on their toes a little bit better, just to go in and see their paperwork, 3 4 you know. MR. DUPLECHAIN: Okay. We need to have -- like, 5 right now, we need to say something about the hours; we 6 7 have to vote on the hours? MR. ROGILLIO: We have to recommend something to 8 9 Mr. Blackburn, because he lobbies for us at the legislature. 10 MR. DUPLECHAIN: A motion? 11 MR. ROGILLIO: If we are going to change the 12 hourly, especially the first eight hours, where it's 13 spelled out two-hour increments, then we would have to 14 15 have that done legislatively. MR. DUPLECHAIN: I'd like to make a motion: 16 17 That we change the law to read a minimum of four hours 18 per class and no more than two classes per day, per eight-hour day. My concern is trying to sneak the 19 20 quards, the armed quards, in there. I will second your motion. 2.1 MR. ROMERO: T will second. MR. WILLIAMS: 2.2. 2.3 MS. VINSON: Can we go a roll call vote? 24 MR. BAER: How about a discussion?

MS. VINSON: Oh, discussion. Thank you.

1	discussion?
2	MR. BAER: I know there's quite a few, and you
3	guys know better than I do, but there's a lot of states
4	out there that have 40, 60 hours of training. And, to
5	me, 16 hours, is pretty minimum. I don't I kind of
6	like it the way it is.
7	MR. DUPLECHAIN: I guess we will have a roll
8	call vote.
9	MS. VINSON: Any other comments or questions?
10	Can we have a roll call vote, please.
11	MR. BAER: What are we voting on, to make it
12	four hours
13	MS. VINSON: Yes. Minimum.
14	MR. BAER: per each class or eight hours,
15	total, minimum?
16	MR. KENNEDY: Four-hour minimum, no more than
17	two classes in the day.
18	MR. ROMERO: It's curriculum-based, four-hour
19	minimum?
20	MR. BAER: What do you mean by that?
21	MR. ROMERO: We still have to teach the same
22	curriculum that we currently have in place.
23	MR. BAER: It's already there?
24	MR. ROMERO: Yes. And if they are not able to
25	present the curriculum within four hours, it may take

1	five, six, seven, whatever it takes, but they have to use
2	the curriculum that's already in place. We're just
3	reducing the amount of time actually mandated.
4	MS. RYLAND: Roll call?
5	MS. VINSON: Yes, please.
6	(Ms. Ryland polls board members.)
7	MR. BAER: No.
8	MR. COTTON: No.
9	MR. DUPLECHAIN: Yes.
10	MR. KENNEDY: Yes.
11	MR. ROJAS: Yes.
12	MR. ROMERO: Yes.
13	MS. VINSON: No.
14	MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.
15	MS. RYLAND: Five yeas and three nays.
16	MS. VINSON: The motion passes.
17	MR. BAER: That's just for recommendation,
18	correct?
19	MS. VINSON: No.
20	MS. RYLAND: No. This is what you want to
21	change it to.
22	MR. BAER: Yes, but it still has to be passed?
23	MR. ROGILLIO: Right.
24	MS. RYLAND: Passed in the legislature now.
25	MR. DUPLECHAIN: It for the armed guard same

1	way. The armed guard
2	MR. BAER: What do you think the chance of it
3	passing?
4	MR. BLACKBURN: We will have to put together
5	some strategy.
6	MR. BAER: Unknown?
7	MR. BLACKBURN: Yes.
8	MS. VINSON: You and I can get our own lobbyist.
9	MR. BLACKBURN: If we do some of these others,
10	we'll strategize whether to put them in the same bill or
11	we have three or four individual bills. I don't know.
12	Probably, if the industry showed up and wanted to do it,
13	it would probably pass.
14	MR. ROMERO: Can we move on?
15	MS. VINSON: Yes. We can move on.
16	MR. ROMERO: I would like to make a motion.
17	MS. VINSON: Are we on No. 2 or no?
18	MR. ROMERO: I was going to recommend that we
19	make a motion on 2 through 5, if possible, legislative
20	changes, and adopt those presented for Mr. Blackburn to
21	present.
22	MR. DUPLECHAIN: I second.
23	MS. VINSON: All in favor.
24	ALL BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
25	MR. BAER: Discussion.

MS. VINSON: Discussion. 1 2 I have a discussion on No. 4. MR. BAER: says, you shall not solicit or do business until you 3 receive a license. That's -- so right now you can 4 solicit before license? 5 MR. ROGILLIO: That's questionable. We had a 6 7 case --MR. BAER: I'm in favor of soliciting. I mean, 8 9 how is someone going to start a business or try to start a business without even knowing or having the opportunity 10 to see what's out there, to see if it's viable? 11 MR. DUPLECHAIN: I think, to me, if you look at 12 that through the eyes of the people you're trying to 13 convince, not too many people are going to think highly 14 15 of hiring you if you don't even have a license yet. I mean, why would you go through the 16 MR. BAER: 17 expense and time and effort if there is no opportunities out there unless you have a license? I think you should 18 19 be able to solicit before you have a license. you can at least have something to go on. That's just my 2.0 opinion. 21 2.2 If I were starting a business, I MR. KENNEDY: would want to know for a fact that I am going to be 2.3 24 licensed before I go through that expense. Why would I

want to go through a lot of expense trying to recruit the

potential to recruit customers, and then the board deny 2 me and I'm just out the money? 3 MR. BAER: Well, you are going to spend more. You are going to have to have insurance. You're going to 4 5 have to pay for a company license prior to even approaching anybody. That's more expense than you just 6 going out there and knocking on somebody's door. 7 Technically, you really don't 8 MR. DUPLECHAIN: 9 have any expense other than your license fee. You've got Insurances are labor. If you don't have any insurances. 10 11 labor, you have no insurance costs. You've got to have company insurance. 12 MR. BAER: MR. ROMERO: And I don't think a market analysis 13 is soliciting either. I mean, you can go in and announce 14 15 intentions as long as you are not soliciting for actual work. So a market analysis wouldn't be prevented in this 16 17 scenario. It's only those that hold themselves out as being a company when you're not licensed. 18 19 MR. THORNTON: Can I say something? 2.0 MS. VINSON: Yes. MR. THORNTON: The problem I've got with 2.1 soliciting is that I work cases sometimes where people, 2.2. not only solicit and try to find business, they actually 2.3 24 bid on contracts without a license. And that happens

pretty frequently.

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1	MR. ROMERO: Well, we had that happen recently.
2	MR. THORNTON: Yes.
3	MR. ROJAS: I have a question.
4	MR. DUPLECHAIN: I have one question.
5	MS. VINSON: Okay.
6	MR. DUPLECHAIN: On the second one for the
7	instructor, for the license, for the training
8	certificates, the trainer has to send one in and the
9	company?
10	MR. ROGILLIO: No, sir. Actually, what this is
11	doing is making the responsibility of the instructor or
12	the company. Right now it's only the company. And what
13	happens is, we have experienced some situations where the
14	trainer will train and, because they didn't get paid
15	quick enough for training, he refuses to give the
16	training forms to the company. That's between them. It
17	doesn't involve us, except the person has got to turn it
18	in within 15 days. So if we make the responsibility that
19	of the instructor or the licensee, then it puts the onus
20	back on the instructor.
21	MR. KENNEDY: Charlie, that happens regularly in
22	Baton Rouge with one instructor. He will hold the
23	licenses and make you late.
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company, so it's not quite fair to the company.

MR. ROGILLIO: And then it puts a fine on the

1	MS. RYLAND: But who would we fine if we did
2	it?
3	MR. BAER: That's a good question.
4	MR. KENNEDY: Who do you fine?
5	MR. ROGILLIO: Fine the instructor if he doesn't
6	turn it in.
7	MS. VINSON: Right. And then you're
8	MR. KENNEDY: One of the two do you fine, or do
9	you fine both?
10	MR. ROGILLIO: Well, it would be the instructor
11	if the instructor refuses to give it to the company.
12	MR. DUPLECHAIN: And if the company doesn't send
13	it in.
14	MR. ROGILLIO: It would cause us to have to
15	investigate and see who is at fault.
16	MR. ROJAS: Have the instructor get the money up
17	front. Then you have no problem. Have the instructor
18	collect ahead of time.
19	MS. VINSON: In larger companies.
20	Are we ready to vote? All in favor of accepting
21	Items 2, 3, and 4.
22	MR. KENNEDY: And 5.
23	MS. VINSON: And 5. All in favor?
24	ALL BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
25	MS. VINSON: Any opposed? The motion passes.

1	Can we take a five-minute recess?
2	(Recess taken.)
3	OLD BUSINESS, OFFICE STATUS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS
4	MS. VINSON: Back on the record. Old Business,
5	Reports, Status updates, I think it's pretty
6	self-explanatory. Any questions? No? Financial Report,
7	any news?
8	MR. ROGILLIO: No.
9	MR. DUPLECHAIN: Are we rich yet?
10	MS. VINSON: Do I have a motion to accept both
11	reports?
12	MR. ROJAS: Make a motion.
13	MR. ROMERO: Second.
14	MS. VINSON: All in favor.
15	ALL BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
16	MS. VINSON: Anything Miscellaneous that you
17	know about? New Business?
18	MR. ROGILLIO: Basically, you took that up with
19	this legislative stuff.
20	MS. VINSON: Okay. So we are looking at the
21	next meeting, then.
22	MR. BAER: A question, I've got.
23	MS. RYLAND: We were going to shoot for
24	February 20th, so.
25	MR. BAER: I've got a question prior to that.

1	MS. RYLAND: So would February 20th be okay?
2	MS. VINSON: Wait. I think
3	MR. BAER: I've got a question on the background
4	checks that you guys get, I take it, from the FBI. You
5	guys get an actual report, printout?
6	MR. ROGILLIO: We get a rap sheet.
7	MR. BAER: Is there a way that that could be
8	included in the cards you send out?
9	MR. ROGILLIO: No, sir.
10	MS. RYLAND: We can't even talk about it,
11	because they won't let us.
12	MR. ROGILLIO: We can't even discuss it even in
13	a board meeting, if you remember.
14	MR. BAER: I don't recall that. So there is no
15	way that we can get a copy of that?
16	MR. ROGILLIO: No, sir.
17	MS. VINSON: And that's why we had to start
18	going into executive session.
19	MR. ROGILLIO: We were audited by the Justice
20	Department, and that was one of the problems that was
21	that was the only problem they found was that we were
22	discussing at an open meeting somebody's background. And
23	they suggested that we go into executive session and only
24	discuss it with that individual. So everybody would
25	leave the room. So that's all the records of the state

1	police. We can't get those records out.
2	MR. BAER: Okay.
3	DETERMINATION OF DATE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING
4	MR. ROGILLIO: February 20th sounds okay to
5	everybody?
6	MS. VINSON: February 20th.
7	MR. COTTON: Wait a minute. He's got to see if
8	he is going on a cruise.
9	MR. KENNEDY: As far as I know, it's okay with
10	me.
11	MR. ROMERO: Same time?
12	MS. VINSON: Same time, same place.
13	MR. BLACKBURN: I think we need to go to
14	Shreveport.
15	MR. KENNEDY: 9:30?
16	MS. VINSON: 9:30.
17	MS. RYLAND: Are you making a motion?
18	MS. VINSON: Yes, ma'am.
19	MR. ROMERO: Second.
20	MS. VINSON: All in favor?
21	ALL BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
22	MS. VINSON: Next meeting, February 20th, 9:30.
23	MR. ROJAS: On behalf of the board, I wish
24	everybody a merry Christmas and happy New Year.
25	MR. ROGILLIO: I will echo that, sir. I wanted

1	to do that, but before y'all actually adjourned.
2	QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC
3	MS. VINSON: We haven't had a motion to adjourn
4	yet. Are there questions from the public/comments?
5	Motion to adjourn?
6	MR. ROMERO: Motion.
7	MS. VINSON: So moved. Happy holidays.
8	MR. ROGILLIO: Happy holidays to everybody.
9	(End of Proceedings.)
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1	CERTIFICATE
2	
3 4	I, Annette Ross, Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana, as the Officer before whom this testimony was taken, do hereby certify:
5	the foregoing 70 pages was reported by me in stenogra machine shorthand, transcribed by me or under my pers direction and supervision, and is a true and correct
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8	That I am not of counsel, nor related to any person participating in this cause, and am in no way interested in the outcome of this event;
10 11	That the transcript has been prepared in compliance with the transcript format guidelines required by statute and by rules of the board;
12	That I have acted in compliance with the prohibit
13	on contractual relationships as defined by Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure Article 1434 and in rules and advisory opinions of the board.
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15	This certification is valid only for a transcript accompanied by my original signature and raised seal on this page.
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