

State of Louisiana

Office of the Governor

Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement
and Administration of Criminal Justice

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

JIM CRAFT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



POST MEETING MINUTES

March 25, 2021

A regular meeting of the Louisiana POST Council was held Thursday, March 25, 2021, at the LA Commission on Law Enforcement (Galvez Building), Baton Rouge, LA. Sheriff Prator called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present (or represented): Sheriff Jason Ard, Mr. Jim Craft, Mr. Stephen Dwight, Sgt. Clay Landry (Proxy for Chief Hal Hutchinson), Mr. Jeff Bergeron (proxy for Attorney General Jeff Landry), Mr. Jay Lemoine (Vice-Chairman), Sheriff Steve Prator (Chairman), and Col. Lamar Davis.

Guests present: Sgt. Torrick Friels (Marksville Police Dept.), Lt. Kevin Johnson (Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office), Major Carl Dabadie (East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office), Capt. Pauline Carter (East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office), Lt. Patsy Netherland (Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office), Sgt. Gerald Butler (Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office), Capt. Ricky Bacle (Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office), Capt. Clay Marques (LA Wildlife & Fisheries), Sgt. Scott Davis (LA State Police), Maria Pollage-Toups (LA Probation & Parole), Josh Smith (LA Probation & Parole), Capt. Scott Wildey (Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office), Lt. Brian Rico (Gretna Police Dept.), Capt. Sarah Rhodes (Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office), Sgt. Mark Iannazzo (Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office), Capt. J.B. Slaton (LA State Police), Sgt. Kory Borcharding (LA State Police), Lt. Paul Brignac (Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office), Capt. Hayden Brown (Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office), Lt. Richard Iverson (Gretna Police Dept.), Lt. Precious Banks (New Orleans Police Dept.), and Sgt. Fredrica Palmer (New Orleans Police Dept.)

Staff members present: Bob Wertz, Rebekah Taylor, Briana Blanchard, and Scott Murrell.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sheriff Ard made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. After some discussion, Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

POST Homicide Investigator Training Waiver Requests – Ratification

Sheriff Prator presented the approved waiver requests from the POST Homicide Investigator Training Committee. Mr. Bergeron made a motion to ratify the approvals. After some discussion, Mr. Dwight seconded the motion and the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

POST In-Service Training Waiver Committee – Discussion

Mr. Lemoine, as Chairman of the committee, requested the Council members to discuss the guidelines used previously by the committee to make recommendations on waivers. The Council members provided discussion and feedback to the committee. The POST Academy Directors present also provided discussion and feedback to the committee. No action necessary.

NEW BUSINESS

POST Basic Certification Reinstatement – Stan Rabalais (22nd JDC District Attorney's Office)

Ms. Taylor presented the POST Staff's request for reinstatement of POST certification for Mr. Rabalais, based on corrected training hours being reported by the agency. Sheriff Ard made a motion to approve the reinstatement. After some discussion, Mr. Dwight seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Certification Revocation Appeal Hearing – Torrick Friels (Level 1)

Mr. Friels presented his revocation appeal request to the Council members. Mr. Friels stated he was not authorized, by his agency head, to complete the required training hours because he was suspended from work. Sheriff Prator asked Mr. Friels if he was currently under suspension at his agency, and Mr. Friels said "yes, but the pending criminal charges are not still pending." Sheriff Prator informed the Council members of the Council's previous decisions in similar hearings. Ms. Taylor presented all correspondence from the agency head and agency training coordinator, confirming Mr. Friels did not complete the required training. Sheriff Ard made a motion to deny the appeal. After some discussion, Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Firearms Instructor Qualification Day – Request from LA Probation & Parole (Director Bobby J. Lee, Jr.)

Mr. Smith, on behalf of Director Lee, presented the request for LA Probation & Parole to be allowed to send 8 officers to the 2020 POST Firearms Instructor Qualification Day. Sheriff Prator presented the POST Staff's recommendation of allowing 4 officers to attend from LA Probation & Parole. Mr. Lemoine made a motion to approve the POST Staff recommendation of 4. After some discussion, Sheriff Ard seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Academy Approval – Request from Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office (Sheriff Jason Ard)

Sheriff Ard requested approval for his agency, the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office, to have their own POST Academy – to train ONLY their agency's employees. Sheriff Prator informed the Council members that this request was in response to the training restrictions of COVID-19, which is a special circumstance. Mr. Lemoine made a motion to approve the request. After some discussion, Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed. Sheriff Ard abstained.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Taylor informed the Council members of the upcoming Legislative Session, and that POST Staff would keep them informed of any proposed legislation related to POST.

Sheriff Prator made a call for other business, and none was heard.

Mr. Lemoine made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sheriff Ard seconded the motion and the motion passed.