



Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board

2643 East University Drive Phoenix, Arizona 85034-6914 Phone (602) 223-2514

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 19, 2024, 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 June 19, 2024, at the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board, located at 2643 E. University Drive, Phoenix, AZ.

Members Present (in person):

Inspector General John Barcello, representing Director Ryan Thornell, Arizona Department of Corrections Rehabilitation & Reentry

Commander Matthew Figueroa, Jail Commander, Coconino County Sheriff's Office

Lt. Colonel Ken Hunter, representing Colonel Jeff Glover, Arizona Department of Public Safety

Division Chief Bill Mundell, representing Attorney General Kris Mayes, Arizona Attorney General's Office

Members Present (via online video/telephone conferencing):

Detective Joseph Krajcer, Tempe Police Department

Mr. Randy Schoch, Public Member

Sheriff Doug Schuster, Mohave County Sheriff's Office

Ms. Leesa B. Weisz, Public Member

Members Absent:

Sheriff Mark Dannels, Cochise County Sheriff's Office, Chairman

Detective Benjamin Cook, Pinal County Sheriff's Office

Professor Kevin Robinson, Arizona State University

Staff in Attendance (in person):

Matt Giordano, Executive Director

Sean Donegan, Deputy Director

Richard Bradshaw, Compliance Specialist

Mike Deltenre, Compliance Specialist

Marissa Escandon, Administrative Assistant

Mike Giammarino, Compliance Manager

Alfred Grijalva, Compliance Specialist

Cathy Hawse, Compliance Specialist

Mark Post, Compliance Manager

Mike Puente, Training Specialist

Michael Rodriguez, Training Specialist

Tim Shay, Compliance Specialist

Sandy Sierra, Executive Assistant

Mike Thorley, Compliance Specialist

Dave Toporek, Compliance Specialist
Rick VanKeuren, Training Specialist
Lori Wait, Basic Training Manager

Legal Counsel:

Mark Brachtl, Assistant Attorney General
Joe Dylo, Assistant Attorney General
Ben Norris, Independent Legal Advisor

A. Call to Order

Acting Chairman Hunter called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Inspector General Barcello to lead everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Introductions, Presentations and Announcements

Matt Giordano, Executive Director

- Roll-call was taken. Eight Board members are present; four are here in person and four are participating via telephone/video conferencing. Sheriff Dannels, Professor Robinson and Detective Cook are absent.
- The positions of large city and small city Chiefs of Police remain vacant on the Board. The office of Boards and Commissions has two individuals in the background process to fill these vacancies. We hope to have a full Board for the August meeting.
- Assistant Attorney General Ben Norris is our Independent Legal Advisor for this meeting.
- Training Specialist Aaron Thomas will be leaving in mid-July. This will leave a vacancy in the Basic Training Unit.
- Mike Thorley, formerly with the Phoenix Police Department, was hired as a Compliance Specialist. We are very excited to welcome Mike, his first day at AZPOST was June 17th.
- New case 2024-130 Kevin R. Smith will be tabled and presented at a future meeting.
- Three names need to be removed from the Consent Agenda for training audit deficiencies. David W. Parks, Steven Rope Sr., and Henry P. Valenzuela have completed the required annual training for 2023.

C. Executive Director's Report

Matt Giordano, Executive Director

- The state budget has been approved and signed by the governor. This year's budget is the same as last years, we are extremely lucky and did not undergo any budget cuts.
- AZPOST hosted the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST) annual conference on June 2-5 at the Arizona Grand Resort in Phoenix. There were approximately 450 attendees, the most attendees in the history of the conference. 25 countries and 45 states were represented and Governor Katie Hobbs gave the opening remarks at the conference. All in all, it was a very successful conference.
- All staff will have their laptops replaced in the upcoming weeks. Our laptops are five years old and with most staff working some remote days each week, the new laptops will be very beneficial.
- The new annual training audit concludes today with the Board's action on the restriction of certification due to deficiencies in required annual training for 2023. We updated the process for conducting training audits and now audits are done electronically and is a seamless process. The Compliance Specialists have worked really hard with their agencies by providing training on how to complete the process and our IT department created a

video to assist with the training. The new process has been very well received statewide. The deficiency training list today is the largest we have had in quite a while. This is due to previous audits not addressing individuals who are out on medical leave or military leave; previously they were placed in a holding pattern. Now we believe since technically they did not meeting their required annual training in the preceding year, their certification should be restricted until they return to duty and complete their training requirement. Once they return and complete the required training, we can remove their restriction.

- Attended the following meetings the past month: PANT Meeting in Clarksdale, East Valley Chief’s Meeting in Tempe, West Valley Chief’s Meeting in Buckeye, WALETA Meeting in Lake Havasu and also attended the WALETA graduation.

D. Consent Agenda

Division Chief Mundell made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commander Figueroa and passed unanimously.

The following items were approved:

1. Minutes of the Board meeting held on May 15, 2024.
2. 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:

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| 1. 2023-215 | Owen T. Mayotte II | Prescott Valley Police Department |
| 2. 2023-216 | Bradley R. Reynolds | Safford Police Department |
| 3. 2024-007 | Allen S. Hancock | Chandler Police Department |
| 4. 2024-065 | Craig M. Remos | AZ Department of Public Safety |
| 5. 2024-089 | Alaa R. Bartley | Phoenix Police Department |
| 6. 2024-118 | Frank J. Robles-Gerdts | Avondale Police Department |
| 7. 2024-129 | Daniel A. Rivera | Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office |
| 8. 2024-150 | Tyler E. Johnson | Mesa Police Department |

3. Petitions for Waiver pursuant to R13-4-105(C). The Applicant’s only disqualifying conduct is legally consuming marijuana more than six months, but within two years of appointment, in violation of R13-4-105(A)(10):

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|-------------------------|--|
| Applicant Manuel Rascon | Nogales Police Department |
| Applicant Maya Valencia | Salt River Pima-Maricopa Police Department |

4. Training Audit Deficiencies. The following individuals are deficient in their required annual training for 2023. Pursuant to R13-4-109.01 Restriction of Certified Peace Officer Status: Training or Qualification Deficiencies, the Board shall restrict certified status until the deficiency is corrected:

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| 1. Dylan R. Curtis | AZ Department of Public Safety |
| 2. Brian C. Hillenbrand | AZ Department of Public Safety |
| 3. Nicholas W. Mitchell | AZ Department of Public Safety |

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| 4. Colt D. Alford | AZ State Parks |
| 5. Mary A. Martinez | Chandler Police Department |
| 6. Michael A. Mills | Chandler Police Department |
| 7. Jedrek J. Correa | Gilbert Police Department |
| 8. Tyler C. Groth | Gilbert Police Department |
| 9. Cody M. McGhee | Mesa Police Department |
| 10. Derek S. Benally | Navajo Division of Public Safety |
| 11. Arlinda N. Chischillie-Nez | Navajo Division of Public Safety |
| 12. Michael R. Hale | Navajo Division of Public Safety |
| 13. Robert G. Williams | Navajo Division of Public Safety |
| 14. Cornelius Yazzie | Navajo Division of Public Safety |
| 15. Carlos Coronado | Nogales Police Department |
| 16. Jose G. Montano | Pascua Yaqui Police Department |
| 17. Michael J. Fernandez | Phoenix Police Department |
| 18. Richard J. Jewett | Phoenix Police Department |
| 19. Arthur P. Salinas | Phoenix Police Department |
| 20. Dennis S. McDavid | Phoenix Police Department |
| 21. Derrick Minton | Phoenix Police Department |
| 22. Jandy P. Perez | Phoenix Police Department |
| 23. Ronald J. Warner Jr. | Phoenix Police Department |
| 24. Valerie M. Velasquez | Pima County Sheriff's Department |
| 25. Casey L. Stroum | Pinal County Sheriff's Office |
| 26. Quinton I. Harris | Tempe Police Department |
| 27. Laura E. Berner | Tempe Police Department |
| 28. Rodrigo A. Acosta | Tucson Police Department |
| 29. Julio A. Pacheco | Tucson Police Department |
| 30. Caleb A. Rundlett | Yavapai-Apache Nation Police Department |
| 31. Lewis M. Johnson | Yavapai County Sheriff's Office |
| 32. Jacob L. Meyer | Yuma County Sheriff's Office |

E. Final Action Cases:

1. 2024-125 – Justin R. Harvey – Coconino County Sheriff's Office
The Board considered comments from Assistant Attorney General Joe Dyllo, attorney for the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board, who provided a brief overview of the proposed consent agreement. Mr. Harvey was not present. Inspector General Barcello made a motion to accept the proposed consent agreement for an 18-month suspension of Mr. Harvey's peace officer certification. The suspension shall be in effect beginning April 17, 2024, and ending October 17, 2025. The motion was seconded by Division Chief Mundell and passed unanimously.
2. 2023-236 – Samantha D. Webster – Goodyear Police Department
The Board considered comments from Assistant Attorney General Joe Dyllo, attorney for the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board, who provided a brief overview of the proposed consent agreement. Mr. Chad Smith, attorney representing Ms. Webster, also addressed the Board. Division Chief Mundell made a motion to accept the proposed consent agreement for a 40-hour suspension of Ms. Webster's peace officer certification. The suspension shall be in effect beginning January 3, 2024, and ending January 4, 2024;

and then beginning January 8, 2024, and ending January 9, 2024. The motion was seconded by Inspector General Barcello and passed unanimously.

3. 2023-145 – Danielle L. Trouton – Peoria Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Manager Mark Post, who provided a brief overview of the case. Ms. Trouton was present and addressed the Board.

After review of the final action case overview, consideration of arguments made by the parties, including follow-up questions, and deliberation by the Board, Ms. Weisz made a motion to accept the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and close this case with No Action with Agency Discretion. The motion was seconded by Division Chief Mundell and passed with two nay votes recorded for Lt. Colonel Hunter and Sheriff Schuster.

F. New Charging Cases:

1. 2024-098 – Javier Ruiz-Gonzalez – Pima County Sheriff's Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Richard Bradshaw, who provided a brief overview of the case. Commander Figueroa made a motion to Initiate Proceedings to deny peace officer certification to Mr. Ruiz-Gonzalez. The motion was seconded by Inspector General Barcello and passed unanimously.

2. 2024-117 – Edward Carnes – Phoenix Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Mike Deltenre, who provided a brief overview of the case. Inspector General Barcello made a motion to Initiate Proceedings against Mr. Carnes' peace officer certification. The motion was seconded by Division Chief Mundell and passed unanimously.

3. 2024-119 – Jermaine A.C. Royal – Phoenix Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Mike Deltenre, who provided a brief overview of the case. Ms. Weisz made a motion Initiate Proceedings to deny peace officer certification to Mr. Royal. The motion was seconded by Inspector General Barcello and passed unanimously.

4. 2024-130 – Kevin R. Smith – Phoenix Police Department

This case was tabled.

5. 2023-197 – Brian G. Hawkins – Buckeye Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Alfred Grijalva, who provided a brief overview of the case. Sheriff Schuster made a motion to Initiate Proceedings against Mr. Hawkins' peace officer certification. The motion was seconded by Division Chief Mundell and passed unanimously.

6. 2024-091 – Benjamin W.L. Harrison – Round Valley Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Cathy Hawse, who provided a brief overview of the case. Ms. Weisz made a motion to Initiate Proceedings against Mr. Harrison's peace officer certification. The motion was seconded by Division Chief Mundell and passed unanimously.

7. 2024-120 – Daniel J. Zube – Surprise Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Cathy Hawse, who provided a brief overview of the case. Inspector General Barcello made a motion to Initiate Proceedings to deny peace officer certification to Mr. Zube. The motion was seconded by Commander Figueroa and passed unanimously.

8. 2024-088 – Ernesto B. Guzman – El Mirage Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Manager Mark Post, who provided a brief overview of the case. Division Chief Mundell made a motion to Initiate Proceedings against Mr. Guzman's peace officer certification. The motion was seconded by Inspector General Barcello and passed unanimously.

9. 2023-231 – Juvenal Gonzalez-Avalos – Glendale Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Tim Shay, who provided a brief overview of the case. Inspector General Barcello made a motion to Initiate Proceedings to deny peace officer certification to Mr. Gonzalez-Avalos. The motion was seconded by Division Chief Mundell and passed unanimously.

10. 2023-107 – William P. Adams – Ft. Mojave Police Department

The Board considered comments from Compliance Specialist Dave Toporek, who provided a brief overview of the case. Division Chief Mundell made a motion to Initiate Proceedings against Mr. Adams' peace officer certification. The motion was seconded by Inspector General Barcello and passed unanimously.

G. Future Agenda Items

There are no items to add; just a reminder that there will not be a July meeting.

H. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Dated: June 25, 2024



Sandra L. Sierra, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved as written.

Dated: August 21, 2024



Lt. Colonel Ken Hunter, Acting Chairman