

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

September 23, 2020

A regular meeting of the Louisiana POST Council was held Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement – Galvez Building, Oliver Pollock Room, Baton Rouge, LA. Sheriff Prator called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present (or represented): Chief Barry Bonner, Mr. Jim Craft, Chief Hal Hutchinson, Mr. Jeff Bergeron (proxy for Attorney General Jeff Landry), Mr. Jay Lemoine, Sheriff Steve Prator, and Sgt. Scott Davis (proxy for Col. Kevin Reeves).

Guests present: Deputy Sonya L. Johnson (Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office), Sgt. Mark Iannazzo (Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office), Capt. Lafate Day (Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office), Sgt. Craig Aucoin (Slidell Police Dept.), Lt. Bruce Haney (New Orleans Police Dept.), Capt. Hans Gauthier (New Orleans Police Dept.), Capt. Pauline Carter (East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office), Major Carl Dabadie (East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office), Sgt. Justin Lowry (LA Wildlife & Fisheries), Capt. Sarah Rhodes (Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office), Josh Smith (LA Probation & Parole), and Lt. Brian Rico (Gretna Police Dept.).

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Lemoine made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. After some discussion, Chief Bonner seconded the motion and the motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

POST Homicide Investigator Training Waiver Requests – Ratification

Ms. Taylor presented the training waiver requests approved by the Homicide Investigator Training Committee for ratification by the POST Council. Chief Hutchinson made a motion to ratify the approved requests. After some discussion, Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Homicide Investigator Training – Ratification

Ms. Taylor presented the Homicide Training Investigator Training Committee's denial of the "Death Investigation Online" training by Texas A&M, for ratification by the POST Council. Chief Bonner made a motion to ratify the denial. After some discussion, Sgt. Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed. Ms. Taylor then presented the committee's approval of the "Advanced Homicide & Cold Case 5-day" training by Police Training Services, for ratification by the POST Council. Chief Bonner made a motion to ratify the approval. After some discussion, Sgt. Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

2019/2020 POST Job Task Analysis – Final Report

Ms. Taylor presented the POST Job Task Analysis Final Report the POST Council for approval. Mr. Bergeron made a motion to approve the report. After some discussion, Chief Bonner seconded the motion and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

2019 POST In-Service Training Deficiencies

Ms. Taylor presented the list of 2019 POST In-Service Training deficiencies to the POST Council for revocation. Mr. Lemoine made a motion to revoke the POST Certification of those listed. After some discussion, Chief Hutchinson seconded the motion and the motion passed. Ms. Taylor then presented the request from Officer Torrick Friels (Marksville Police Dept.) to not be revoked for 2019 POST In-Service Training deficiencies. Chief Bonner made a motion to revoke the POST Certification of Officer Friels due to deficient training. After some discussion, Chief Hutchinson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Basic Certification – Voluntary Surrenders

Ms. Taylor presented the certification voluntary surrenders from Dwayne Babin (Kenner Police Dept.), Jesse Baker (Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office), and Douglas Dodt (Kenner Police Dept.). Mr. Lemoine made a motion to accept the voluntary surrenders of certification. After some discussion, Sgt. Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Revocation Hearing – Stacy Lloyd Bender (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor informed the Council members of Ms. Bender's criminal conviction. Mr. Bergeron made a motion to revoke Ms. Bender's POST Basic Certification. After some discussion, Sgt. Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Revocation Hearing – Harry G. Brignac (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor informed the Council members of Mr. Brignac's criminal conviction. Chief Bonner made a motion to revoke Mr. Brignac's POST Basic Certification. After some discussion, Chief Hutchinson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Revocation Hearing – Emmanuel Butts (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor informed the Council members of Mr. Butts' criminal conviction. Mr. Bergeron made a motion to revoke Mr. Butts' POST Basic Certification. After some discussion, Chief Hutchinson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Revocation Hearing – James R. Davis (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor informed the Council members of Mr. Davis' criminal conviction. Chief Bonner made a motion to revoke Mr. Davis' POST Basic Certification. After some discussion, Chief Hutchinson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Revocation Hearing – Jordan Anthony Hollenbeck (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor informed the Council members of Mr. Hollenbeck's criminal conviction. Chief Hutchinson made a motion to revoke Mr. Hollenbeck's POST Basic Certification. After some discussion, Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Revocation Hearing – William T. Jones, Jr. (Level 1 & POST Firearms Instructor Certification)

Ms. Taylor informed the Council members of Mr. Jones' criminal conviction. Chief Bonner made a motion to revoke Mr. Jones' POST Basic Certification and POST Firearms Instructor Certification. After some discussion, Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Revocation Hearing – Michael Thomassie (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor informed the Council members of Mr. Thomassie's criminal conviction. Chief Bonner made a motion to revoke Mr. Thomassie's POST Basic Certification. After some discussion, Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Revocation Hearing – Marcellus White (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor informed the Council members of Mr. White's criminal conviction. Sgt. Davis made a motion to revoke Mr. White's POST Basic Certification. After some discussion, Chief Hutchinson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST In-Service Waiver Committee

Ms. Taylor requested the POST Council to appoint two new members to the POST In-Service Waiver Committee, to serve with Mr. Lemoine. Mr. Bergeron made a motion to appoint Chief Hutchinson and Col. Reeves' designee to the committee. After some discussion, Mr. Lemoine seconded the motion and the motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Taylor presented the request from Sheriff James Pohlmann (St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office) to allow his employees to attend the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office Training Academy. Mr. Lemoine made a motion to approve the request. After some discussion, Chief Bonner seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Ms. Taylor informed the POST Council that, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the POST School Resource Officer (SRO) trainings scheduled for 2020 were cancelled. Ms. Erica Johnson, DARE/SRO Program Manager submitted a request for the POST Council to waive the policy/administrative rule that requires an officer assigned as an SRO to complete the POST SRO training within one year of assignment, until 09/01/2021. Sgt. Davis made a motion to approve the waiver request. After some discussion, Chief Hutchinson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Ms. Taylor informed the POST Council that the POST Staff was working closely with all the agencies in Southwest Louisiana who were affected by Hurricane Laura and other storms. The POST Staff will assist in any way necessary to assure all POST training requirements are met and reported by all affected agencies.

Ms. Sonya Johnson (Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office) requested to address the Council. Ms. Johnson informed the Council she was on extended medical leave in 2019/2020, and therefore was deficient in 2019 POST In-Service Training requirements. Ms. Johnson requested the Council waive the POST In-Service Training requirements for 2019 due to her extended medical leave. The POST Staff informed the Council that Sheriff Jay Russell (Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office) has not submitted an In-Service Training waiver request for Ms. Johnson. Mr. Lemoine made a motion to table Ms. Johnson's revocation, pending Sheriff Jay Russell's decision on Ms. Johnson's waiver request. After some discussion, Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed.

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

Chief Hutchinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed.