

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 16, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOUISIANA USED MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Louisiana Used Motor Vehicle Commission convened its monthly Regular Commission Meeting at 9:30AM on Monday, June 16, 2025, at Louisiana Used Motor Vehicle Commission, 3132 Valley Creek Drive, Baton Rouge, La. 70808. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gregory Lala.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Gregory Lala led the Pledge of Allegiance

III. ROLL CALL

Louisiana Used Motor Vehicle Commission staff Tonya M. Burks took roll call, with a quorum of members present as follows:

Commission Members Present:

Chairman Gregory Lala
Commissioner Darren P. Amadee
Commissioner Jeffery E. Britt
Commissioner Lydia L. Poret
Commissioner Kevin S. Delahoussaye

Finance Chairman Travis Brown
Commissioner Matt Pederson
Commissioner Wedge L. Kyes
Commissioner Bradley Saia

Commission Members Absent:

Commissioner Rickey Donnell

LUMVC Staff Present: Derek L Parnell, Executive Director; Tonya M Burks, Deputy Director; Sharetha Moncrieffe, Accountant/ Human Resources; Montie Wisenor, Compliance Investigator Supervisor; Monroe Allmond, Compliance Investigator

Others Present:

Sheri Moris, Commission Counsel
Robert Hallack, Commission Counsel
Roy Hebert, Commission CPA

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments

V. ADOPTION AND APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – March 26, 2025

Minutes from March 26, 2025. Commissioner Britt moved to accept minutes as presented
Commissioner Brown seconded the motion, and without objection the minutes were approved.

VI. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Financial Matters

Sharetha Moncrieffe, Accounting/ HR presented the financial report for the month of April and May of 2025, the budget amendment for 2024 to 2025 and the proposed budget for the fiscal year of 2025 to 2026 for review by the Commission. Mr. Parnell and Ms. Moncrieffe informed the Commissioners all financial matters are in order. The motion was made by Finance Chairman Brown to accept the amended budget as presented, seconded by Commissioner Britt.

Commissioner Britt motions to approve the proposed budget, Commissioner Delahoussaye seconds. Chairman Lala went opposed and the motion was passed due to majority vote. Chairman Lala proposed writing off fines that were issued pre-pandemic based on the presented budgets. The Chairman proposed to increase the salesman license fee to \$50, increase criminal background check fees to \$50, and increase the convenience fee for PTA services to \$20, effective July 1st. The motion was made by Chairman Lala to officiate the fee increases, seconded by Finance Chairman Brown.

B. Legal Matters

1. Jessica Golofolo v. State of Louisiana through Louisiana Used Motor Vehicle Commission and Perry Sponge, Docket No. C-759161 in the 19th Judicial District Court for East Baton Rouge Parish.

Director Parnell gives an update to the commissioners on the insurance claim filed. Director Parnell, Deputy Direct Tonya Burks and Compliance Investigator Perry Sponge met with Seth Lauren, Defense Attorney, and provided information and documentation regarding the incident. Seth Lauren is currently working on an initial report to provide Cedric, State Agency Insurance Provider. It will provide next steps on how to move forward.

2. Crescent Bank v. Louisiana Used Motor Vehicle Commission, Petition of Mandamus, or in the Alternative Conversion; Affidavit; Rule to Show Cause for Mandamus, Docket No C-760938 in the 19th Judicial District Court for Baton Rouge Parish.

Commission Counsel Robert Hallack gives an update on the matter with Crescent Bank. Crescent Bank was suing the commission for titles. A dealership in Mississippi called Perry Brothers went bankrupt still owing money to E Block, a Louisiana Auto Auction, for purchased vehicles. Crescent Bank had done consumer transactions on two vehicles and were trying to obtain the titles. They filed to sue the commission in order to obtain the titles, which is not the proper procedure. No complaints were filed so the commission was never given a chance to obtain the titles. E Block turned over the titles for those two vehicles and the attorney for Crescent Bank has agreed to dismiss the case.

Osman Arslan, et al v. Louisiana Used Motor Vehicle Commission, Petition for Appeal and Judicial Review of Administrative Adjudication, Docket No. C-762144 in the 19th Judicial District Court for East Baton Rouge Parish.

Commission Counsel Robert Hallack informs the commissioners of the Osman Arslan matter. The counsel for Arslan filed an exception of lack of subject matter of jurisdiction. They identify as a ride sharing business operating through an app called Turo, protected under the Rider Sharing Act. Through our investigation we discovered that they were operating a rental dealer business out of a luxury condominium complex with 21 vehicles under the business name, Soba Enterprises. Counsel Hallack explains to the commissioners what is protected under the Ride Share Act, which is personal vehicles being used for ride share purposes. The commission issued a notice of hearing for individuals Osman Arslan and Serpil Brice and Soba Enterprises and issued a fine of \$110,000. It was appealed and argued that the commission did not have jurisdiction over Turo or users of the app. The judge ruled in favor of Osman Arslan and Serpil Brice and Soba Enterprises. Commissioner Britt motions to appeal the judgment made, Commissioner Saia seconds.

3. United States of America v. Oscar Hills, IV, Subpoena to testify at a Hearing or Trial in a Criminal Case, Courtroom No. 2, Judge Brian A Jackson, Russell B Long Federal Building

Director Parnell informs commissioners that he was issued a subpoena by a civil service officer to testify against a dealer, Baton Rouge Teen Summit Foundation. He is to explain the requirements and process for obtaining a license with the Louisiana Used Motor Vehicle Commission. It was said that they gave falsified information to receive funds through PPP Loans. Oscar Hills claimed that the dealership had 30 to 40 people working under their license with the commission when only four people were licensed under the business. Director Parnell is to verify information regarding the licensing for Baton Rouge Teen Summit on September 15th.

VII. ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

Montie Wisenor, Compliance Investigator Supervisor, presented the Enforcement Report for Compliance Investigation to the Commission. In March 2025 there were 5 Audits Conducted, 1 Notice of Revocation issued, 70 Site Visits conducted, 0 Cease & Desist issued, 26 Assisted Titles & Registration for Consumer, 1 Violations written, 1 Refunds for Consumer, \$500.00 Refunds to Consumer, 22 Cases Closed/Assigned, 29 Cases Closed/Non-Assigned, 38 Physical Inspections completed. In April 2025 there were 7 Audits conducted, 1 Notice of Revocation issued, 56 Site Visits conducted, 1 Cease and Desist Order issued, 19 Assisted Title & Registration for Consumer, 2 Violations written, 2 Refunds to Consumer, \$58,800 Refunds to Consumer, 14 Cases Closed/Assigned, 30 Cases Closed/Non-Assigned, 29 Physical Inspections completed. In May 2025 there were 5 Audits conducted, 1 Notice of Revocation issued, 72 Site Visits conducted, 1 Cease and Desist Order issued, 21 Assisted Title & Registration for Consumer, 0 Violations written, 2 Refunds to Consumer, \$14,800 Refunds to Consumer, 22 Cases Closed/Assigned, 28 Cases Closed/Non-Assigned, 31 Physical Inspections completed.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Parnell informed the Commission the new fleet vehicle purchased at the beginning of 2024. It was purchased to replace the fleet vehicle involved in the auto incident with Jessica Golofolo and Compliance Investigator Perry Espoenge. The cost of the vehicle was \$24,000 but seeing that we are receiving a check for \$14,000 from the insurance company, the commission would only have lost \$10,000 towards the vehicle cost.

IX. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

House Bill (HB) No. 580 – Increases the penalties for operating a vehicle with fictitious plate and provides for specifications for temporary registration plates issued by dealers and the display of temporary registration plate issued by dealers.

Amendments were added to the bill that removed both the Used Motor Vehicle Commission and the Motor Vehicle Commission from the bill and is currently in the Governor's Office for signatures.

House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) No. 69 – Creates a task force to study the merger of the Louisiana Motor Vehicle Commission and the Louisiana Used Motor Vehicle Commission.

The initial meeting of the task force shall take place no later than August 1, 2025. A decision is going to be made by December 31, 2025. The taskforce will consist of the governor, two members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs appointed by the president of the Senate, two members of the House Committee on Commerce appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, the attorney general, two commissioners of the

Louisiana Used Motor Vehicle Commission-
Minutes/Actions Monday, June 16, 2025

Louisiana Motor Vehicle Commission appointed by the chair of the commission, two commissioners of the Louisiana Used Motor Vehicle Commission appointed by the chair of the commission, the president of the Louisiana Automobile Dealers Association or his designee, a licensed new car dealer engaged in the business of selling new cars appointed by the governor and a licensed used car dealer engaged in the business of selling used cars appointed by the governor.

X. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

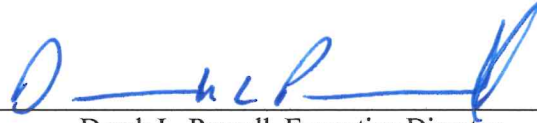
No items requested

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned Executive Director to the Louisiana Used Motor Vehicle Commission certified that the foregoing is the true and correct Minutes of the Commission meeting held on the 16th day of June 2025.



Derek L. Parnell, Executive Director