

## MINUTES

### **Louisiana Automobile Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Authority (LATIFPA)**

December 2, 2009

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Warren Byrd called the meeting of **Louisiana Automobile Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Authority (LATIFPA)** to order at 10:04 a.m. Director Denise Cassano called the roll.

### ROLL CALL

#### Members Present

Mr. Warren E. Byrd, Esq., Chairman  
Treasurer John Kennedy by Jason Stagg, Designee  
Lieutenant Trevor Smith  
Mr. Ryan Marine  
Mr. Larry Hinton, Esq.  
Mr. Richard Soileau  
Mr. Thomas McCormick, Esq.

#### Members Absent

Representative A.B. Franklin  
Senator Troy Hebert  
Mr. Terrance Apple

#### Staff Members Present

Ms. Denise Cassano  
Mr. Kevin Smith  
Mr. Beau Schexnaildre, Legal Counsel to the  
Louisiana Department of Insurance

#### Staff Members Absent

Virginia G. Benoist

Chairman Byrd declared that a quorum was present. The minutes of the August 19, 2009 board meeting were presented for review and approval. A motion was made by Mr. Larry Hinton to adopt the minutes as presented. Mr. Tom McCormick seconded that motion. The minutes of the August 19, 2009 meeting were approved and adopted by unanimous consent.

Director Denise Cassano gave a report on the fundraising efforts, other donations, contributions and expenditures of the **LATIFPA**. The report was accepted as given.

Director Cassano gave a report on the \$70.00 shipping fee charged for the return of the Cobham/Orion bait vehicle equipment, after repairs, to the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) for placement with the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office. Director Cassano also reported on the \$193.42 charge for repair to the laptop to be used with the Remington Elsig license plate reader, purchased by the NICB, for placement with the Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office, under the **LATIFPA** license plate reader program.

Mr. Richard Soileau made a motion to approve the payment of both the \$70.00 charge and the \$193.42 charge. Mr. Hinton seconded the motion. The motion was approved and adopted by unanimous consent.

Mr. Charlie Peters, Special Agent with the NICB reported on the activity of the license plate readers in operation by the Baton Rouge Police Department, Lafayette Police Department, New Orleans Police Department and the Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office. He also reported on the activity of the bait vehicles presently in operation with the Baton Rouge Police Department, Shreveport Police Department and New Orleans Police Department. He further reported that the equipment for the bait car, recently placed with the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office, would be installed on December 14, 2009.

Assistant Director Kevin Smith gave a report on the middle and high school curriculum presentations and scheduled education events for the 2009 – 2010 school year. The report was accepted as given. There was discussion about the effectiveness of presenting the middle school presentation to fifth grade students and comparison was made to the D.A.R.E. anti-drug program conducted in elementary schools. Chairman Byrd recommended that a second letter over the Commissioner's signature be sent in January 2010 to the school superintendents in Louisiana seeking superintendent approval for admission into additional parish schools.

Chairman Byrd reported on staff suggested amendments to R.S. 22:2131, et seq. that would expand the authority of **LATIFPA** to combat all forms of insurance fraud (not just motor vehicle insurance fraud) and to increase the membership of its board from 11 board members to 13 board members by adding two members representing health insurers doing business in the State of Louisiana. Mr. McCormick made a motion to adopt the amendments as presented and to proceed with drafting the legislation for presentation to the board at its next quarterly meeting prior to the 2010 Legislative Session. Mr. Hinton seconded the motion. The motion was approved and adopted by unanimous consent.

Lieutenant Trevor Smith with the Louisiana State Police Insurance Fraud Unit reported on the Louisiana State Police updates to the Homeland Security Information Network website and the status of the health care fraud training being given to Louisiana State Police Insurance Fraud Unit personnel.

There were no public comments and no announcements.

There being no further business, Mr. McCormick made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hinton and approved and adopted by unanimous consent. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.