**MINUTES**

**Louisiana Automobile Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Authority**

**(LATIFPA)**

March 14, 2012

Poydras Building

1702 North Third Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Warren Byrd called the meeting of the **Louisiana Automobile Theft and Insurance** **Fraud Prevention Authority (LATIFPA)** to order at 10:05 a.m. The meeting was properly noticed. Director Denise Cassano called the roll.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present Members Absent

Warren E. Byrd, Esq., Chairman Mr. Ryan Marine

Executive Counsel Regions Insurance

Louisiana Department of Insurance

Mr. Willard Hamilton Mr. Larry Hinton, Esq.

Internal Auditor General Counsel

Louisiana Department of the Treasury GEICO Companies

Mr. Thomas McCormick, Esq.

Department of Justice, State of Louisiana

Lieutenant Trevor J. Smith, Supervisor

Insurance Fraud & Auto Theft Unit

Louisiana State Police

Mr. Richard J. Hagey

SIU Manager, SCLA

Louisiana Farm Bureau Insurance Company

Honorable Dan Morrish

By Mr. Don “Tuffy” Resweber, Designee

Honorable Mike Huval, State Representative

House Committee on Insurance

Mr. Terrance “Terry” Apple

Insurance Fraud Investigator

Department of Justice, State of Louisiana

Staff Members Present Staff Members Absent

Ms. Denise Cassano, Director

Ms. Virginia G. Benoist, Assistant Attorney General

and Legal Counsel to the Louisiana Department of Insurance

Mr. Kevin Smith, Assistant Director

Mr. Paul Boudreaux, Jr., Esq., Director

Fraud Section

**There were three attendees from the public at this meeting.**

Chairman Byrd declared that a quorum was present. **Prior to action on each agenda item for which a vote was taken, there was a public comment period as required under La.R.S. 42:14(D).**

Chairman Byrd introduced Representative Mike Huval, Louisiana State Representative, appointed to serve on the Board of Directors of the **Louisiana Automobile Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Authority (LATIFPA)** by Chairman Greg Cromer, Louisiana House Committee on Insurance.

The minutes of the December 14, 2011, board meeting were presented for review and approval. A motion was made by Mr. Don Resweber to adopt the minutes as presented. Mr. Terrance Apple seconded the motion. Prior to a vote Chairman Byrd opened the floor for any public comment, but there was none. The minutes of the December 14, 2011 meeting were adopted by unanimous vote.

Director Cassano reported on **LATIFPA** income, expenditures and donations. The report was accepted as given.

Chairman Byrd gave an update on the “Park Smart” educational microsite. A motion was made by Mr. Tom McCormick to approve expenditures in FY 2012-2013 not to exceed $44,000 for the design of an educational microsite. Mr. Apple seconded the motion. Prior to a vote Chairman Byrd opened the floor for any public comment, but there was none. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

A motion was made by Mr. McCormick to approve expenditures in FY 2012-2013 not to exceed $10,000 for the development of a video by Idea Development to be included in the educational microsite. Mr. Resweber seconded the motion. Prior to a vote Chairman Byrd opened the floor for any public comment, but there was none. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Mr. McCormick made a motion to approve expenditures not to exceed $66,000 for the purchase of an additional statewide billboard campaign in FY 2011-2012. Mr. Richard Hagey seconded the motion. Prior to a vote Chairman Byrd opened the floor for any public comment, but there was none. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Mr. Resweber made a motion to approved expenditures not to exceed $5,000 for the purchase of lanyards and hanging tags for distribution in the **LATIFPA** education program. Mr. McCormick seconded the motion. Prior to a vote Chairman Byrd opened the floor for any public comment, but there was none. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Lieutenant Trevor Smith gave a report on the March 7, 2012 law enforcement summit and he, also, gave the report and the recommendations from the Steering Committee on Equipment Purchases meeting also held on March 7, 2012. After hearing these recommendations, Mr. McCormick made a motion to relocate the bait vehicle, under the **LATIFPA** Vehicle Investigation Prevention Enforcement Response (VIPER) Program, from its current deployment with the Shreveport Police Department to a new deployment with the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff’s Office; to release to the National Insurance Crime Bureau the surveillance vehicle which is currently deployed with the Shreveport Police department under the **LATIFPA** VIPER Program and to approve expenditures in FY 2012-2013, not to exceed $1,000, to contract for an equipment assessment of the bait vehicle equipment in the VIPER Program. Prior to a vote Chairman Byrd opened the floor for any public comment, but there was none. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Mr. Allen Applewhite, National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) gave his report on the **LATIFPA**/NICB License Plate Recognition and VIPER programs. The report was accepted as given.

Assistant Director Kevin Smith gave a report on the middle and high school curriculum presentations and other educational events conducted by **LATIFPA**. The report was accepted as given.

Director Cassano announced that the **LATIFPA** 2010-2011 Annual Report to the Legislature had been released and was included in the meeting packets for each board member. She also announced that the 2012 Conference on Insurance Fraud and Vehicle Theft would be held Wednesday, October 17, 2012 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Baton Rouge.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.