

**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**

January 28, 2021

A regular meeting of the Louisiana POST Council was held Thursday, January 28, 2021, 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): Sheriff Steve Prator (Chairman and proxy for Sheriff Jason Ard), Mr. Jim Craft (member and proxy for Chief Hal Hutchinson and Mr. Jay Lemoine), Mr. Jeff Bergeron (proxy for Attorney General Jeff Landry), and Col. Lamar Davis.

Guests present: Major Lafate Elliott Day, Jr. (Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office), Toni Gebbia (Slidell Police Dept.), Lt. Kevin Johnson (Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office), Sgt. Mark Iannazzo (Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office), Lt. Rhonda Simmons (St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office), Lt. Robert Golding (St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office), Capt. Jeremy Church (St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office), Lt. Patsy Netherland (Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office), Capt. Greg Timberlake (Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office), Capt. Clay Marques (LA Wildlife & Fisheries), Lt. Scott Wildey (Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office), Capt. Steven Joe (Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office), Maria Pollage-Toups (LA Probation & Parole), Josh Smith (LA Probation & Parole), Fredrica Palmer (New Orleans Police Dept.), Capt. Cinnamon Salvador (Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office), Lt. Brian Rico (Gretna Police Dept.), Lt. Bruce Haney (New Orleans Police Dept.), Capt. Sarah Rhodes (Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office), Capt. Mark Candies (St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office), Lt. Julie Theriot (St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Office), Shelly Picard (St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Office), Donald Poirier (St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Office), Lt. Cedric Turner (New Orleans Harbor Police Dept.), Capt. J.B. Slaton (LA State Police), Lt. Col. Doug Cain (LA State Police), Sgt. Scott Davis (LA State Police), Michael Ranatza (LA Sheriff's Association), Gary Bennett (LA Sheriff's Association), and Shannon Dirman (LA Sheriff's Association).

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Bergeron made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. After some discussion, Mr. Craft 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. Mr. Bergeron made a motion to ratify the approved requests. After some discussion, Mr. Craft seconded the motion and the motion passed.

### POST Homicide Investigator Training – Ratification

Ms. Taylor presented the Homicide Training Investigator Training Committee's approval of the "Inside the Tape" 3-day virtual training for ratification by the POST Council. Col. Davis made a motion to ratify the approval. After some discussion, Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### POST In-Service Training Waiver Requests – 2017, 2018 & 2019

Ms. Taylor presented the recommendations of the POST In-Service Training Waiver Request committee for the 2017, 2018 & 2019 waiver requests. Mr. Bergeron made a motion to approve the recommendations of the committee. After some discussion, Col. Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed.

### POST In-Service Training Deficiency – Sonya Johnson (Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office)

Sheriff Prator presented the information submitted to the POST Staff by the Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office training coordinator – Sheriff Jay Russell will not be requesting a waiver for Sonya Johnson. Mr. Craft made a motion to revoke the POST Basic certification of Sonya Johnson based on her training deficiency for 2019. After some discussion, Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### POST Basic Certification Reinstatement – Preston Jones (Orleans Parish Constable's Office & Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office)

Ms. Taylor presented the staff's request to reinstate the POST Basic certification of Preston Jones, based on the training hours submitted by his employing agency's training coordinator. Mr. Bergeron made a motion to reinstate Mr. Jones's POST Basic certification. After some discussion, Col. Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed.

### POST Certification Revocation Appeal Hearing – William Mattox (Level 1)

Mr. Mattox was not in attendance of the meeting. Sheriff Prator informed the Council members of Mr. Mattox's training deficiency for 2018. Mr. Craft made a motion to deny the appeal. After some discussion, Col. Davis

seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST In-Service Training Waiver Committee – Discussion

Ms. Taylor requested the discussion be tabled to the March meeting.

POST Part-Time/Reserve Grandfathering – Discussion

Sheriff Prator presented recommendations to the Council members for changes to Title 22 of LA Administrative Code to address part-time/reserve peace officers hired prior to 01/01/2022 being “grandfathered” into POST. Ms. Taylor presented the proposed changes to the administrative rule, and that it would “mirror” the existing language for full-time peace officers who were “grandfathered” in 1986, with one additional requirement of part-time/reserve “grandfathered” officers having to attend the POST Basic academy if their employment status changes to full-time. Mr. Craft made a motion to adopt the proposed changes. After some discussion, Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed. Mr. Wertz explained the process of updating administrative rule to the Council members, and that he would make the necessary filings.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Sheriff Prator commended all the POST Academy Directors for a “job well done”!

Col. Davis addressed the Council members and guests by thanking all for their continued support.

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

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