



Ohio Private Investigation & Security Services Commission (OPISSC) May 25, 2017 Minutes

Commission Meeting Date and Location: May 25, 2017, Ohio Department of Public Safety (DPS), 1970 W. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223

Commission Members Present: Mr. Rodney Armstrong, Mr. Dwight Holcomb, Mr. Christopher Johnson for Mr. Paul Pride, Mr. Anthony Macisco, Mr. Joseph Montgomery for Mr. John Born, Mr. Terry Myer, Mr. Ted Owens, Mr. John Pezzino, Mr. Scott Reinbolt, Mr. Brian Simms,

Commission Members Absent: Mr. Jay Beighley, Mr. Mark Wasylshyn

Also Attending: Christy Clark, Aleta Dodson, Geoff Dutton, Julie Faulconer, Dan Fitzpatrick, Brandon Gardner, Emily Mayfield, Molly Seitz, Anne Vitale

Public Attending: Earl Mack, Michael Rolfes, Wayne Sever, Mike Staley

Mr. Rodney Armstrong, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:03 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Armstrong	Here	Mr. Myer	Here
Mr. Beighley		Mr. Owens	Here
Mr. Holcomb	Here	Mr. Pezzino	Here
Mr. Johnson for Mr. Pride	Here	Mr. Reinbolt	Here
Mr. Macisco	Here	Mr. Simms	Here
Mr. Montgomery for Mr. Born	Here	Mr. Wasylshyn	

A quorum was present to conduct business.

Mr. Montgomery introduced newly appointed Executive Director of PISGS Brandon Gardner. Mr. Gardner worked with the International Association of Chiefs of Police supporting law enforcement agencies with advocacy training and technical assistance, focused on state level law enforcement in North America. Mr. Dutton was assigned a new position and was thanked for his work with the Commission.

ACTION: Motion to approve the minutes of February 23, 2017. Simms first. Myer second. Motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to remove Geoff Dutton from the Training Committee and add Brandon Gardner. Owens first. Pezzino second. Motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to add Scott Reinbolt to the Voluntary Accreditation Committee. Holcomb first. Simms second. Motion passed.

STAFF REPORTS

- Ms. Clark reported that since January, the investigators have made ninety-three (93) law enforcement contacts, three hundred thirty-five (335) compliance checks, and issued six (6) violation notices. There were four (4) shooting incidents, and ten (10) criminal charges. Compliance checks were made at major events like the Arnold Sports Classic where all guards were properly registered and Rock on the Range where there were possible violations. The northwest Ohio investigator is working with Toledo PD regarding an individual who continues to provide unlicensed security services.
- Ms. Dodson reported that the license renewal season went smoothly with 95% of the applications done online, an increase of 3% from the prior year. The average turnaround time on an application was seven (7) days. Approximately 8% of the companies did not renew or closed their business. One of the biggest issues companies have with the online system is uploading the employee photo. Improvements were made

which allows the licensing staff to edit the photos which will reduce the amount of send backs for corrections. The qualifying agent examinations have been proctored to 30 locations in 19 states since July 2016, making it more convenient and affordable to apply for an Ohio license. At our request, OPOTC added a disclaimer to their program's test and certificate that completing the training does not authorize them to work and they must contact PISGS for licensing.

- Mr. Gardner informed the Commission that outreach efforts were extended to the Coalition of Homelessness and Housing, the Buckeye State Sheriff's Association, charter schools, fracking companies, Ohio Public Private Partnership, Council of Churches, and the Ohio Hotel and Lodging Association. The Active Shooter Tabletop Exercise Toolkit on the PISGS webpage was downloaded 2,015 times in thirty-nine (39) states and seven (7) countries. The online Anti-Human Trafficking training has been completed by 126 people since July. With the outreach efforts, more people are voluntarily attending the informational seminars.

Mr. Myer asked if PISGS had come across Trustify yet, and the answer was no. PISGS could send them licensing information so they'd be aware of the law before doing business in Ohio. Mr. Armstrong was contacted by Trustify and they are operating in Ohio. They have a Columbus post office box, and Mr. Armstrong will forward the information to Ms. Vitale.

OLD BUSINESS

SB 183: Mr. Dan Fitzpatrick, Director of Legislative Affairs, informed the Commission that the bill needs reintroduced and is currently being redrafted to reduce opposition. Per Ms. Vitale, BCI results can't be shared with the company; it would require a change in Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 109. The firearm bearer (FAB) endorsement doesn't exempt a person from the conceal handgun law (CHL) and would require changes to ORC 2923. Mr. Simms clarified that the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police and the Fraternal Order of Police opposed the word "officer" in SB 183, which was changed back to guard.

Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Owens, and Mr. Myer expressed their frustration that after years of working on the legislation, the bill didn't get passed last year, and at mid-year, the bill hasn't been reintroduced. Increasing the hours of training and moving to portability are huge issues that impact the industry and the public's safety, but can't move forward without the legislation.

Mr. Montgomery explained that DPS met with legislators numerous times last year, but once the bill is introduced, the process is out of the control of Public Safety. Mr. Fitzpatrick said he will schedule Commission members meet with the sponsors at a stakeholder's meeting once the legislation is introduced.

Mr. Mike Rolfes, qualifying agent for Official Investigations, addressed the Commission. Mr. Rolfes spoke with Representative Bill Seitz and said Representative Seitz is willing to support portability, making an assault on a security officer a felony offense, allow bar lighting on security vehicles, but designate a specific color for the security industry, permitting arrest and detention authority to security officers, and granting the security industry access to the state law enforcement database. Mr. Armstrong appreciated Mr. Rolfes' information and bringing additional issues to the Commission's attention. These issues won't be added to the current legislation, but will be reviewed by the Legislative Committee.

Mr. Earl Mack, qualifying agent for Key Resource Protection and Investigations, told the Commission the new registration cards are a huge improvement over the old paper cards and give the industry a professional look. Other changes are needed, but feels additional training is essential to the industry. The current proposed legislation will suffice if passed.

Mr. Wayne Sever, qualifying agent for Highland Security and Investigations, stated the importance of carrying a firearm in his business, the CHL training hours are much less than the hours needed for the FAB, and wants the CHL law to exempt security officers who have the FAB endorsement. Mr. Reinbolt asked about the history

of the FAB and the Commission discussed it. Mr. Reinbolt said the proposed legislation is cumbersome and wondered if it would be easier if it was broken down and reintroduce as individual issues.

After some discussion, Mr. Owens suggested members attend the Ohio Buckeye Firearms Association's meeting regarding HB 203, and that PISGS email the qualifying agents with the recommendation that all FAB holders also get their conceal carry permit. The Commission would like to request a formal opinion from the Attorney General's office on the FAB and CHL law. Ms. Vitale will research how to make that request. Mr. Armstrong asked that a Legislative Committee meeting be scheduled.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Reinbolt was contacted by the Ohio Peace Officers Training Commission (OPOTC) to be a subject matter expert (SME) for PISGS curriculum. Mr. Armstrong confirmed that several members and Mr. Dutton have served as SME for OPOTC and encouraged Mr. Reinbolt to participate.

Mr. Armstrong reported that Mr. Joel Brown, with the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police and the Ohio Collaborative addressed the Voluntary Accreditation Committee and offered good feedback on how to proceed with building an accredited program standard for the industry.

ACTION: Motion to adjourn. Pezzino first. Myer second. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.