



Ohio Private Investigation & Security Services Commission
Legislative Committee Meeting
July 31, 2013

Committee Members Present:

Mike Moran, OASIS – Committee Chair
Howard Korn, International Protection Group
Ted Owens, Ohio Special Services Group
Jeff Parson, Allied Barton
Jim Sylvania, Sylvania Investigative Services, LLC

Committee Members Absent:

Rodney Armstrong, Securitas Inc.
Steve Cotner, Corporate Intelligence Consultants, Inc.
Gregg Hollenbaugh, Cal Crim, Inc.
Brian Simms, Franklin County Prosecutor's Office
Blair Staud, Ohio Support Services

Also Attending:

Irwin "Mike" Cohen, OPISSC Chair
Lauren Curto, DPS Legal
Aleta Dodson, PISGS
Lora Manon, PISGS
Anne Vitale, DPS Legal

Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 9:35 p.m. by Chairman Moran and was held at the Department of Public Safety, 1970 W. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio.

Roll Call - Completed by Chairman Moran; a quorum was present to conduct business.

Rewrite of Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 4749.

Mr. Moran reported that the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) agreed to grant parity with peace officers to the private investigators and security officers. This would require forty hours of initial training instead of the current twenty hours, but it would also eliminate the twenty-one day delay for academy approval.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding firearm training and it was agreed the curriculum for the extra twenty hour requirement needs defined. Other questions discussed were:

1. Would it still be a private course or become a version of the OPOTA law enforcement course?
2. Would instructors currently providing initial training for security personnel need to go back to school?
3. Can security officers qualify with both types of handguns within the forty hour course?
4. Will the course of fire be changed to 25 rounds like law enforcement?

Some members expressed concern about the increased cost for the range time from approximately \$150 to \$300. Mr. Moran believes this issue impacts a small group of companies as there are approximately 5,000 firearm bearers, which is about 20% of the registered security officers. OPOTC inserted PISGS into the requalification hours in 109.801 along with law enforcement. Mr. Sylvania said this is a private industry and we

Ohio Private Investigation and Security Services Commission
Legislative Committee
DRAFT Minutes
July 31, 2013

are not government and should not be regulated by OPOTA. Mr. Cohen said that won't change until we have our own Board. Mr. Parsons said forty hours will be painful, but wants parity, and this will increase professionalism. Mr. Moran stated that the equivalency for military and law enforcement looks good.

Per Mr. Moran, the existing law already says "any other weapons" and OPOTC has chosen to promulgate a rule on shotguns, but not on "any other weapons." There are armored car guards carrying sub-guns and some security companies carrying long guns or AR15's. Mr. Schropp had an inquiry from a company that wanted to carry a rifle and since there is no dictated training for it, the company and client worked out the training. The structure of the laws and rules doesn't recognize that, and another administration may not feel the same way.

Mr. Cohen said Justin Hykes, Assistant Attorney General for the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC), is available to talk with the commission. He proposed the Legislative Committee create a list of concerns and objectives to submit to Mr. Hykes and would like an OPOTC representative at the August 21 OPISSC meeting. Mr. Moran said issues needing clarification include: the rifle issue, qualifying two weapons (handgun and revolver) in the 40 hour course, the increased cost to industry, and the curriculum to be used.

Mr. Moran will schedule a meeting with Mr. Hykes prior to the August 21st meeting in order to allow time to approve and submit to OPOTC for their September meeting. Mr. Cohen said after that, OPISSC can submit their rewrite recommendation to DPS, who would get legislative backing for the 4749 rewrite. He warned if OPOTC fights us on this, we won't get anyplace legislatively and it would be a waste of everyone's time. Mr. Moran said it is his understanding that DPS does not have concerns over increased FAB hours and wants something London will be happy with.

Mr. Moran asked Ms. Vitale the status of the rest of the legislation. Ms. Vitale said once the Commission makes a recommendation to DPS, the department can accept or reject it all, or take some of it and leave some of it. Depending on what the Commission recommends, DPS can get a sponsor for legislation or bring it back to the Commission. Mr. Moran asked how long before it would be ready to submit to the General Assembly. Per Ms. Vitale, it depends on how many changes there are and when she receives it. If she gets it in October, she could have it finalized by November or December.

Mr. Cohen said Eric Schaffer, who works on OPOTA's curriculum, would like to have input from the private security industry for the curriculum and will contact us.

ACTION: Motion to adjourn the meeting. Parson first. Owens second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.