



Ohio Private Investigation & Security Services Commission (OPISSC) April 28, 2016 Minutes

Commission Meeting Date and Location: April 28, 2016, Ohio Department of Public Safety (DPS), 1970 W. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223

Commission Members Present: Mr. Rodney Armstrong, Mr. Jay Beighley, Mr. Dwight Holcomb, Mr. Christopher Johnson for Mr. Paul Pride, Mr. Anthony Macisco, Mr. Joseph Montgomery for Mr. John Born, Mr. Ted Owens, Mr. John Pezzino, Ms. Kimberly Spears-McNatt,

Commission Members Absent: Mr. Terry Myer, Mr. Brian Simms, Mr. Mark Wasylyshyn

Also Attending: James Borntrager, Christy Clark, Aleta Dodson, Geoff Dutton, Julie Faulconer, Pat Gehrisch, Ashleigh Henry, Sarah Ingles

Visitors Attending: Kevin Day, Securitas; Bret Morgan

Mr. Rodney Armstrong, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Armstrong	Here	Mr. Myer	
Mr. Beighley	Here	Mr. Owens	Here
Mr. Holcomb	Here	Mr. Pezzino	Here
Mr. Johnson for Mr. Pride	Here	Mr. Simms	
Mr. Macisco	Here	Ms. Spears-McNatt	Here
Mr. Montgomery for Mr. Born	Here	Mr. Wasylyshyn	

A quorum was present to conduct business.

ACTION: Motion to approve the minutes of February 25, 2016. Pezzino first. Owens second. Motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to nominate Dwight Holcomb for Vice-Chair. Pezzino first. Macisco second. Holcomb abstained. Motion passed.

STAFF REPORTS

Geoff Dutton introduced Investigators Pat Gehrisch (northwest) and James Borntrager (northeast), and reported an investigator will soon be hired for southwest Ohio.

Enforcement:

- Since February, 144 compliance checks were conducted, 25 law enforcement contacts were made, 5 cases are open, 22 cases received notice of hearing, 11 cases are paying fines, and 4 criminal charges were filed.
- Election venues were contacted in advance of primary appearances by Trump, Clinton, Sanders and others to assure fully licensed and registered security.
- Investigator Gehrisch located 14 unregistered guards working at the Arnold Classic. In response to Mr. Holcomb, Ms. Clark explained that two companies were working security, but only one company had violations. Mr. Dutton added that Outreach Coordinator Tiffany Gehrlisch-Orr had contacted the Convention Center a month before the event.
- Investigator Gehrisch filed criminal charges again on a person who's been convicted twice on misdemeanor charges for providing unlicensed armed security.
- Investigator Borntrager completed Homeland Security's two week Basic Intelligence & Threat training course.

Licensing & Registration:

- This year, the average time to process a license renewal was reduced to eight days compared to seventeen days several years ago, and the online renewals increased to 92% from 86%. Approximately 40% of the companies wait until two weeks before the deadline to submit their renewal.
- Due to a customer's suggestion, the online system now has a countdown clock to let customers know when they will time out of the system.
- The PISGS Informational Seminar historically has been viewed as punishment for violators. It has been revised and new licensees and qualifying agents are encouraged to attend.

Other items:

- Over 600 school districts were contacted to verify contract security companies are licensed after a security guard at one school called in bomb threats. One district hiring unlicensed off-duty police are now contracting with a licensed provider.
- Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) offers an excellent online Human Trafficking training course. The course was rolled out to truck drivers, hotel/motel workers, and they would like to include the security industry. Mr. Armstrong said his company provides tons of online training for employees, but there isn't one regarding human trafficking, and would be great to have that course available to the industry. Mr. Pezzino asked about the web address for truck drivers to report suspicions. Mr. Dutton will provide the web address and will let the Commission know when training is available.
- Homeland Security offers an Intelligence Liaison Officer (ILO) training program to recognize and report threats of terrorism. The Enforcement Unit investigators completed the training. Mr. Dutton is looking into making this training available for the security industry.
- Ms. Gehrlich-Orr and Mr. Dutton gave a presentation to the Department of Commerce Liquor Control agents to provide them with an understanding of the PISGS registration requirements. Separately, investigators have formed a valuable partnership with Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU) agents during compliance checks.
- A Columbus licensee was having issues with BCI Webchecks. Ms. Gehrlich-Orr and Mr. Dutton met with the company and the issue has been resolved.
- Ms. Gehrlich-Orr is reaching out to licensees who are still submitting paper applications, and will be meeting with them to help transition to the online system.
- Ms. Gehrlich-Orr and Mr. Dutton attended the Columbus Zoo Active Shooter Tabletop exercise. The observations made will be useful in completing a toolkit for future exercises. The next one will take place at the Franklin County Mall in Toledo.
- Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Owens, Mr. Beighley and Mr. Dutton participated in the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) Curriculum Review. Revision copies were emailed to Commission members. The changes were approved and take effect in July 2016.
- Photos will be taken today of interested Commission members for PISGS Facebook and Twitter.
- This is the 10th anniversary of the Commission. Mr. Dutton wants contact information of early members; Mr. Armstrong will forward them. Mr. Montgomery pointed out that Jessica Pearson of DPS Communications is excellent with social media, has won awards, and is able to promote the industry if members want to submit ideas.

Mr. Montgomery complimented Mr. Dutton and the PISGS staff on the phenomenal online stats and hopes the industry sees how Mr. Dutton has been promoting the value of the industry and the importance of being licensed. The Commission members agreed the industry has made great strides within the past years moving forward with the online services, SB 183, and being included on the OPOTA curriculum review.

OLD BUSINESS

S.B. 183

Mr. Dutton reported the bill is still in the same committee and there have been a few questions regarding the required examination. Even though the Commission and industry approve of the exam, the senate leadership in general favors less regulation. Mr. Montgomery said there are no objections to the two-year renewal cycle. Mr. Armstrong asked if there is anything the industry can do to move the legislation forward. Mr. Montgomery suggests the industry be patient and not make any objections which would only stall the process. During the last meeting, the question was asked if providing roster reports would still be required if SB 183 passes. Mr. Dutton researched it and said the companies will still be required to report the hiring and termination of employees, but submitting the quarterly report will no longer be required.

Online Training

Mr. Dutton reported the web designers are working on the first module and should have something next month.

GPS Legislation

Mr. Armstrong provided a copy of the Michigan legislation which was forwarded to Commission members prior to the meeting. Mr. Owens wants the Legislative Committee to meet to address this issue, but Mr. Armstrong has some reservations. Mr. Pezzino suggested the issue be investigated, and Mr. Holcomb agreed.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Dutton announced that the Director of Public Safety, John Born, will be speaking at the OASIS meeting May 20th. Mr. Armstrong will provide additional information.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

ACTION: Motion to adjourn. Owens first. Macisco second. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.