



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 24, 2024
10:00 a.m.

A meeting of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Training Council (LETC) was held at the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy on Wednesday, April 24, 2024. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

CALL TO ORDER

Agenda Item 1

Chief Mark Keel, Chair of the Law Enforcement Training Council, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Chief Keel called for a roll call of the Council members. The roll was called by Opel Bunn.

Members present for this meeting in-person were Chief Mark Keel, (Chairman), State Law Enforcement Division (SLED); Director Bryan Stirling, S.C. Department of Corrections; Acting Director Jodi Gallman, S.C. Department of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services; Director Robert Boyles, S.C. Department of Natural Resources; Director Robert Woods, S.C. Department of Public Safety; Chief Kevin Cornett, Isle of Palms Police Department; Captain Nick Gallam, Aiken County Detention Center and Chief William Holbrook, Columbia Police Department.

Attorney General Alan Wilson, S.C. Attorney General's Office was absent from this meeting but was represented by proxy, Deputy Attorney General Jeff Young.

Members present via video/conference call were Sheriff Lee Foster (Co-Chair), Newberry County Sheriff's Office and Sheriff Barry Faile, Lancaster County Sheriff's Office.

Guest attendees present in-person or via Webex were JJ Jones, S.C. Law Enforcement Officers Association/S.C. Police Chiefs Association; Sally Foster, S.C. Sheriffs Association; Mark Gosnell, S.C. Troopers Association; Deputy Chief Jim Stewart, Richland County Sheriff's Department; Rosa Coleman; Logan Royals, Esquire, S.C. Department of Mental Health; Mark Dulude; Johnny Evans, Esquire; Jessie Glenn, Esquire, Greenville County Sheriff's Office; Jeremy Kraft; Sara Kraft; John O'Leary, Esquire; Carlton Bourne, Esquire, North Charleston Police Department; Sargent Mike Brown, North Charleston Police Department; Gregory Littles; Marcus Gore, Esquire, S.C. Department of Public Safety; Chief Damian White, Columbia Housing Authority; JJ Evans, Thurmond Kirchner and Timbes; Ted Clifford; Tonya Brown, WPDE; Ann Trotto, PowerPhone; and Pam Visel, PowerPhone.



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

SC Criminal Justice Academy attendees were Director Jackie Swindler; Opel Bunn, Executive Assistant; James Fennell, General Counsel; Lauren Fennell, Accreditation and Standards Manager; Madison Reynolds, Certification; Justin Miller, IT Manager; Briana Jirowetz, IT; Major Florence McCants, Administrative Operations; Lauren Wright, Finance Manager; John Yarborough, Facilities Operation Manager; and Scott Deckard, Investigator.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Chief Cornett. Director Woods seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL FOR MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2024, meeting was made by Director Boyles and seconded by Chief Cornett. Council voted unanimously to accept the meeting minutes as recorded.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. General Counsel Report

- Misconduct Cases

Rosa Coleman (2023-CJA-08-09) (South Carolina Department of Mental Health)

Summary: Allegation(s) of the dangerous or unsafe practices involving firearms, weapons, or vehicles which indicate either a willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property and an arrest for Malicious Injury to Personal Property. **Request for Final Agency Decision.**

The Hearing Officer Recommended that Council:

- A. Issue its final agency decision, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 37-107 D. finding that the allegation of misconduct filed against Rosa Coleman by the South Carolina Department of Mental Health has been proven by a preponderance of evidence; and
- B. Impose a below sanction as the Law Enforcement Training Council in its discretion deems appropriate pursuant to its authority set forth at S.C. Code Ann. Regs 37-108 A(1-5)
 1. Permanent denial and/or revocation (withdrawal) of certification;
 2. Denial and/or revocation (withdrawal) of certification for a specified amount of time;
 3. Certification granted with probation;



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

4. Certification granted with any additional requirements deemed just and proper by the Council; and/or
5. Public reprimand.

Rosa Coleman was present and spoke on her behalf and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

Logan Royals, Esquire, was present and spoke on behalf of the S.C. Department of Mental Health and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements from all parties, Captain Gallam made a motion to adopt the recommendation of the Hearing Officer and to permanently deny Rosa Coleman's eligibility for law enforcement certification. Chief Cornett seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Hearing Officer and to permanently deny Rosa Coleman's eligibility for law enforcement certification.

Mark Dulude (2023-CJA-02-20) (Greenville County Sheriff's Office)

Summary: Allegation(s) of engaging in the physical or psychological abuses of members of the public or prisoners as well as the willful use of excessive force in an objectively unreasonable manner. **Request for Final Agency Decision.**

The Hearing Officer Recommended that the Council:

- A. Issue its final agency decision, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 37-107 D. finding that the allegation of misconduct has been proven by the preponderance of evidence; and
- B. Impose such sanction as the Council in its discretion deems appropriate pursuant to its authority set forth at S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 37-108 A.
 1. Permanent denial and/or revocation (withdrawal) of certification
 2. Denial and/or revocation (withdrawal) of certification for a specified amount of time;
 3. Certification granted with probation;
 4. Certification granted with any additional requirements deemed just and proper by the Council; and/or
 5. Public Reprimand

Mark Dulude was present and spoke on his behalf and to answer questions from Council if applicable.



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

Johnny Evans, Esquire, was present and spoke on behalf of Mr. Dulude and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

Jessie Glenn, Esquire, was present and spoke on behalf of the Greenville County Sheriff's Office and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements from all parties, Director Boyles made a motion to adopt the recommendation of the Hearing Officer and to suspend Mark Dulude's eligibility for law enforcement certification for two years from PCS dated February 15, 2023, and probationary status for three years from the end date of suspension. Upon hire by next agency, must complete use of force and defensive tactics training provided by the Criminal Justice Academy. Director Woods seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Hearing Officer and to suspend Mark Dulude's eligibility for law enforcement certification for two years from PCS dated February 15, 2023, and probationary status for three years from the end date of suspension. Upon hire by next agency, must complete use of force and defensive tactics training provided by the Criminal Justice Academy.

Jeremy Kraft (2022-CJA-09-10) (North Charleston Police Department)

Summary: Allegation(s) of the dangerous or unsafe practices involving firearms, weapons, or vehicles which indicate either a willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property and an arrest for Malicious Injury to Personal Property. **Request for Final Agency Decision.**

The Hearing Officer Recommended that the Council:

- A. Issue its final agency decision, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 37-107 D. finding that the allegation of misconduct filed against Jeremy Kraft by the North Charleston Police Department has been proven by the preponderance of evidence; and
- B. Impose a below sanction as the Council in its discretion deems appropriate pursuant to its authority set forth at S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 37-108 A(1-5)
 1. Permanent denial and/or revocation (withdrawal) of certification
 2. Denial and/or revocation (withdrawal) of certification for a specified amount of time;
 3. Certification granted with probation;
 4. Certification granted with any additional requirements deemed just and proper by the Council; and/or
 5. Public Reprimand



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

Jeremy Kraft was present and spoke on his behalf and to answer questions from the Council if applicable.

John O'Leary, Esquire, was present and spoke on behalf of Mr. Kraft and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

Carlton Bourne, Esquire, was present and spoke on behalf of the North Charleston Police Department and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

Sargent Mike Brown was present and spoke on behalf of the North Charleston Police Department and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements from all parties, Director Boyles made a motion to adopt the recommendation of the Hearing Officer, finding misconduct. Chief Cornett seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Hearing Officer, finding misconduct. *Please note that Director Woods recused himself from the voting process in this case.*

Council had a brief discussion regarding the sanction. Upon completion of the discussion and having questions answered by James Fennell, Sheriff Faile made a motion to permanently deny Jeremy Kraft's law enforcement certification. Director Boyles seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to permanently deny Jeremy Kraft's eligibility for law enforcement certification. *Please note that Director Woods recused himself from the voting process in this case.*

Gregory Littles (2023-CJA-05-13) (South Carolina Department of Public Safety)

Summary: Allegation(s) of willfully making false, misleading, incomplete, deceitful, or incorrect statements to a law enforcement officer, a law enforcement agency, or a representative of the agency, except when required by departmental policy or by the laws of this State. **Request for Final Agency Decision.**

The Hearing Officer Recommended that the Council:

- A. Issue its final agency decision, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 37-107 D. finding that the allegation of misconduct filed against Gregory Littles by the South Carolina Department of Public Safety has been proven by the preponderance of evidence; and



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

- B. Impose such sanction as the Council in its discretion deems appropriate pursuant to its authority set forth at S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 37-108 A.
1. Permanent denial and/or revocation (withdrawal) of certification
 2. Denial and/or revocation (withdrawal) of certification for a specified amount of time;
 3. Certification granted with probation;
 4. Certification granted with any additional requirements deemed just and proper by the Council; and/or
 5. Public Reprimand

Gregory Little was present and spoke on his behalf and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

John O'Leary, Esquire, was present and spoke on behalf of Mr. Littles and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

Marcus Gore, Esquire, was present and spoke on behalf of the S.C. Department of Public Safety and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements from all parties, Director Boyles made a motion to adopt the recommendation of the Hearing Officer and to permanently deny Gregory Little's eligibility for law enforcement certification. Chief Cornett seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Hearing Officer and to permanently deny Gregory Little's eligibility for law enforcement certification. ***Please note that Director Woods recused himself from the voting process in this case.***

Jamal Douglas (2024-CJA-03-19) (Clio Police Department) (Withdrawal Request)

Summary: The Officer willfully falsified material information provided to the Criminal Justice Academy.

Chief Jamal Douglas was not present at this meeting.

James Fennell spoke on behalf of the S.C. Criminal Justice Academy and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements from James Fennell, Director Boyles made a motion to withdraw Chief Douglas's law enforcement certification. Chief Cornett seconded the motion.



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

Council voted unanimously to withdraw Chief Douglas's law enforcement certification.

Jeremy Vinson (2023-CJA-01-10) (Great Falls Police Department)

Summary: The reason for the delay is that the agency did not have a chief since Vinson was arrested in 2023.

James Fennell spoke on behalf of the S.C. Criminal Justice Academy and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements from James Fennell, Director Boyles made a motion to accept late PCS paperwork from Great Falls Police Department. Director Stirling seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to accept late PCS paperwork from Great Falls Police Department.

Non-Compliance with 23-23-85

Columbia Housing Authority Chief D. White

Summary: During an on-site evaluation it was revealed that Columbia Housing Authority had not been collecting proofs of its compliance with the nine mandated policies in 2023.

James Fennell spoke on behalf of the S.C. Criminal Justice Academy and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

Chief Damian White was present and spoke on his behalf and to answer questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements from James Fennell and Chief Damian White, Director Stirling made a motion within 60 days, if Chief White needs more time, he can come back and ask for another 30 days. Chief White works with Columbia Housing Authority and the City of Columbia for a path forward solution for compliance.

Council voted unanimously within 60 days, if Chief White needs more time, he can come back and ask for another 30 days. Chief White works with Columbia Housing Authority and the City of Columbia for a path forward solution for compliance.



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

B. Financial Updates

Lauren Wright

As of the close of the third quarter of FY 2024 Court Fines and Fee revenues were up 10% over the same time last fiscal year. Expenditures are up 7% over the same period last year, largely due to the law enforcement pay plan and statewide increases that went into effect on July 1st. The increase in fixed charges is due to insurance costs increasing. SCCJA revenue remains sufficient to cover agency expenses.

We are in the process of contracting with a firm to conduct a facilities condition assessment to develop a long-term plan for larger systems. We expect to be able to present this plan by the end of summer and will work to get the top priority items in the next budget cycle.

C. Capital Project Update

John Yarborough

- **Target Systems:** Range 1 installed last week.
- **Generator:** Groundwork began.
- **West dorm rest rooms:** Waiting for permits from DEHEC to remove asbestos.

D. Director's Comments

Director Swindler

Director Swindler reported that Mike O'Connell and Bob Bianco both worked hard and have gone out multiple times to agencies to help with the policies and to help with what proofs are. At some point, the Training Council will have to give guidance to some of these agencies as to whether they can or should or need to stay in business if they don't follow the practice of submitting proofs.

Director Swindler gave additional updates to the ongoing dorm project and generator project. He reported that we actually lose about 100 rooms at a time. So therefore, we've had to deny some requests from some of the agencies. It's a several year project, about 6 – 8 months at a time to do each wing and bring them back. He reported that the generator project is finally moving, that the generator has been ordered and would be here before October or November.

Director Swindler gave updates regarding vacant and filled Academy positions since last quarter.



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

Director Swindler stated that we have a graduation this Friday and we have a wonderful speaker name, Robert Boyles, coming to enlighten these students.

Lastly, Director Swindler reminded Council about the Law Enforcement Memorial Service next week on May 1, 2022, at 10:00 am at the Academy. He stated that a lot of you attend every year for the officers who passed away last year or lost their life in the line of duty.

OLD BUSINESS

Mandate the 9 minimum standards discussion

James Fennell requested the Council to mandate the 9 minimum standards as far as the policies that were discussed already, but it also says it gives the Council authority to include more, so one request we are making is to require a policy for annual training in weapon systems of the individuals. So annual firearms training, annual training with baton and OC. Right now, there is nothing in place to require any additional training other than for as far as practical training other than emergency vehicle operations training.

Mr. Fennell stated that we think that this would be the time that the Council could put an order for an additional training, be the policy. It can actually go under the use of force policy if the Council wanted to do it and we could mirror the state Physical Abilities Test (PAT) standards as far as the annual training for those individuals with that type of training.

Chief Cornett made a motion that we add a minimum standards policy to include annual training on all weapons at lethal and less than lethal that are carried by any law enforcement officer. Director Woods seconded the motion. ***Please note that Sheriff Faile left the meeting and did not vote.***

Council voted unanimously to add a minimum standards policy to include annual training on all weapons at lethal and less than lethal that are carried by any law enforcement officer.

NEW BUSINESS

Nontraditional law enforcement discussion

James Fennell reported that we have run into some issues with pursuit policies, in particular pursuit policies with agencies that are nontraditional law enforcement. So, these are agencies that are considered criminal justice under the ORI system, law enforcement. The best examples are litter control or code enforcement, where 99% of the time they are Class 3 Advanced Class 3 Officers.



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

Mr. Fennell stated that he and Deputy Director Mike Lanier met with Palmetto Pride about two weeks ago and they just wanted the ability to stop vehicles, but not to pursue vehicles, by statute they actually do, and they have that authority. If it is for a litter violation by itself. We run into one problem, there's one particular agency that has a Class 1 Officer that wants to be able to not only pursue vehicles, but for litter violations, but to employ stop sticks, pit and ram vehicles. So, the request is any agency, that's nontraditional law enforcement, has a no pursuit policy.

Director Woods made a motion to have a no pursuit policy for nontraditional law enforcement agencies. Chief Cornett seconded the motion. ***Please note that Sheriff Faile left the meeting and did not vote.***

Council voted unanimously to have a no pursuit policy for nontraditional law enforcement agencies.

PowerPhone Presentation - Public Safety Telecommunicator Course

Ann Trotto along with her manager Pam Visel presented before Council to request approval for their Public Safety Telecommunicator course as a replacement or alternative for the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy course.

Ann reported that it is a 40-credit hour course, which is currently approved though South Carolina, as an institutional provider, but not approved as an equivalent option for the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy Basic Telecommunications Officer certification. She requested that their EMD telecommunicator and EMDT-CPR 24-hour credit course be approved as well. She stated that they have 16 courses currently approved, but those two are not approved as an option for a student to take in lieu of the Academy's 40-hour program.

Lauren Fennell spoke and had additional questions answered from Ann Trotto regarding the telecommunicator course.

Lauren Fennell stated that PowerPhone is already approved as an institutional provider, and after a curriculum review, the Standards Unit determined that the 40-hour PowerPhone course is equivalent to the Academy's BTOT course. There's an equivalency form on the Academy's website and she asked that Ms. Trotto direct training officers on how to access the form.

Chief Cornett made a motion to allow PowerPhone's 40-hour Public Safety Telecommunicator course to qualify as a certification for Basic Telecommunication Officer Training (BTOT). Captain Gallam seconded the motion.

Council accepted PowerPhone's Public Safety 40-hour Telecommunicator course to qualify as a certification for Basic Telecommunication Officer Training (BTOT). There was no roll call vote.



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

CLOSING REMARKS/AJOURNMENT

Chief Keel inquired whether there were any more questions or comments from Council. When there were no more remarks or comments, Director Woods made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Captain Gallam seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Opel C. Bunn

Opel C. Bunn