



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

SOUTH CAROLINA
LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Monday August 17, 2026
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 Monday August 17, 2026. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

CALL TO ORDER

Agenda Item 1

Chief Mark Keel, Chairman of the Law Enforcement Training Council, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Chief Keel called for a roll call of the Council members. The roll was called by Shannon Bowers.

Members present for this meeting in-person were; Chief Mark Keel (Chairman), South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED); Director Robert Woods, S.C. Department of Public Safety; Chief William Holbrook, Columbia Police Department; and Major Nick Gallam, Aiken County Detention Center

Members present for this meeting via Teams were; Sheriff Lee Foster (Co-Chairman), Newberry County Sheriff's Office; Director Jake Gadsden, S.C. Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services; Sheriff Barry Faile, Lancaster County Sheriff's Office; Chief Kevin Cornett, Isle of Palms Police Department.

Attorney General Alan Wilson, S.C. Attorney General's Office, Director Joel Anderson, S.C. Department of Corrections, and Director Tom Mullikin, SC Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) were absent from this meeting.

Guest attendees present in-person or via video/conference call were; Adam Sher; Caleb Glenn; Ralph M Smith, Marion County Detention Center; Brad Hutto, Esquire; Monroe Travis Bragg, Marlboro County Detention Center; Rebecca Williams, Esquire; Kiana Simmons; Drew Carroll, Esquire; Jody Barr, Queen City News; Tyrone Simmons, Charleston County Sheriff Office; Edward Phipps, Charleston County Sheriff's Office; Ashley Croy, Mt. Pleasant Police Department; Essence Pearson; Brent Leary; Mark Arnold, Mt. Pleasant Police Department; Ginny Bozeman, Esquire; Samuel Allen; Brittany Sumpter; Trevor Hall, Municipal Association of SC; Dickert Lominick, Newberry County Detention Center; William Tindal; Jason Willoughby, Scranton Police Department; Dozier Rhames; Michael Laubshire, Esquire; John Duffy, Esquire; Laura Rutland, Colleton County Sheriff's Office; Marcus Gore, Esquire; Jason Tompkins, McColl Police Department; Caleb McCusker; Jack Frost; John Hicks; Scott Watford; Sally Foster, SC Sheriff's Association; Brad Hyatt, Queen City News; Joanna McDuffie; J. Matthews; Sandy



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

Hodson, Post and Courier; Kenneth Phelps; Jeff Young, SC Attorney General's Office; Logan Jennes, Queen City News; Payten Ridenoure, Town of Mt. Pleasant; David Osborne.

SC Criminal Justice Academy attendees were Director Jackie Swindler; Shannon Bowers, Executive Assistant; Major Lauren Fennell, Accreditation and Standards Manager; James Fennell, General Counsel; Madison Quagliato, Legal Unit; Justin Miller, IT Manager; Jared Lee, IT; Scott Deckard, Investigator; Bob Bianco, Evaluator; Missy Collins, Registration; Michelyn Pylilo, Public Information Officer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda Item 2

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

APPROVAL FOR MEETING MINUTES

Agenda Item 3

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2026 meeting was made by Director Woods and seconded by Major Gallam. Council voted unanimously to accept the meeting minutes as presented.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Agenda Item 4

A. General Counsel Report

Misconduct Cases

Brittany Sumpter (2024-CJA-11-19) (South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy)

Summary: Upon review of allegations previously submitted, the Law Enforcement Training Council denied Ms. Sumpter's eligibility for certification as a Class 1 Law Enforcement Officer in the State of South Carolina. Ms. Sumpter timely requested a contested case hearing pursuant to Regulation 37-101. The South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy maintains the allegation of misconduct due to officer engaged in misconduct by unlawfully using controlled substance, misrepresenting employment-related information, and willfully providing false, misleading, incomplete, deceitful, or incorrect information on document, record, report, or form, except when required by departmental policy or by the laws of this State. **Request for Final Agency Decision.**

The Hearing Officer Recommended that Council:



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

- A. Issue its final agency decision, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 37-107 D. finding that the allegation of misconduct filed against the Officer by the Department has been proven by the preponderance of evidence; and
- B. Impose a 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).

Before presentations were made, Chief Keel made note that he would chair this matter but will recuse himself from discussion and vote.

Bradley Hutto, Esquire was present at this meeting and spoke on behalf of Officer Sumpter and answered questions from Council if applicable.

Rebecca Williams, Esquire was present at this meeting, spoke on behalf of the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements, Director Gadsden made a motion to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and to permanently deny Ms. Sumpter's eligibility for a law enforcement certification. Sheriff Faile seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to accept the hearing officer's recommendation, finding misconduct, and to permanently deny Ms. Sumpter's eligibility for a law enforcement certification.

Chief Keel recused himself from the vote on this case.

Brandon Williams (2024-CJA-10-11) (South Carolina Department of Public Safety)

Summary: Allegation of misconduct due to 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 and willfully making false, misleading, incomplete, deceitful, or incorrect statements to any court of competent jurisdiction, or their staff members, whether under oath or not. **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 the Officer by the Department has been proven by the preponderance of evidence; and
- B. Impose a 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)

Michael Laubshire, Esquire was present at this meeting, spoke on behalf of Mr. Williams, and answered any questions from Council if applicable.



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

Marcus Gore, Esquire was present at this meeting, spoke on behalf of the South Carolina Department of Public Safety and answered questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements, Chief Holbrook made a motion to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and permanently deny Mr. William's eligibility for a law enforcement certification. Major Gallam seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to accept the hearing officer's recommendation, finding misconduct, and permanently deny Mr. William's eligibility for law enforcement certification.

Director Woods recused himself from the vote on this case.

Dozier Rhames (2024-CJA-05-21) (McColl Police Department) (Prosecutorial Discretion)

Summary: Allegation of misconduct due to the willful use of excessive force in an objectively unreasonable manner. **Request for final agency decision.**

The Hearing Officer Recommended that Council:

- A. Order that the contested case file in this matter be closed; and
- B. Order, pursuant to the requirements of S.C. Code Ann. § 23-23-150 (M), that the "Personnel Change in Status Report: Notification of Separation Due to Misconduct" filed by the Department in this matter be expunged, and that the certification file of the Officer be updated in the records of the Criminal Justice Academy to reflect no outstanding allegations of misconduct based on the allegations reported by the Department in this matter.

Michael Laubshire, Esquire was present at this meeting, spoke on behalf of Officer Rhames, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

Jason Tompkins with the McColl Police Department was present via Teams, spoke on behalf of the McColl Police Department, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements, Chief Cornett made a motion to accept the hearing officer's recommendation to close the case and expunge the record within 30 days. Major Gallam seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and expunge the record within 30 days.

Darryl Johnson (2025-CJA-09-09) (Marlboro County Detention Center)

Summary: Allegation of misconduct due to the unlawful use of a controlled substance. **Request for Final Agency Decision.**

The Hearing Officer Recommended that Council:



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

- A. Issue its final agency decision, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 37-107 D. finding that the allegation of misconduct filed against the Officer by the Department has been proven by the preponderance of evidence; and
- B. Impose 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).

Darryl Johnson was present via teams, spoke on his own behalf, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

Monroe Bragg, Esquire was present at this meeting, spoke on behalf of the Marlboro County Detention Center, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements, Director Woods made a motion to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and permanently deny Mr. Johnson's eligibility for a law enforcement certification. Major Gallam seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and permanently deny Mr. Johnson's eligibility for law enforcement certification.

Samuel Allen (2023-CJA-12-19) (Newberry County Detention Center)

Summary: Allegation of misconduct due to the unlawful use of a controlled substance.
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 the Officer by the Department has been proven by the preponderance of evidence; and
- B. Impose a 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).

Samuel Allen was present at this meeting, spoke on his own behalf, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

Dickert Lominick was present at this meeting, spoke on behalf of the Newberry County Detention Center, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements, Major Gallam made a motion to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and permanently deny Mr. Allen's eligibility for law enforcement certification. Director Woods seconded the motion.



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

Council voted unanimously to accept the hearing officer's recommendation, finding misconduct, and permanently deny Mr. Allen's eligibility for a law enforcement certification.

Sheriff Foster recused himself from the vote on this case.

Before continuing with the meeting, Chief Keel announced there would be a brief break. Council took a break at 11:00 a.m. Council returned to regular meeting at 11:06 a.m.

Adam Sher (2026-CJA-01-15) (Mt. Pleasant Police Department)

Summary: Allegation of misconduct due to due to willfully providing false information to the Criminal Justice Academy or the Law Enforcement Training Council. **Request for Final Agency Decision**

The Hearing Officer Recommended that Council:

1. The allegation of misconduct against Officer, as reported in the Personnel Change in Status Report (Notification of Separation Due to Misconduct) provided to the Academy by the Department, is not supported by the evidence adduced at the contested case hearing;
2. The Department has not met its burden of showing by the "preponderance evidence" that Officer engaged in misconduct as was charged in the Personnel Change in Status Report (Notification of Separation Due to Misconduct) provided by the Department to the Academy; and
3. The allegations of misconduct against the Officer as set forth in the Personnel Change in Status Report (Notification of Separation Due to Misconduct) by the Department should be deemed unsubstantiated by the evidence adduced at the hearing.

Virginia Bozeman, Esquire was present at this meeting and spoke on behalf of the Mount Pleasant Police Department. They requested that the Chief of Police, Chief Arnold, be allowed to make a statement on the department's behalf, since he did not get an opportunity during the officer's hearing. Chief Keel stated the Council could not hear anything that was not testified to during the officer's hearing and if the Chief's statement wanted to be included, the agency could move for a remand for a new hearing. At this point, Ms. Bozeman moved to remand a new case hearing. General Counsel recommended a motion to accept the motion for remand for a new case hearing.

Director Woods moved to accept the motion to remand for a new case hearing. Major Gallam seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to accept the remand for a new case hearing.

Kiana Simmons (2024-CJA-10-22) (Colleton County Sheriff's Office)

Summary: Allegation of misconduct due to the physical or psychological abuse of members of the public or prisoners. **Request for Final Agency Decision.**



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

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 reported against the Officer by the Department has not been proven by preponderance of the evidence; and
- B. Approve, pursuant to the authority of Council set for at S.C. Code Ann. § 23-23-150 (G) (1), the Officer's eligibility for certification as a law enforcement officer in the State of South Carolina; and
- C. Expunge within thirty (30) days of the final agency decision in this matter, pursuant to the requirements of S.C. Code Ann. § 23-23-150 (M), all evidence related to the allegations of misconduct filed against the Officer by the Department.

Kiana Simmons was present at this meeting, spoke on her own behalf, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

Lieutenant Laura Rutland was present via Teams, spoke on behalf of the Colleton County Sheriff's Office, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements, Sheriff Faile made a motion to deny the hearing officer's recommendation, find misconduct, and permanently deny Ms. Simmon's eligibility for law enforcement certification. Director Gadsden seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to find misconduct and permanently deny Ms. Simmon's eligibility for a law enforcement certification.

Essence Pearson (2025-CJA-03-19) (Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center)

Summary: Allegation of misconduct due to conviction, plea of guilty, plea of no contest or admission of guilt to a felony, a crime punishable by a sentence of more than one year, regardless of the sentence actually imposed, or a crime of moral turpitude, any of which were committed in this or any other jurisdiction. **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 the Officer by the Department has been proven by the preponderance of evidence; and
- B. Impose a 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).

Essence Pearson was present at this meeting, spoke on her own behalf, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

There was no representative for the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center present at this meeting.



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

After hearing statements, Sheriff Faile made a motion to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and permanently deny Ms. Pearson's eligibility for law enforcement certification. Director Woods seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and permanently deny Ms. Pearson's eligibility for law enforcement certification.

Eddie Peterson (2025-CJA-07-03) (Marion County Detention Center)

Summary: Allegation of misconduct due to 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 and willfully providing false, misleading, incomplete, deceitful, or incorrect information on a document, record, report, or form, except when required by departmental policy or by the laws of this State. **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 the Officer by the Department has been proven by the preponderance of evidence; and
- B. Impose a 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)

There was not a representative for the officer present at this meeting.

Lieutenant Chip Smith was present at this meeting, spoke on behalf of the Marion County Detention Center, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements, Major Gallam made a motion to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and permanently deny Mr. Peterson's eligibility for a law enforcement certification. Sheriff Foster seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and permanently deny Mr. Peterson's eligibility for law enforcement certification.

William Tindal (2025-CJA-10-10) (Scranton Police Department)

Summary: Allegation of misconduct due to 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.

The Hearing Officer Recommended that Council:



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

- A. Issue its final agency decision, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 37-107 D. finding that the allegation of misconduct filed against the Officer by the Department has been proven by the preponderance of evidence; and
- B. Impose a 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).

Mr. Tindal was present at this meeting, spoke on his own behalf, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

Chief Jason Willoughby was present at this meeting, spoke on behalf of the Scranton Police Department, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements, Major Gallam made a motion to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and permanently deny Mr. Tindal's eligibility for law enforcement certification. Director Woods seconded the motion.

Council unanimously voted to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and permanently deny Mr. Tindal's eligibility for a law enforcement certification.

Suspension Requests

Timothy Knight (McBee Police Department)

The South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy received information that Timothy Knight of the McBee Police Department was arrested by SLED and charged with Conspiracy/Criminal Conspiracy and Misconduct/Misconduct in Office. The request is to suspend Timothy Knight's law enforcement certification.

Sheriff Foster made a motion to suspend Timothy Knight's law enforcement certification. Director Woods seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to suspend Timothy Knight's law enforcement certification.

Chief Keel recused himself from the vote on this case.

Allegation Acceptance Requests

Caleb Glenn (2025-CJA-12-20) (Mt. Pleasant Police Department)

The Mt. Pleasant Police Department submitted an amended allegation of misconduct against Mr. Glenn on February 12, 2026, with a separation date of December 23, 2025. The agency indicated that the delay in submission was due to the detailed nature of the investigation, number of officers involved, and communications between the agency and the Academy.

Virginia Bozeman, Esquire was present at this meeting, spoke on behalf of the Mt. Pleasant Police Department, and answered questions from Council if applicable.



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

John Duffy, Esquire, was present at this meeting, spoke on behalf of Mr. Glenn, and answered questions from Council if applicable.

After hearing statements, Chief Holbrook made a motion to accept the allegation acceptance request as submitted. Major Gallam seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to accept the allegation acceptance request as submitted.

Juanita Ellison (2026-CJA-07-08) (SC Department of Juvenile Justice Detention Center)

The South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice Detention Center submitted an allegation of misconduct on July 14, 2026, with a separation date of May 27, 2026. The agency indicated that the delay in submission was administrative in nature and due to the time needed to verify information, complete the termination process, and finalize agency reporting requirements before submission.

Director Woods made a motion to accept the allegation acceptance request as submitted. Major Gallam seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to accept the allegation acceptance request as submitted.

Antonio Hannah (2026-CJA-07-23) (Darlington County Prison Farm)

Darlington County Prison Farm submitted an allegation of misconduct on July 29, 2026, with a separation date of January 24, 2026. The agency indicated that the delay in submission was due to the previous administration submitting the separation as routine on January 27, 2026. The routine separation was rejected by the Academy due to an error and the agency determined that the separation should be resubmitted as misconduct.

Major Gallam made a motion to accept the allegation acceptance request as submitted. Director Woods seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to accept the allegation acceptance request as submitted.

Petition for Declaratory Ruling

Stephen Lis

Petitioner is seeking eligibility under SC Code of Regs 37-025, 37-101, 37-107, and 37-108. Petitioner admitted to misconduct during employment in New Jersey. He was later hired as a law enforcement officer in Pennsylvania and then moved to South Carolina. SC Statute is preventing him from obtaining certification in South Carolina, not the regulations. An agency must represent an officer to determine good character, but petitioner currently does not have an agency to represent him. General Counsel recommends denying the declaratory ruling.



South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

Director Woods made a motion to deny the ruling. Sheriff Foster seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to deny the declaratory ruling.

B. Director's Comments

Director Swindler

Director Swindler did not have any comments or updates at this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Agenda Item 5

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item 6

CLOSING REMARKS/AJOURNMENT

Agenda Item 7

When there were no more remarks or comments, Director Woods made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Major Gallam seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Shannon Bowers

Shannon Bowers