

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
STATE MARSHAL COMMISSION
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Meeting Was Conducted Remotely Using Microsoft Teams

DRAFT MINUTES
STATE MARSHAL COMMISSION MEETING
July 22, 2021

Commissioner Skyers-Thomas, Vice Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. Staff Attorney Sousa advised the participants that the proceedings were being recorded.

Vice Chairperson Skyers-Thomas confirmed all members and persons in attendance, and verified that a minimum 5 voting member quorum was present.

Members present/participating remotely: Vice-Chairperson Shirley Skyers-Thomas; Bryan Cafferelli; Commissioner Hon. Susan Connors; John Vamos (via telephone); Ex-officio (non-voting) Member State Marshal Thomas Burke; Ex-officio (non-voting) Member State Marshal Lisa Stevenson; Staff Director Doug Moore (non-voting); and Staff Attorney Thomas J. Sousa, Jr. (non-voting).

Members Absent: Mildred Torres-Ferguson and Michael Desmond.

Guests/Members of the public present/participating: none.

Topics:

1. Minutes: June 24, 2021 Regular Meeting: The Commission, after a motion by Commissioner Cafferelli that was seconded by Commissioner Vitrano, unanimously (Commissioner Connors abstained) voted to adopt the minutes of the June 24, 2021 regular meeting.

2. Former State Marshal Karpovich: Attorney Sousa reported on yesterday's arrest of former State Marshal Peter Karpovich, who has been charged with second degree larceny and code of ethics violation by a public official. The information is now public, since a press release has been issued.

Ex-officio State Marshal Stevenson commented that now that media outlets have picked up the story, the commission should be prepared for other possible victims who might come forward.

Commissioner Vitrano inquired if the commission maintains a victims fund for individuals who have been harmed by a state marshal. Attorney Sousa discussed the statutory requisite liability insurance and state bonding of our marshals.

3. Investigator Position: Staff Director Moore updated the commission on the currently advertised job announcement that will be closing on July 26, 2021.

4. State Marshal Impersonators: Staff Director Moore reported that permission was received today from the DAS Commissioner to post a press release alerting the public to beware of certain individuals who may be impersonating state marshals and attempting to defraud citizens.

5. New Marshal Class/Appointment Process: Attorney Sousa detailed the ongoing progress being made to create an online application procedure for new state marshal candidates; the steps taken by Staff Director Moore to coordinate with a vendor that will administer the exam; the input recently received from the State Marshal Advisory Board regarding which counties have the most need for new marshals; and a projected optimal class size of 30 candidates.

Ex-officio State Marshal Burke asked how long the exam results could be retained. Attorney Sousa stated the commission's past practice was to maintain the list for two years.

Ex-officio State Marshal Burke asked if the plan was to have an outside attorney conduct the academic classes, like in the past. Attorney Sousa responded that he preferred to bring in a variety of subject matter experts (like judges, attorneys, state and municipal officials, state marshals, commission staff, etc.) to teach various blocks of instruction.

Commissioner Cafferelli requested a summary of the process and timeline. Attorney Sousa and Staff Director Moore summarized the process from application, initial screening, examination, criminal background and credit checks, interviews, selection of candidates by county, 40 classroom academic hours, 80 hours of field training, final administrative steps, and the appointment ceremony.

Staff Director Moore advised that at some point in the near future we will likely be asking the commission for a vote to authorize the staff to begin the formal process of starting a new class.

Ex-officio Stevenson voiced concerns that the field training may be challenging due to COVID restrictions and conditions.

6. Retirement/Resignation/Inactive/Death Updates:

Commissioner Vamos made a motion to approve New London State Marshal Joseph LoGioco's request to retire effective July 30, 2021, and provided he return state marshal badge #433, to issue him a retired badge. Seconded by Commissioner Cafferelli, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Vitrano made a motion to transfer New Haven County State Marshal Richard Krueger from active to inactive status, for a one-year period to run through July 22, 2022; and to transfer Litchfield County State Marshal Joseph Parrillo from active to inactive status, for a one-year period to run through July 22, 2022. Seconded by Commissioner Cafferelli, the motion passed unanimously.

7. Change to State Marshal Regulations:

Staff Attorney Sousa provided a summary in response to the discussion that took place at last month's meeting regarding the process for updating/making changes to the State Marshal Regulations.

Earlier this week Staff Attorney Sousa submitted a technical amendment through channels to update the commission office's physical address as listed in the regulations. The commission office has not been located at the address shown in the regulations for at least 11 years, and in the interim has moved twice.

This technical amendment process should provide a good experience upon which to base any future substantive regulation changes. More substantive changes to the regulations would likely take more than one year to accomplish, thus that in depth review and change request will be a long-term project for the commission.

8. Administrative Updates:

Attorney Sousa reported on efforts to communicate with several inactive state marshals who have not been active for several years. Ex-officio State Marshal Burke asked if the inactive marshals still have

their badges and ID cards. When informed that is the case, Ex-officio Burke stated he would support a commission policy of requiring state marshals to turn in the badge and photo ID upon transferring to an inactive status.

Attorney Sousa stated at some point he may request the commission vote to revoke the appointment of any inactive marshals who the commission has lost track of. Commissioner Vitrano asked about the procedural due process implications of such a vote, to which Staff Attorney Sousa stated that prior notice and a hearing would certainly be required.

Acting Chairperson Skyers-Thomas stated that prior to such a vote, she would want to be sure the commission took adequate good faith steps to provide the inactive marshal with proper notice.

Ex-officio State Marshal Burke stated the commission could adopt a policy that the inactive period would automatically terminate at the end of one year, unless the marshal requests an extension.

Commissioner Connors stated she also feels it would be appropriate to require an inactive state marshal to take some affirmative steps to communicate with the commission at the end of the inactive period, or otherwise the appointment would automatically terminate.

Commissioner Cafferelli requested this topic be placed on next month's agenda for further discussion.

Staff Attorney Sousa reported that the initial email announcement for the annual renewal is expected to go out to state marshals during the first week in August.

Commissioner Skyers-Thomas left the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and Commissioner Cafferelli presided over the closing discussions.

Ex-Officio State Marshal Stevenson raised the topic of ongoing issues that state marshals are having when trying to get paid for work they have done for the judicial branch. Commissioner Connors stated she has advised several judges that they can issue orders from the bench authorizing that marshals be paid or reimbursed for certain expenses. The commission office and advisory board have made several requests to meet with judicial branch staff to discuss these issues.

The Commission, after a motion by Commissioner Vitrano, seconded by Commissioner Connors, unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Cafferelli at 6:06 p.m.