

The Digest of Administrative Reports to the Governor
Fiscal Year 2020

At a Glance

Board of Firearms Permit Examiners
Office of Governmental Accountability

Chairman - Frank P. Blando, Esq.

Secretary - Col. Kyle E. Overturf

Established -1967

Statutory Authority - Connecticut General Statute Sec. 29-32b

Office address - 20 Trinity, 5th floor, Hartford, CT 06106

Number of employees - 1 full time 1 part-time

Recurring operating expenses - Personnel \$79,422

Other Expenses \$10,231

Organizational structure – The Board of Firearms Permit Examiners is comprised of nine members appointed by the Governor to serve during his term and until their successors are appointed and qualify. The members are appointed from nominees of the Commissioner the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Ms. Gudrun Johnson, Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, Chief Carl Rosensweig, the Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Colonel Kyle Overturf, The Connecticut State Rifles and Revolvers Association, Inc., **Attorney Anthony Iaconis**, Ye Connecticut Gun Guild, Inc., Mr. M. Pete Kuck, the Commissioner of the Dept. of Mental Health and Addiction Services, **Dr. Cynthia Conrad** and a vacancy to be appointed by the Chief Court Administrator. Two public members, Attorney Carolyn Futtner and Attorney Frank Blando are members appointed by the Governor with at least one member of the Board who shall be a lawyer licensed to practice in Connecticut and who shall act as Chairman of the Board during the hearing of appeals. Attorney Frank Blando serves as Chairman. Members are volunteers and are compensated only for mileage and sustenance.

Mission

The Board of Firearms Permit Examiners mission is to provide a means of appeal, through administrative hearings, for those have been denied a local temporary pistol permit or had a State pistol permit revoked. In addition, citizens aggrieved by any denial to issue or renew a permit under the provisions of Connecticut General Statute section 29-28 or 29-36f, or revocation of a permit issued, or refusal or failure of any issuing authority to furnish an application, may appeal to the board. The Board provides a uniform interpretation and application of firearm laws.

Statutory Responsibility

The statutory responsibility of the Board is to administer and enforce the provisions of Connecticut General Statute Section 29-32b. Under that section, the Board has the responsibility of making inquires and investigations, taking testimony and rendering decisions, in connection with appeals brought to the Board, by persons aggrieved by the action or inaction of the Issuing Authorities, local Police Chiefs or First Selectmen. On such appeal the board shall inquire into and determine the facts, de novo, and unless it finds that such a refusal,

limitation or revocation, or such refusal or failure to supply an application, as the case may be, would be for just and proper cause, it shall order such permit or certificate to be issued, renewed or restored, or the limitation removed or modified, as the case may be.

Public Service

The eight Board Members are volunteers who served at 14 meetings and heard 209 administrative appeals in fiscal year 2020.

Achievements

In FY 2020

The Board received 678 new requests to appeal the denial or revocation of a state pistol permit or the denial of local temporary pistol permit. The Board held 13 meetings with an average of 25 cases scheduled per meeting. Six meetings was cancelled, five due to the Covid-19 and one due to lack of quorum. A total of 209 cases were resolved by the Board through administrative hearings. Of the 209 cases; 45 decisions were in favor of the citizen being reinstated or issued a permit, 90 decisions were upheld for the Commissioner, Chief or First Selectman's to deny or revoke a pistol permit. 14 cases were continued and 60 withdrew their appeal at the hearing. State and Local Authorities reissued or issued 270 cases and 53 cases withdrew prior to the hearings. There was also 31 dormancy, failure to pursue, cases. Presently there are 720 cases on the schedule waiting for a hearing.

Information Reported as Required by State Statute

The Board operates, and will continue to operate in conformance with Sec. 46a to 46a-78, inclusive of the General Statutes of Connecticut.

Membership

Chairman Frank P. Blando, Esq., Board Secretary Colonel Kyle E. Overturf, Dr. Cynthia Conrad, MD, Carolyn Futtner, Esq., Ms. Gudrun Johnson, Anthony Iaconis, Esq., Mr. M. Peter Kuck, and Police Chief Carl Rosensweig.