

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services
Private Security Services Advisory Board

October 7, 2020

NOTE: This meeting was held by electronic means, via ZOOM meeting software, in response to the Governor’s Declaration of a State of Emergency due to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Member(s) Present

Mr. Jagdish Katyal, Jr., Chairman
Mr. Michael Ashley, Vice Chairman
Mr. Edwin DePolo, Secretary
Mr. David Bourne
Mr. Rodney Budd
Mr. John Frazer
Mr. Thomas Gallemore
Mr. Dave Killip
Mr. Frank Kollmansperger
Mr. Charles Law
Mr. Christopher Mortensen
Mr. Michael Niner
Mr. Eric Pohland
Mr. Frank Weaver, Jr.

Member(s) Absent

Public Attendance

Mr. Luis Rodriguez

DCJS Staff Present

Mr. Leon Baker, Division Director
Ms. Anika Coleman, Licensing Mgr.
Ms. Brenda Cardoza, Fingerprint Specialist

1. Meeting Called to Order/Roll Call: Chairman Jagdish Katyal, Jr. called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Chairman Katyal asked Ms. Cardoza to call roll. Ms. Cardoza advised that there was a quorum of Board members to conduct business.

2. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: Vice Chairman Michael Ashley made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 4, 2019 meeting; Mr. Eric Pohland seconded the motion. With no objections, the minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Welcome/Introduction of new Board Members/Acknowledgement: Chairman Jagdish Katyal, Jr thanked Mr. Robert Dickenson, III for his service to the PSSAB as Electronic Security Business Representative from July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2020; introduced and welcomed new Board member Mr. Frank Kollmansperger. Electronic Security Business Representative; acknowledged/congratulated Mr. Charles Law, SCOP Representative, Mr. Christopher Mortensen, Locksmith Representative and Mr. Michael Niner, Personal Protection Specialist Representative on their reappointments to the PSSAB.

4. 1st Public Comment Period (2 minutes per speaker): There were no public comments made.

5. Board Member/Committee Reports: None presented.

6. DCJS Report: Mr. Leon Baker provided the DCJS report. Mr. Baker stated that he would first like to bring greetings from DCJS Director, Shannon Dion. Secondly, Mr. Baker welcomed and congratulated the new members on their appointment to the PSSAB and to the members who were reappointed.

DCJS welcomes feedback, positive or negative, as to what the PSSAB members are hearing from the individuals they represent or what their experience has been regarding the issues DCJS is reporting on.

There were discussions regarding concerns related to:

1. 1099 personal protection specialist-massive non-compliance and lack of enforcement/non-aggressive approach.
2. Include mandatory human trafficking training to the DCJS training curriculum-how to identify human trafficking and notify law enforcement.

Last year DCJS discussed changing the DCJS update to include presentations of interest to the PSSAB. The first of such presentations was at the December 4, 2019 PSSAB meeting when Ms. Anika Coleman provided an update on her attendance at the International Association of Security and Investigative Regulators (IASIR). If the PSSAB members would like to continue on with such presentations, please contact Mr. Leon Baker or Ms. Brenda Cardoza with any subjects that you would like to receive a presentation on. Mr. Baker will invite the supervisor of our call center, Ms. Carolyn Cress, to provide a presentation regarding our call center at our next PSSAB meeting on December 2, 2020.

DCJS has been working remotely since March 16, 2020. Some staff have returned to the office under very strict safety guidelines. In Mr. Baker's Division of Licensure and Regulatory Services a few staff are working in the office one or two days per week, but the vast majority are still working remotely and will be for the foreseeable future. DCJS is thankful for having an online application processing system in place. Although DCJS has had to work through many challenges, we believe that we have operated well doing this remote process, DCJS welcomed PSSAB member's input regarding how they feel DCJS is operating. The PSSAB provided positive response(s). Mr. Baker thanked the PSSAB for their input.

Online Application Processing System

DCJS' current contract expires on June 30, 2021. There is a very strong possibility that there will be a new online system in place by then. DCJS will keep you informed of this process and will do everything within their power to ensure a non-complicated transition to the new system.

DCJS Staffing Update

After twenty-two years of service Ms. Linda Strohecker has retired from DCJS effective October 1, 2020. DCJS is proceeding with filling this position in customer service. DCJS was already short staffed in that area, so please bear with us while we fill that vacancy. DCJS is currently advertising to fill a new position within our Adjudication Unit, Adjudication Specialist. This position will be instrumental in addressing the adjudication case backlog. DCJS has made great progress in that area and is confident that this position will help to meet our goals. DCJS still intends to hire a second investigator for the Northern VA region.

Legislation

We are entering the regular legislative cycle shortly, so if there are industry related bills, we will be calling on the PSSAB for input regarding the bills. Mr. Baker asked if there any legislative issues that the PSSAB members have heard may be introduced during the next session.

DCJS has previously advised that we will be placing all four of our regulatory programs under regulatory review to address a fee structure amendment and other regulatory changes to be determined. Even though that announcement was some time ago, DCJS wants you to know that we still intend to move forward with that process.

Mr. Baker ended the DCJS report thanking the PSSAB on behalf of DCJS and his my staff for allowing us to serve the PSSAB and our other constituents.

7. Old Business: None.

8. New Business: None.

9. 2nd Public Comment Period (5 minutes per speaker): There were no public comments made.

10. Announcements/Board Member Remarks: The next meeting of the PSSAB is Wednesday, December 2, 2020. This meeting will be virtual by Zoom.

11. Adjournment: Vice Chairman Michael Ashley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Secretary Ed DePolo seconded the motion. With no objections, the motion was unanimously approved; Chairman Jagdish Katyal adjourned the meeting at 11:06a.m.