

DPS Law Enforcement Advisory Board Meeting  
January 4, 2011

Minutes of Meeting

Present: Tom Hanley, Francis (Paco) Aumand, Glen Button, Fish & Wildlife Representative, Liquor Control representative, Tom L'Esperance, Jim Leene, VLCT Representative, Commissioner Tremblay, and Suellen Royea.

The Chair, Francis (Paco) Aumand called the meeting to order at 1:41 pm. A draft of the Annual Report was handed out. Paco reported on a conversation he had with Jim Baker about the Identification working group and will put something in. Paco reviewed the four parts of the manual; Domestic violence situations involving law enforcement, all felon DNA law, VLCT's Model Policy manual, and complying with H.470.

Paco is looking for recommendations and action items for each part of the report.

VLCT Representative clarified that if you are not a member, there will be a cost; \$6,500 for the Model Policy manual and reported that trainings are set up for January 19, 20, and 21, 2011.

A brief discussion was held on potential differences between LEAB's Domestic Violence Policy and the Model Policy on Domestic Violence. It was the general feeling that the Board should be encouraging best practices for all police agencies. There was a general agreement that a possible action item for the Board would be to continue to review the VLCT's manual. The narrative for the report on this section will be as generic as possible as this is a work in progress. After some discussion, it was thought that the action item on policies is to continue to take testimony on emerging issues. The Board's recommendation is to support and encourage departments to adopt best practices.

Paco reviewed Appendix C and complying with H.470. The implementation process/solution was reviewed. Paco noted there are discrepancies about how much/what evidence should be retained in the event of a retrial. The renovation project at DPS includes 1,000 square feet for storage of biological evidence, but some feel there should be a second facility. One recommendation was to endorse the working groups' plans. An action item might be to present to Legislature for further discussion.

Eyewitness Identification working group: Paco reported that he spoke with Jim Baker who felt the group should take the work of Massachusetts for consideration along with VCIC's work for an electronic line up system. Jim Baker also would like the Academy to host a summit to discuss policies and procedures. Paco brought up his concern about keeping the issues of best practices current long term and feels the Police Academy needs to have a resource available to work on policy issues. It was thought that the Board should encourage best practices but stay away from strict procedures on how to carry out the best practices. Statewide accreditation/standards of training was briefly discussed.

Paco noted that there are not enough members present to make a binding decision (need 7 members). Paco will continue putting together draft language for the sections/report and try to get a quorum via email.

The narrative around the All Felon DNA Law needs to recognize that it will be huge project for DPS, Corrections, and the Courts concerning the collection/analysis of the samples. It was felt that an action item for this section might be that the LEAB receives an update on how the collection is doing.

Human Trafficking Task Force Status: Commissioner Tremblay passed out and reviewed his report on Human Trafficking in Accordance with S.272. Commissioner Tremblay suggested that the Board adopt his summary report and could include the full report as an appendix if needed. Paco will try to get an electronic vote.

A suggestion was made to that the Legislature should not be the place to legislate what best practices are due to technology and changes; best practice today becomes outdated tomorrow.

The next meeting was not scheduled at this time.

A suggestion for a matter to add to the Business plan for 2011 was to take testimony about the Ignition interlock program involving DMV and Dept. of Corrections.

Commissioner Tremblay closed the meeting with some closing remarks and thanks to everyone's participation and efforts. Meeting ended at 2:52 pm.