

COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS AND TRAINING

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 9th & 10th, 2025

ARKANSAS STATE POLICE HEADQUARTERS

9:00 A.M. Meeting called to order.

Commissioners present:

Chairman Doc Holladay
Vice Chair Barry Phillips
Major Stacie Rhoads
Sheriff Layette Woods
Sheriff Phillip Miller
Mr. Thomas Marsh
Mr. Richard Wingard
Mr. James Montgomery
Chief Mike Reynolds
Chief Heath Helton

Others present:

Chris Chapmond, ADLEST Director
Jason Lawrence, ADLEST Deputy Director
Kelvin Sergeant, ADLEST Deputy Director
Kreasha Williams, ADLEST Paralegal
Molly Wrigley, ADLEST Paralegal
Barbra Varnell, ADLEST Education Coordinator
Jesi Feld, DPS Attorney
Steve Taylor, DPS Attorney
Sue Albritton, ADLEST Administrative Assistant
Charles Moulton, Hearing Officer
Coby Copeland, Court Reporter
Laura Robbins, DPS Communications
Eric Wacaster, DPS Chief Legal Counsel
Eddie Weiner, Rogers Police Department
John Couch, Crittenden County

Commission Meeting Minutes

September 9th & 10th, 2025

Page 2

Karla Burnett, James Law Firm
Shaun Hildreth, Warren Police Dept.
Markeith Neal, Watson Chapel School
Tammy Plummer, Eudora Police Dept.
Glenn Wheeler, Newton Co. SO
Donald Richardson, Newton Co. SO
Richard Ross
Holly Burgess, Attorney Assistant
Dykeisna Eaton, Helena
Jenny Hayes, El Dorado
Quanderius Sanders, Helena/W Helena
Kara Burnett, Attorney
Kenny Hickman, El Dorado Police Dept.
Bryce Hillard, Prairie Grove Police Dept.
Parrish Diaz, Fayetteville Police Dept.
Chris Workman, Prairie Grove PD
Olivia Jentzeh, Prairie Grove
Ryan Roach, DPS
Dennis Kendall, Jefferson Co. SO

Grant Lancaster, ADG
Keith McGee, Watson Chapel School Dist.
Brandi Wallace, West Side School Dist.
Mike Knoedl, Dallas Co. Sheriff's Office
Charity Richardson, Newton Co. SO
Lucas Covington, Romance
Russell Wood, Attorney
Roosevelt Eaton, Helena
Tischa Johnson, Hampton Police Department
Tanawat Roberson, El Dorado
Wesley Smith, Helena/West Helena
Jarod Primm, Eldorado Police Department
Jacob Yarbrow, Texarkana
Jeff O'Brien, Prairie Grove Police Department
Blake Meden, Prairie Grove Police Department
David Faulk, Prairie Grove, Mayor
Marcus Daniels, ASP
Christie Griffin, Saline County

A motion to accept the minutes of the July meeting was made by Commissioner Montgomery and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item I: Item one was a request from the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office to withdraw the decertification request on former Deputy Dominic Bruner. A motion to deny the request was made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried.

Item II: Item two was a request from the West Side School District to establish a police department. A motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. Motion carried.

Item III: Item three was a request from the Watson Chapel School district to establish a police department. A motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Wingard. Motion carried.

Item IV: Item four was a request from Jonathan Arnold requesting a waiver of the two-year period under CLEST Rule 1005. A motion to deny the request was made by Commissioner Montgomery and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried. Commissioner Miller recusing.

Item V: Item five was a request from the Dallas County Sheriff's Office for an extension under CLEST Rule 1002 for Deputy Sarah Graef. A motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried.

Item VI: Item six was a request from the Warren Police Department for a waiver under CLEST Rule 1005 for Officer DeAlex Henderson. A motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried.

Item VII: Item seven was a request from the Eudora Police Department for an extension under CLEST Rule 1002 for Officer Jonathan Funderburg. A motion to grant the request stipulating that Officer Funderburg must complete the full basic academy prior to May 2006 was made by Commissioner Marsh and seconded by Commissioner Woods. Motion carried.

Item VIII: Item eight was a request from the Eudora Police Department for an extension under CLEST Rule 1002 for Officer Victoria Pride. A motion to grant the request stipulating that Officer Pride must complete the full basic academy prior to May 2006 was made by Commissioner Marsh and seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. Motion carried.

Item IX: Item nine was a request from Newton County Sheriff's Office for an extension under CLEST Rule 1002 for Deputy Donald Richardson. A motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Rhoads. Motion carried.

Item X: Item ten was a request from John Couch for recertification under CLEST Rule 1034. A motion to deny the request was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried.

Item XI: Item eleven was a request from Donald Bullis for recertification under CLEST Rule 1034. A motion to deny the request was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item XII: Item twelve was a request from the Standards Division for clarification on the suspension process pursuant to CLEST Rule 1034. After discussion the Commission outlined steps for non-compliance with minimum training standards under CLEST Rule 1002 and directed the Division to draft a letter from the Commission notifying all agencies of the process for their approval at the November 2025 meeting.

Item XIII: Item thirteen was a request from the Bentonville Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Henry Brockmeyer. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. Motion carried.

Item XIV: Item fourteen was a request from the Bentonville Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Dustin Epperly. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. Motion carried.

Item XV: Item fifteen was a request from the Hot Springs Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Joshua Crom. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item XVI: Item sixteen was a request from the 2nd Judicial District Prosecuting Attorney's Office for the decertification of former Officer Treasure Gaither. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. Motion carried.

Item XVII: Item seventeen was a request from the 2nd Judicial District Prosecuting Attorney's Office for the decertification of former Officer Stacy Allen. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item XVIII: Item eighteen was a request from the 2nd Judicial Prosecuting Attorney's Office for the decertification of former Officer Mose Walker. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried.

Item XIX: Item nineteen was a request from the 2nd Judicial Prosecuting Attorney's Office for the decertification of former Officer Blake Forthman. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried.

Item XX: Item twenty was a request from the 2nd Judicial Prosecuting Attorney's Office for the decertification of former Officer Logan Hamilton. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item XXI: Item twenty-one was a request from the Van Buren Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Jose Hernandez. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried.

Item XXII: Item twenty-two was a request from the Van Buren Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Jason Scites. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item XXIII: Item twenty-three was a request from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office for the decertification of former Deputy Cameron McCaskill. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. Motion carried. Commissioner Woods recusing.

Item XXIV: Item twenty-four was a request from the Arkansas Tobacco Control for the decertification of former Officer Victoria Robinette. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item XXV: Item twenty-five was a request from the Hot Spring County Sheriff's Office for the decertification of former Deputy Jonathan Smart. A motion to deny the request was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. Motion carried.

Item XXVI: Item twenty-six was a request from the Nevada County Sheriff's Office for decertification of former Deputy John Smillie. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. Motion carried.

Item XXVII: Item twenty-seven was a request from the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Amber Todd. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried.

Item XXVIII: Item twenty-eight was a request from the Lepanto Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Wyatt Wheaton. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried.

Item XXIX: Item twenty-nine was a request from the West Fork Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Ryan Brown. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. Motion carried.

XXX: Item thirty was a request from the Dardanelle Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Ashlee Frost. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Woods. Motion carried.

XXXI: Item thirty-one was a request from the Bryant Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Shanna Hastings. A motion to deny the request was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

XXXII: Item thirty-two was a request from the Little Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Walter Riddick. A motion to proceed to a hearing was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. Motion carried. Commissioner Helton recusing.

On September 9, 2025, decertification hearings were held. Five (5) Consent Orders were presented for final vote on behalf of **Dillon Kemp, Jeffery Field, Mercedes Benefield, Tuan Bui, and Wesley Hogan**. A motion to accept the Consent Orders and decertify these five individuals was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried. A hearing was held for **Kevin Burt**. After hearing all evidence presented, a motion that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify Kevin Burt was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. Motion carried. Commissioner Woods recusing. A hearing was held for **Jordan DeWitt**. After hearing all the evidence presented, a motion that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify Jordan DeWitt was made by Commissioner Phillips and was seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried.

On September 10, 2025, a hearing was held for **Roosevelt Easton**. After hearing all evidence presented, a motion that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had not been met and to not decertify Roosevelt Easton, was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Woods. Motion carried. A hearing was held for **Lucas Covington**. After hearing all the evidence presented, a motion that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had not been met and not to decertify Lucas Covington was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried. Commissioner Miller recusing. A hearing was held for **Jacob Yarboro**. After hearing all the evidence presented, a motion that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify Jacob Yarboro, was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried. A hearing was held for **Tanawat Roberson**. After hearing all the evidence presented, a motion that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify Tanawat Roberson was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. Motion carried. A hearing was held for **Shakora King**. After hearing all the evidence presented, a motion that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify Shakora King, was made by Commissioner Montgomery and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried. A total of **ten (10)** individuals were decertified and **two (2)** were not decertified. The hearings were presided over by Hearing Officer Charles Moulton and recorded by Court Reporter Coby Copeland.

Director's Report

Construction update-

East Camden- Progressive on schedule, interior framing completed, electrical rough in, plumbing and HVAC rough in should finish this week. Sheetrock being installed and inspections complete on the training center. We have added approximately \$1.5 million in additional work, leveraging savings realized throughout the project. The roofing project on the south end dormitory is completed, roof area above administration area has started approximately 50% complete, gym roof will be the last portion to be addressed. The employee locker has been demoed. We are expecting a completion date by December for the addition projects. The dormitory remodel is progressing, painting has started, tile work, cabinets and flooring. The roof has been completed, HVAC, electrical and plumbing are all in final stages. The dorms will complete ahead of schedule. The range building frame is erected, painting starting this week, followed by roof and electrical. Springdale—The range covering is completed, painting, and electrical are completed. The firing lanes and landscaping will begin within days. This portion of the project will be completed ahead of schedule. We are still designed and negotiating the range restroom facility. The main training building has moved faster than anticipated. The interior framing, electrical and

plumbing rough in complete, HVAC 90% complete, exterior HVAC units and electrical transformers set. The shoot house has been framed, and the interior has 75% of the sheetrock hung and is being finished. The curb, gutter, sidewalks, and storm drainage are complete. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year. Senator Boozman's appropriation has all been allocated allowing us to move forward with purchasing \$500k in new gym equipment, security equipment, furniture, driving simulators, and EVOC training materials. Jail Standards is hosting its annual Jail Resource Day on October 9th at UCA in Conway. This event brings in National speakers on jail related topics and is coordinated by our own Sterling Penix. He does an outstanding job coordinating this event and little to no cost. I appreciate Sterling and Deidre for their hard work. They have completed a vast majority of the facility inspections across the state. The Standards Division has deployed a full compliance team, five agents who will be responsible for regional agency inspections. Our goal is to conduct onsite inspections in all agencies at least once every three years. Shannon McQuin has completed the 40 hours online 911 telecommunicator course and is the first of its kind in the state. This will drastically increase the training for our dispatchers across the state. Springdale hosted the NWA ASIS Chapter meeting this past month and had approximately forty attendees. They conducted their business meeting and then were provided with a tour of the ongoing construction project. Representative Torres was in attendance and was impressed with our progress. We are currently co-hosting with DPS a weeklong Chaplain/Peer to Peer training program that will help deploy over 80 members across the state. They will be used as local resources and then as regional responses teams when critical incidents occur. New employees, Agent Karan Parmar Standards Agent assigned to NW Springdale, starting September 22nd Rick Kreshaw NW maintenance supervisor, and Becky Brown NW administrative assistant. Steven Taylor, our new CLEST staff attorney, comes to us with over 30 years of law enforcement, most recently as Chief of Police in the State of Washington. He has practiced law for 10 years and we are excited to have him on the team. Mrs. Peggy Mahan retired after 18 years with our nutritional staff in East Camden. We had a nice send-off and wished her well in her future endeavors. We received a complaint from Garrett Ferry, Arkansas Transparency, regarding FIOA violations with Johnson County. This was determined to not be within our authority and was referred to AG's office. Academy graduations Camden-November 21st, Central- November 14th 10am, Northwest- November 6th 10am. All rule changes have been sent to the Governor's office for review. No updates on reappointments