

**MINUTES  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION  
June 24, 2008  
Austin, Texas**

The Public Safety Commission met in Austin, Texas on June 24, 2008. Attending the meeting were Chairman Allan Polunsky and Commissioners Elizabeth Anderson, Carin Barth and Tom Clowe. Colonel Tommy Davis, Director; Lt. Colonel David McEathron, Assistant Director; and other DPS staff members and guests were also present.

At 9:30 a.m., Chairman Polunsky stated the meeting would be started late due to the late arrival of one of the Commissioners.

At 9:47 a.m., the meeting was called to order by Chairman Polunsky and role call was taken. All members were present. Proper notice for an emergency meeting had been posted in accordance with Section 551.045, Texas Gov. Code.

The Commission discussed the Department of Public Safety response to the Sunset Advisory Commission's staff report recommendations. Chairman Polunsky gave a chronology of dates concerning the recommendations and stated it was a situation where the Commission was in between meetings and unable to meet to discuss these recommendations. He further stated he had directed DPS staff to agree with all the recommendations except the promotional system one and that some of the Commissioners later expressed they did not necessarily agree with the position taken by DPS. He stated this meeting had been called so the Public Safety Commission could discuss this matter in an open meeting.

Commissioner Anderson remarked on her disagreement to some extent on the DPS position on the promotion system issue. She stated she felt the Department should look into its policy and make some beneficial changes without legislative directive.

Commissioner Barth stated she agreed with Commissioner Anderson's comments and had already asked Colonel Davis to look at other states' policies.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson that the Department does not agree with specific recommendations in the report concerning the promotion policy and will undertake a reasonable review of policies and procedures, including other states, to see what changes can be made to our policy. Mary Ann Courter, General Counsel, stated the Commission as a body can vote on their response to the recommendations. Commissioner Barth seconded the motion. There was some discussion on this item. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Barth asked what the position was on the Driver License issue. Chairman Polunsky stated we are in agreement with the Sunset Advisory Staff's recommendation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:07 a.m.