

# Texas Private Security Advisory Committee (TPSAC)

## Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2022

### **1. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Texas Private Security Advisory Committee was called to order at 11:03 a.m. on July 13, 2022 via conference call.

### **2. Roll Call**

Patti James	Chair-woman	Private Investigator Representative
Wade Hayden	Member	Public Representative
John Helweg	Member	Locksmith Representative
Alan Trevino	Member	Private Security Guard Representative
Debi Ulmer	Member	Alarm System & Electronic Access Rep
Pablo Luna	Service Director	Texas Department of Public Safety
Chris Sims	Service Director	Texas Department of Public Safety
Sherry Zgabay	Service Director	Texas Department of Public Safety
Jeremy LeCrone	Program Manager	Texas Department of Public Safety
Amalia Sanchez	Program Supervisor	Texas Department of Public Safety
Ryan Garcia	Program Manager	Texas Department of Public Safety
Linsey Silva	Program Supervisor	Texas Department of Public Safety
Trey Struhall	Program Supervisor	Texas Department of Public Safety
Leslie Stevens	Personnel Admin Specialist	Texas Department of Public Safety
Renee Davis	Staff Services Specialist	Texas Department of Public Safety
Deborah Failey	Staff Services Specialist	Texas Department of Public Safety

### **3. Minutes from April 13, 2022**

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

### **4. Quarterly Reports from Regulatory Services Division**

#### **a. Executive Office Report**

Sherrie Zgabay addressed the committee, stating that her team looked at the response letter template the department uses regarding complainant follow up. She stated that the decision had been made to leave the letter as it currently is and instead invite people to utilize the open records request process to gain further information. There were no follow up questions.

#### **b. Complaints/Investigations**

Pablo Luna presented this information to the committee. There were no follow up questions.

#### **c. Disciplinary Actions**

Jeremy LeCrone presented this information to the committee. There were no follow up questions.

#### **d. Licensing Statistics**

Ryan Garcia presented this information to the committee. Alan Trevino asked for a follow up regarding the search function reference GLOA (Government Letter of Authority) information in TOPS (Texas Online Private Security). Mr. Garcia replied that they investigated the matter and the system is showing this information incorrectly. He explained that this is a coding defect and the issue is on the road map to be corrected, but it may take a bit of time as it requires our vendor to conduct extensive code changes and testing.

## **5. Industry Reports**

### **a. Security Officers**

Alan Trevino reported to the committee that training schools offering to provide complete Level III and Level IV training online continue to be an issue. He stated he can provide examples of schools offering these trainings in a single weekend when he believes there is not enough hours to accomplish the task. He also stated that his research indicates some schools claim to be able to provide 100% online training. Mr. Trevino stated that he filed a complaint with the department and his company received an audit. He then filed a second complaint and got audited again in the same year. Previously his company had never been audited. He explained that he had no issue with his company being audited but he wanted to know what is being done regarding these training school complaints. He asked how much information an open records request would reveal regarding these complaint investigations that could be taken to the industry members who are contacting him.

Pablo Luna responded stating that it is his field team who does the investigations on these complaints. He asked that Mr. Trevino send him all the information he had regarding the training schools as well as his information on the complaints he had filed and his audits. He suggested they meet to discuss it in more detail.

Alan Trevino stated that he would be going before the Texas Legislature soon to testify regarding training school requirements and wanted to ensure they would be receiving the most accurate information without these schools putting out false information.

Alan Trevino asked for an update regarding the rewrites/revisions of the Level II, Level III, and Level IV training. Chris Sims responded explaining the department was working with TEEX and had received drafts to this point. The drafts were currently being reviewed internally as part of the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with TEEX. Mr. Trevino then asked when the TPSAC would get a chance to review and give their input, as originally discussed. Mr. Sims responded that the committee would get a chance to review and give input once the product incorporated the agency recommendations, which has not yet occurred in the drafts. Mr. Trevino asked if the training information would refer to the number of hours of practical training versus online training needed to help avoid schools trying to do the training 100% online. Mr. Sims responded that there was not anything specific to online training in statute or rule, however any committee or industry recommendations would be taken under advisement.

Wade Hayden asked what the department's response to schools was offering 100% online training. Pablo Luna responded that when the Department receives a complaint regarding compliance a full audit is performed. Mr. Hayden asked if the compliance audit was done on the person filing the complaint as well.

Pablo responded that the audit is only done on the school under investigation. Mr. Luna responded that it is not the department's policy to audit the person or company making the complaint.

**b. Investigators**

Patti James addressed the committee stating that she was contacted by an investigator who was questioning why they had to produce their client contracts during a compliance audit, and she asked if this was a new policy. Pablo Luna researched the requirements of audit inspections after the meeting and confirmed that reviewing contracts is part of the Private security audit checklist.

**c. Alarm systems and Electronic Access Control**

There were no updates or reports.

**d. Locksmiths**

There were no updates or reports

**e. Public Report**

There were no updates or reports.

**6. Discussion and Possible Recommendation Items**

Patti James commented that someone asked her about the rules surrounding 35.10 and "Patrol Rifles". Alan Trevino stated that there is no ruling regarding carrying a rifle and whether you can or cannot carry one on patrol. Sherrie Zgabay stated that statute does not regulate long guns at all and that DPS encourages individuals to review the statutory references in Chapters 9 and 46 of the Penal Code.

**7. Future agenda items**

Wade Hayden asked for a report regarding the number of audits that are a result of a company or individual filing a complaint with the department. Sherrie Zgabay stated that she was unsure if this information was available and asked for the committee to defer this until Assistant Chief Hester's input could be solicited. Alan Trevino stated that in working with Pablo Luna they may be able to create a small pool for report purposes. Wade Hayden stated that regardless of whether there was a report that could be generated, discussion of this topic should be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Debi Ulmer asked when the committee members would be receiving their CEUs for having attended the committee meetings in the past year. Leslie Stevens stated that she would be sending out the certificates soon, as they were coming to the close of this fiscal year and that is typically when they were issued.

**8. Date of next meeting- July 13, 2022, 11:00 a.m.**

Date of the next meeting was confirmed to be October 12, 2022.

**9. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 12:02pm