

Florida Law Enforcement Consolidation Task Force Meeting  
Wednesday, August 24, 2011  
Meeting Minutes

The Law Enforcement Consolidation Task Force was called to order at the Senate Office Building Room 401 at 2:05 p.m.

The following task force members were in attendance, either in person or by telephone:

Julie Jones (DHSMV), Emery Gainey (OAG), Colonel Jim Brown (FWC), Colonel David Brierton (FHP), Colonel Jerry Bryan (DOACS), Gerald Bailey (FDLE), Chief Gerald Monahan (FPCA), J.R. Burton substituting for Sheriff Gee (FSA)

**Agenda Item 1:** Executive Director Julie Jones welcomed the committee members and others attending.

**Agenda Item 2:** Director Jones requested approval for the minutes from the August 3, 2011 meeting. The edit requested by Commissioner Bailey was read. Emery Gainey made the motion to approve the minutes as corrected, which was seconded by Colonel Jim Brown. Additionally, Commissioner Bailey requested that the minutes be posted as a draft until approved. The vote was unanimous to approve the corrected minutes.

**Agenda Item 3:** The portal for the Task Force is operational and all the submitted agency templates have been posted. The decision was made to review the submitted public comments and decide at the next meeting whether to post them to the web site.

**Agenda Item 4:**

- a.) Marshal Silvester Dawson gave an overview of the authority and responsibilities of the Marshal's Office. He emphasized that the Marshal is not just responsible for security of the court facilities and its employees but also is the custodian of the court facilities. Commissioner Bailey inquired if there was interest in accreditation and offered assistance.
- b.) Chief David Perry representing the State College and University Police gave an overview of campus security. He discussed the wide range of differences between campuses, especially related to resources, and the importance of Clery Act guidelines. He also clarified that Community Colleges are not included in this association. Chief Perry agreed to take the lead with his community to gather the information to complete the task force agency template.
- c.) Director Dennis Bustle gave an overview of the authority, resources and duties of the Capitol Police. There was discussion on Capitol Police's unique dispatch center and their calls for service.

Commissioner Bailey made a motion to assist the State College and University Police with searching for efficiencies but exclude them from consideration of consolidation. Chief Monahan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

d.) Team Updates

- Inspector General Investigative Function: Julie Leftheris gave the team update and said they have good representation from the Inspector General community. They have two workgroups. The first workgroup will be summarizing work, staffing, budget, and activities and costs related to investigations involving the law enforcement function. The second workgroup will recommend a model Office of Inspector General organizational structure that effectively and efficiently meets current statutory requirements and describes the ideal role, responsibilities and resources for an Office of Inspector General.

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- Aviation: Colonel Jerry Bryan is the sponsor and gave the team update. The team will conduct a review of state-owned aviation units to determine if duplication of function exists and seek to identify if any efficiencies can be gained by consolidating all or portions of the five air wings. Commissioner Bailey asked if they were exceeding their authority by looking at non-law enforcement entities. Colonel Bryan thought that because the Division of Forestry is the largest air force in the state and they provide law enforcement support that they should be included.
- Information Technology Consolidation: Deborah Stevens is the team leader and gave the team update. Their report will have two components: IT's response to staffing consolidation and opportunities to identify duplicative systems or similar systems. They are using a previously compiled application inventory and categorizing the law enforcement applications.
- Environmental Law Enforcement: Colonel Jim Brown is the sponsor and gave the team update. Their team has a new member from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. The team is using the recent recommendations contained in an Office of Program Policy Analysis and Governmental Accountability report as a starting point. Lieutenant Colonel Greg Gibson said his Secretary (Environmental Protection) asked that recommendations were vetted through stakeholders within their organization before being submitted to Colonel Brown. Director Jones said that Senator Dean is also interested in this team's process.
- Agricultural Interdiction Motor Carrier Compliance Merger: Colonel Jerry Bryan is the sponsor and gave the team update. They have representation from Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Highway Patrol and Department of Transportation. He has contacted the Florida Trucking Association to gain their input.
- Investigations: Michelle Powell gave the team update. They are developing the charter and their scope will include an investigative and intelligence function.
- Law Enforcement vs. Civilianization: Captain Kelly Hildreth is the team leader and gave the team update. Each team member is tasked with analyzing which functions could be transitioned to non-sworn personnel to free up sworn resources for dedication to law enforcement within their agency.

A recess was requested. Upon resuming the meeting, Commissioner Bailey asked to make a point of order concerning his earlier motion on the State College and University Police. He amended the motion by adding the Supreme Court Marshal to assist with searching for efficiencies but exclude them from consideration of consolidation. The motion was seconded by Colonel Brierton and Chief Monahan and the vote was unanimous. Commissioner Bailey then excused himself from the meeting.

- Law Enforcement Administration and Support: Colonel David Brierton is the sponsor and gave the team update. This team is reliant on recommendations made by the other teams. They are identifying redundancies in administrative functions in the event consolidation recommendations are received. They have identified varying levels of legal representation between agencies and are developing a model for agencies to use if functions are merged.

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- Accreditation: Dean Register gave the team update. They will identify the benefits of accreditation, the types of accreditation, and resources dedicated to the accreditation function. They will then determine if there are any economic efficiencies to be gained.
- Forensic Science Team: Vickie Gardner gave the team update. They will identify forensic and laboratory functions within state agencies and review their authority to determine if there is any overlap or duplication of services.
- Training: Mike Crews is the team leader and gave the team update. They have representation from eight agencies and recently completed their charter. They are reviewing basic training, advanced/specialized training, agency specific training and training facilities.
- Vehicle/Fleet Management: Chief Gerald Monahan is the sponsor for this team and gave the team update. They have added a representative from Department of Management Services and have discussed budgeting, refurbishing, consolidating and fleet operations.
- Evaluation of Jurisdiction for the Florida Highway Patrol: J.R. Burton gave the team update. The team is reviewing crash reports for 2009 and 2010 and creating spreadsheets to determine how changes to FHP's responsibilities will shift workload to local law enforcement. They will create a narrative that will explain impacts relating to conducting internal local law enforcement crashes, inspecting commercial vehicles, traffic fatalities, and the commercial vehicle weight enforcement grant funding. They are also exploring the potential impacts to mutual aid and emergency response situations.

e.) Team challenges were addressed in item d.

**Agenda Item 5:** Next meeting will be scheduled at the Department of Law Enforcement at the end of September or the beginning of October.

**Agenda Item 6:** Director Jones asked for comments. Colonel Bryan made the motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mr. Gainey and the vote was unanimous.