

## **BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY CALL IN MEETING**

August 11, 2016

Department of Public Safety Blue Room

Atlanta, Georgia

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Wayne Abernathy  
Mr. Danny Bryant-via conference call  
Commissioner Homer Bryson-via conference call  
Mr. Kacy K. Cronan-via conference call  
Retired Sheriff Steve Cronic-via conference call  
Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr.-via conference call  
Chief Mark Revenew-via conference call  
Mr. Charles D. Sikes-via conference call  
Sheriff Joey Terrell  
Chief Craig Tully-via conference call  
Mr. Ellison G. Wood

### **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Chief Danny Bowman  
Sheriff Dane Kirby  
Mr. Peter Skandalakis

### **OTHERS:**

Mr. Joe Drolet, Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Ms. Cheryl L. Buie, Board Liaison  
Commissioner Mark McDonough, Department of Public Safety  
Major Tommy Waldrop, Department of Public Safety/GSP  
Major Hank Fielding, Department of Public Safety/ GSP  
Major Johnny Jones, Department of Public Safety/GSP  
Major Billy Boulware, Department of Public Safety/MCCD  
Captain Jeremy Vickery, Department of Public Safety/MCCD  
Captain Mark Lambert, Department of Public Safety/GSP  
Sergeant Anthony Hughes, Department of Public Safety  
Mr. Doug Mangum, Department of Public Safety  
Mrs. Melissa Rodgers, Department of Public Safety  
Mr. Zachary Howard, Department of Public Safety  
Mr. Chris Wigginton, Director, Georgia Public Safety Training Center-via conference call  
Ms. Cindy Franklin, Georgia Public Safety Training Center-via conference call  
Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation  
Mr. John Fleisch, Office of Planning and Budget  
Mr. Donald Kirkland, Office of Planning and Budget  
Mr. Terry Norris, Executive Director, Georgia Sheriffs' Association-via conference call

Vice-Chairman Ellis Wood called the August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Board of Public Safety meeting to order.

Sergeant Anthony Hughes gave the invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

### **DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Commissioner Mark McDonough, Department of Public Safety brought the BPS up to date on the Administrative Order concerning commercial motor vehicles, specifically the concrete industry and noted the DPS went at this very cautiously at the beginning, giving them a variance in their operating hours, and have extended that as time has gone on. Commissioner McDonough advised DPS has given another six months extension through the first of the year and M CCD has kept a very sharp eye on the industry and there have been no accidents or increases in accidents since giving them the variance. Concerning the time frame in what is occurring in the state, Commissioner McDonough stated the Dome is still under construction, construction projects on I-75 continue, about to start pouring concrete at the I-95 and I-16 corridor and the Braves stadium is still under construction. Commissioner McDonough stated the concrete industry continues to hire new drivers and will extend this variance through the first of the year, which does not require Board action, but wanted to keep the Board abreast of the extension of the variance.

Commissioner McDonough presented the 2015 Pursuit Summary Report with 593 total pursuits reported which is a little down from last year, but considerably up from the year before. Commissioner McDonough, referring to an expression his father would use, warm weather brings out the bugs, noting April-September, that is when the bugs are out and that is the time when a lot of pursuits occur; spring fever and alcohol starts flowing freely around the waterways and on the weekends and through Labor Day, starts to ease off and then pick up again around Christmas time. Mr. Wayne Abernathy asked Commissioner McDonough how many of the pursuits were related to motorcycles involved. Commissioner McDonough advised he did not have a percentage but there are a lot of motorcycles involved in the pursuits. Commissioner McDonough commented when he came through Dillard this morning at 0400, there was a sport bike with a guy with a backpack on, NB on 441 and probably going to Cherokee with illegal contraband. Commissioner McDonough declared sport bikes are being used to transport meth and the products, the modern day horse and use the backpack as a pitch bag and after the rider tries to get some distance, the rider will pitch the bag and come back later for the bag. Commissioner McDonough shared a personal experience in that he arrested a guy in a BMW and had a pitch bag with the lookout and he ended up going to jail on a suspended license and the passenger was not arrested, the passenger went back and got the pitch bag and sold the dope. Commissioner McDonough advised when the guy got out of jail, whose street name was Cotton and was on the hook for the meth that had been pitched, a couple of months later, the guy that was the pitch bag man ended up dead in Atlanta and was found related to the pitched bag.

Commissioner McDonough advised 438 pursuits were initiated by the GSP and 137 pursuits initiated by other agencies and there were 2 bystander (passenger) fatalities and 1 violator fatality. Commissioner McDonough stated in the pursuits, shots were fired by troopers one time and three times by suspects and in looking at the breakdown of the violators that received injuries and fatalities, there were two injuries and one fatality. Commissioner McDonough stated 98 of the pursuits were terminated due to officer discretion for various reasons which goes right along with the action that was taken by the sub-committee of the BPS that the annual Pursuit Critique and annual Pursuit Driving Training occurs and highlights the decision making process that when the pursuit is out of bounds, the

officer makes the call and terminates the pursuit. Commissioner McDonough added when looking at the forcible stop techniques used/attempted, one can see the number of times when the pit was used, multiple times that PITs were used and then the success rate, the guys are not, automatically jumping to the PIT, there is only 1 in 5 pursuits where the PIT maneuver is actually used, as the officer tries to end the pursuit in the progression of how the officer can do it. Commissioner McDonough stated the average length of the pursuit was a little over 6 miles, a little less than five minutes and noted if the suspect is arrested, the average age is 30 and gender is male. Commissioner McDonough noted the reason the suspect runs is that they fall into three categories, they are drunk, and they have a suspended license or either on probation or patrol.

Mr. Wayne Abernathy asked Commissioner McDonough how much damaged is done to a patrol car when there is a PIT and Commissioner McDonough advised there is very little damage and still maintain about a 25 car totaling a year for insurance purposes and a lot of those totaled are not pursuit related, and when looking at the UO reports one will see that the push bumper and the PIT bumper on the car, majority of the time, there will be a transfer of the paint or small damage to the fender, very little damage that occurs. Commissioner McDonough noted there are times when the cars get a little wrinkled, the PIT is a very good technique and for what it does, it is minimal. Commissioner McDonough advised the training officer and the people in the Garage do a very good job at making sure the right bumper is used and if there are aspects of the bumper they will work with the manufactures to make sure the bumper is properly reinforced so that the bumpers that are used on the cars are appropriate for what the troopers and officers are doing.

Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation stated the GBI has been going through the CALEA, accreditation for the GBI, with Director Keenan being at the out briefing this morning. Mr. Kirk advised the feedback they have received has been good and that CALEA looks at everything the GBI does on the investigative side and other policies that effect the other divisions as well.

Mr. Kirk advised sometime in the near future, the BPS members will receive an invitation to the groundbreaking for the expansion of the morgue at the GBI, building a new building to house the medical examiners. Mr. Kirk stated the expansion will allow the morgue to handle 50 bodies in and 50 bodies out, which seems to be the major problem right now for the morgue. Mr. Kirk stated lately the morgue has been handling anywhere from 15 to 30-35 bodies a day. Mr. Kirk noted at one point, the morgue was behind a week in doing autopsies which means that the coroners around the state are having to hold bodies until the GBI has space to bring the bodies in. Mr. Kirk advised the expansion will definitely help the GBI to stage the bodies, get them in, get the work done and get the bodies out. Mr. Kirk stated this is a 5 million dollar project that will provide office space, work space, cooler space, some much needed modifications, the size of the morgue will not change, just the cooler side.

Mr. Kirk stated the GBI will need to request construction bonds for the Savannah Crime Lab, a 37 million dollar project in Pooler, GA. Mr. Kirk added the basic design and construction documents are complete and hope to get the bonds this year and start construction in the fall.

Mr. Kirk stated the GBI has several offices around Atlanta; GISAC, Fusion Center out at the FBI building and the FBI is currently in the process of building a new building and when they vacate the building, GBI will still be renting the space by ourselves, noting the FBI complex will be on Mercer University Campus.

Mr. Kirk stated out of the 22 agent positions the GBI received last year to help with officer involved shootings, 5 will be coming to the Region 10 office in Conyers, had to get trailers to put in the parking lot in order to have office space for the agents and is better than being crammed and sharing a desk with someone, and right next to this office is the major theft unit which is doing some good work, busting at the seams, are in the old driver's license building behind the patrol post.

Mr. Kirk advised the GBI commissioned an architect to do some campus planning for the HQ facility, the plan was completed and presented to the GBI last week, and provides for over the course of 5-10 years look at a 5 phase project that would add space onto HQ as needed to include office space, lab space and at one point, a parking deck.

Vice-Chairman Wood did a verbal roll call for BPS members calling in.

Vice-Chairman Wood called for approval of the May 2016 and June 2016 minutes. Retired Sheriff Steve Cronic made the motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell, and voted approved by the BPS members.

Director Chris Wigginton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center stated the GPSTC continues to see a 25% increase in the student population. Director Wigginton advised the bid should go out this week for the driving track, and in 30 days should be moving dirt and seeing progress on the new addition to the driving track within a couple of months. Director Wigginton stated at the September POST Council meeting, the GPSTC will introduce an use of force instructor program for the state, great training that is needed throughout the state. Director Wigginton stated the GPSTC recently released an effective public safety report writing class, a 2 hour class that is offered on line, which is an actual interactive class where the officer can write the report and send it back to the GPSTC, review it, make corrections and send back to help the officers enhance their report writing.

### **DONATIONS**

Ms. Cindy Franklin, Comptroller, Georgia Public Safety Training Center requested approval of the following donations:

ProInert 200 Bar System, SHP Pro Panel and Cheetah Xi Panel	\$	15,000.00	Fike Corporation
STFS Fire Suppressors	\$	212.85	Williams RDM
Fire Alarm Display	\$	1,200.00	Fire lite and Audio-Tech Inc.

The motion to accept these donations was made by Chief Craig Tully, which was seconded by Retired Sheriff Steve Cronic, and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Doug Mangum, Budget Administrator, Department of Public Safety requested approval of the following donations:

Two Taser X26 Devices	\$	1,198.00	Madison Co. Sheriff's Dept.
Four Kustom Raptor RP-1 Radar Units	\$	6,100.00	Coweta Co. Sheriff's Dept.
Six Keson Measuring Wheels	\$	475.74	Heard Co. Sheriff's Dept.
Fifteen Taser X2 Units, One Stalker DSR2X Radar Unit, Thirty-four 5.11 Golf Shirts	\$	22,737.00	Doraville Police Department
Five E-Seek Model 260 License Scanners	\$	2,750.00	City of Nashville
Three Stalker Radar DSR2X Units	\$	9,900.00	Stephens Co. Commissioners
One MPH Ranger Unit	\$	2,600.00	Tallulah Falls Police Dept.
One 32" LED Television	\$	133.00	Blue Ridge Walmart
Five E-Seek Model 260 License Scanners	\$	2,750.00	Cook Co. Commissioners
One Black Class III Taser X26P Device and Blackhawk Holster	\$	1,057.57	Treutlen Co. Sheriff's Dept.
One Outdoor Shed	\$	1,995.00	Houston Co. Sheriff's Dept. & Perry Police Department
Six Air Flow Lockers	\$	6,820.00	Houston Co. Sheriff's Dept. & Perry Police Department
One Security Camera System	\$	1,171.55	Houston Co. DA's Office
One Snap-On Tool Kit	\$	5,342.39	Houston Co. DA's Office
One Genie GS-1930 Electric Scissor Lift	\$	4,979.00	Houston Co. DA's Office

The motion to accept these donations was made by Sheriff Joey Terrell, which was seconded by Mr. Wayne Abernathy, and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation requested approval of the following donation:

One 2016 Dodge Charger                                  \$        41,845.00      Peach Co. Sheriff's Dept.

The motion to accept this donation was made by Mr. Charles Sikes, which was seconded by retired Sheriff Steve Cronic, and voted approved by the Board members.

Mrs. Melissa Rodgers, Legal Director, Department of Public Safety presented for initial adoption, Proposed Georgia Department of Public Safety Rule 570-9 Off-Duty Police Employment. Mrs. Rodgers advised DPS is seeking to amend the existing rules to incorporate changes which were made during the legislative session by HB 806 which enacted a new code section 35-2-15 and repealed three other code sections. The changes relate to the use of the department vehicle and off duty police employment and the rules give the commissioner wider discretion in determining when the vehicle can be used and they also give the commissioner the discretion to determine whether reimbursement is required by the off duty employer and to require the DOAS to provide coverage for the officer when the vehicle is used as provided in the new code section. Mrs. Rodgers advised a couple of other changes were made revising some wording that was unclear to clarify a few areas and remove restrictions for Captains in off duty police employment. Mrs. Rodgers advised if the BPS votes to approve the changes for initial adoption today, a public hearing will be held on September 28 at DPS HQ and if there are public comments, they will be forwarded to the BPS and will be fully prepared to present for final adoption at the October Board meeting.

Sheriff Joey Terrell made the motion to approve the initial adoption of Georgia Department of Public Safety Rule 570-9 Off-Duty Police Employment. This was seconded by Mr. Wayne Abernathy and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Wayne Abernathy made a motion to adjourn the Board of Public Safety meeting and go into the Georgia Crime Information Center Council, which was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell and voted approved by the Board members.

**GEORGIA CRIME INFORMATION CENTER COUNCIL**

GBI Assistant Director Dan Kirk presented the FY2016 CJIS Security Policy Violations report for the Georgia Crime Information Center which involves unauthorized access and dissemination of criminal justice information. Mr. Kirk noted there were 39 violations reported during FY2016. Mr. Kirk presented the request for approval of actions taken to resolve security policy violations for FY2016 to the BPS members for their approval.

Chief Craig Tully made the motion to accept the GCIC's recommendations; which was seconded by Mr. Charles Sikes, and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Wayne Abernathy made a motion to adjourn the GCIC Council and return to the Board of Public Safety meeting, which was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell and voted approved by the Board members.

Vice-Chairman Wood advised the BPS will meet on Sept. 6 -7, Tuesday and Wednesday, October meeting will be in Colquitt, the school meeting, October 5-6, and the November meeting will be on Thursday and Friday, November 10-11, 2016, with an afternoon meeting and trooper school graduation on Friday morning. The December meeting will be at DPS HQ on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Charles Sikes gave a brief update on the upcoming September meeting at the Old Georgia State Capitol in Milledgeville at the Georgia Military College.

Vice-Chairman Wood commended all law enforcement officers for their activities in the last 60-90 days as they have been subjected to some unsettling times in his life time. Vice-Chairman Wood commended the law enforcement officers for the way they have acted in public and privately. Vice-Chairman Wood commended the DPS and the way the troopers have handled themselves and appreciates all of them for their service to the state.

Mr. Wayne Abernathy thanked DPS for the demonstration they put on in Cleveland, Ohio at the RNC.

Mr. Dan Kirk asked everyone to remember their sister agency, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation as they lost an agent earlier this week, the first agent to be killed in the line of duty. Mr. Kirk advised Special Agent Frazier was doing an undercover drug buy, got into a struggle with the suspect, suspect shot Frazier in the back and killed him, who leaves behind a wife and two small children. Mr. Kirk asked everyone to remember the agency and the family throughout the rest of the week.

Mr. Terry Norris, Executive Director, Georgia Sheriff's Association, stated he appreciates being able to call in as it helps him to know what is going on as he receives a few calls from Sheriffs time to time about what is going on with the BPS.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Chief Mark Revenew  
Secretary