

Law Enforcement Advisory Program Committee Minutes

Tuesday, May 9th, 2023

Time: 11:00 a.m.-12:00 a.m.

Location: Room 3201

1. Call to Order

A. The meeting was called to order at 11:23 a.m. by Director Brett Houser.

Present:

Gail Warner, Dean for Health & Public Safety
Brett Houser, Director of POST Programs
Michelle Velovich, Coordinator POST Programs
Michael Crankshaw, Interim Chief of Police for Imperial Police Department
Kelly Brown, Chief of Police for El Centro Police Department
Jesus Serrano, Chief of Police for Calexico Police Department
Perry Monita, Chief of Police for Westmorland Police Department
Ernesto Ruedas, California Highway Patrol Lieutenant
Justin Matus, Assistant Chief Investigator, Office of District Attorney Imperial County
Jessica Prock, IVC Administrative Secretary for Health & Public Safety
Rhonda Ruiz, IVC Support Staff, Law Enforcement Programs

2. Approval of Minutes

A. Review and Approval of Minutes of December 7th, 2022

M/S/C Assistant Chief Investigator Justin Matus/Chief Perry Monita approved the minutes from the December 7th, 2022 meeting as submitted.

3. Training

A. Scenario-Based Training

Director Brett Houser informed the committee that POST announced during his last Consortium meeting that they would like academies to do more scenario-based training. He told the committee that he plans to introduce scenario-based training early into the program for the next class. Interim Chief Michael Crankshaw asked if POST allowed Imperial Valley College more hours to do this. Director Brett Houser replied no and stated that he reached out to other academies and was able to build out twenty to twenty-five different scenarios and can integrate the scenario training into the recruit training times. The goal is to get the recruits out of their comfort zone and have them engaging and interacting.

B. LD 32- Physical Training

During our last certification, POST informed us that LD 32 is prohibited in modules III and II. They said we were not allowed to advertise it in our modules, so Director Brett Houser told the committee that he had to build an LD 32-looking program. He felt it was an essential component of the academy so that he could work it out with POST. The fitness program will have LD sessions with seven target cores, including endurance and body lifting. Director Brett Houser told the committee that the result will be that the college can use cross-fitness instructors who do not have the LD 32 specialization, resulting in more dynamic fitness training for the recruits.

4. Future Classes being offered

A. Winter AJ 141

Director Brett Houser reported to the committee that last year's AJ 141 Arrest and Firearms class did well. It was an eleven-day course built by his predecessor and approved by POST. He further stated that the class was filled with the law enforcement community, probation officers, and college students. Director Houser expressed a need to have enough instructors willing to help with the course being offered for winter. He disclosed that he would open the class and route it to see if we had enough instructors to hold it. Director Brett Houser invited the committee to send anyone in their agency who needs this certification to attend the winter AJ 141 Arrest and Firearms course.

5. Updates

A. Open positions/Recruits in process

Chief Kelly Brown from El Centro Police Department announced that he had seven positions that recruits from the Imperial Valley College's academy would fill. He stated that a fifth position was coming from the Chief's interview and would start on Thursday. He said they have two open positions and three frozen positions that he hopes to open up, but he told the committee that it depends on the new budget.

Interim Chief Michael Crankshaw of the Imperial Police Department disclosed that they are processing one new hire from Imperial Valley College's police academy; he said she will graduate in June and announced that the department just picked up another recruit for processing. In addition, the Imperial Police Department has two current openings and requests three more positions.

Justin Matus, Assistant Chief Investigator for the Office of District Attorney in Imperial County, told the committee that his agency was not actively recruiting but may do so in six months.

Chief Jesus Serrano of the Calexico Police Department reported they had one open position but were not processing anyone. He stated that he planned to add three openings from a grant and request three more positions from his general fund account on July 1st. He expressed a desire to increase his reserves to add twenty from Imperial Valley College's Level III and II recruits.

Chief Perry Monita from the Westmorland Police Department informed the committee that they were down one position and needed to replace it.

Lieutenant Ernesto, Ruedas of the California Highway Patrol said his department always hires. Locally, they were slated for thirty-one positions but currently only have twenty-six, so they are down five. He further stated that nine people had put transfers in. He also told the committee that they have three academies graduating recruits simultaneously, so they are trying to graduate one hundred and twenty recruits every ten weeks. He said the needed positions still need to be filled and will eventually.

6. Hiring

A. PHS-Placed in POST-certified education plan schedule.

Director Brett Houser informed the committee that he researched why the recruits had not been applying to local law enforcement agencies earlier in the program. He felt that many of the recruits need more confidence, knowledge, or familiarity with the hiring process, so he is dedicating a portion of the program to educating the recruits on the application process. The new RBC Level III class will be educated on personal history statements and learning to apply early.

B. Addition of seven evaluators

The Imperial Valley College recently had a Recruit Training Officer Evaluator Open House. Director Houser informed the Recruit Training Officers what his expectations were. He communicated to the group that he wanted them to see the program as a whole, understand it, and see the phases of it. He told them that it is not just about coming in and scolding recruits but about progressing and teaching recruits the academy's expectations. Seven evaluators were added to the program, some as scenarios evaluators and some to the range crew. Director Brett Houser told the committee that if any of them had concerns about a Recruit Training Officer, to let him know so he could look into it. He announced to the committee that he was also looking into hiring more female Recruit Training Officers and to send anyone they thought would be a good fit.

7. Contracts

A. Facility user and agency equipment use

Dean Gail Warner and Director Brett Houser have been working on drawing up contracts for facility user agreements and in-service training. They have been working with the college's attorney and will keep everyone updated.

B. 1070 Requirement

POST will now require a four-hour refresh course every four years for instructors with the 1070 certification. Director Brett Houser told the committee that he pulled resources to have the refresher classes here at the college.

8. Open Forum

Interim Chief Michael Crankshaw requested PSP Training. He told Director Brett Houser it would benefit his department by saving on per diem if the Imperial Valley College could hold the training four times a year. Dean Gail Warner responded that if his department can provide the instructor, Imperial Valley College can facilitate by providing a classroom.

9. Adjournment

M/S/C Assistant Chief Investigator Justin Matus/Interim Chief Michael Crankshaw adjourn the meeting at 12:10 a.m.