

**AGENDA
POLICE STANDARDS ADVISORY COUNCIL**

DATE: July 9, 2025

TO: Police Standards Advisory Council

FROM: Mark Stephenson, Director

SUBJECT: Meeting Wednesday, July 16, 2025, 9:00 A.M.
Library, Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center
3600 North Academy Road, Grand Island, Nebraska 68801

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. APPROVAL OF JUNE 18, 2025 P.S.A.C. MINUTES

III. REPORTS

- A. Director – N.L.E.T.C.**
- B. Deputy Director of Training – N.L.E.T.C.**
- C. Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy**
- D. Crime Commission Report**

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Revocation Hearing-Voting Item**

Grant Gentile: (LR 222-21)



B. Appeal Hearing-Denial of Entrance Into Basic Training-Voting Item

1. Michael Real: Red Willow County Sheriff's Office (25-PSAC-105)
2. Aibor Huerta: South Sioux City Police Department (25-PSAC-106)

C. Revocation-Voluntary Surrender-Voting Item

Wyatt Martian: LR-286-24

D. Omaha Police Department: Supervision Course-Voting Item Attachment 1

E. Waiver of Supervision In Lieu Of NLETC Supervision Attachment 2

Brady Tucker: Washington County Sheriff's Office-Voting Item

F. Extension of 1 Year Requirement for Supervision Attachment 3

1. Jacob Metcalf: McCook Police Department-Voting Item
2. James Wright: McCook Police Department-Voting Item

G. Academy Instructor Requests Attachment 4

1. General Renewal-Voting Item
Cory Townsend-Nebraska State Patrol

H. Hiring Bonus Grant Approvals-Voting Item

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Robert Rusk	Chase Co SO
Edna Medina-Rosales	Dawson Co SO
Nathan Karr	Hamilton Co SO
Nikolaus Statz	Hastings PD
Deitrik Brueggeman	Ogallala PD
Jonathan Dickman	Seward Co SO
Jonathan West	Seward Co SO
Tommy Nguyen	UNL PD
David Wobken	York PD

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Informational Items

1. Trainees

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Nathan Fiala	Cherry Co SO
Tyler Gunderson	Hall Co SO
Rene Lopez	Hall Co SO
Landon Furne	Lancaster Co SO
Miguel Jaime	Lancaster Co SO
Cole Reher	Lancaster Co SO
John Sears	Lancaster Co SO
Timothy Shannon	Lancaster Co SO
Keldon Barr	Lincoln PD
Edward Bosland	Lincoln PD
Austin Carek	Lincoln PD
Riley Cleal	Lincoln PD
Cory Davis	Lincoln PD
Kenlif Garcias	Lincoln PD
Timothy Herrick	Lincoln PD
Caleb Higby	Lincoln PD
Ryan Hodges	Lincoln PD
James McNair	Lincoln PD
Justus Olsen	Lincoln PD
DeMarco Orange	Lincoln PD
Cael Ranz	Lincoln PD
Diego Rivera-Guzman	Lincoln PD
Micah Sundberg	Lincoln PD
Tristin Von Hoff	Lincoln PD
Wilber Aguilar Matias	NSP
Cy Archer	NSP
Justin Balters	NSP
Daniel Barker	NSP
Austin Bedell	NSP
Caleb Bocker	NSP
Daniel Christenson	NSP
Cameron Frost	NSP
Brandon Galla	NSP
Nicolas Gynn	NSP
Thorin Henka	NSP
Connor Lange	NSP
Cameron Miller	NSP
Centaz Minter	NSP
Brandon Mitzel	NSP
Blake Olbrich	NSP
Jacob Osborn	NSP
Jarred Rogers	NSP
Greyson Schatz	NSP
Kylee Schoen	NSP

Haylee Sitzman	NSP
Aaron Strode	NSP
Kayden Stubbs	NSP
Michael Tinsley Jr.	NSP
Matthew Berger	Omaha PD
Dolan Comiskey	Omaha PD
Shane Finley	Omaha PD
Bradley Graham	Omaha PD
Justin Kowalski	Omaha PD
Clayton Lutz	Omaha PD
Colton McCoy	Omaha PD
Nicole McDonough	Omaha PD
Noah Miranda	Omaha PD
Kaelob Reinert	Omaha PD
Otis Seals III	Omaha PD
Matthew Walters	Omaha PD
Jaime Shirley	Sherman Co SO

2. NCO's Completing 80 Hours of Training

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Justin Schwisow	Garfield Co SO
Haley Walker	Hitchcock Co SO

B. Date, Time & Location of Next Meeting

August 20, 2025, 9:00 a.m., Library, Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, 3600 North Academy Road, Grand Island, Nebraska 68801

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
POLICE STANDARDS ADVISORY COUNCIL
June 18, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, Chief Steve Reeves called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M. Legal notice of the meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star on June 11, 2025. Roll call; Sgt. Drew Bolzer, Chief Paul Graham, Sheriff Greg London, Mr. Matthew McCarthy, Sheriff Dan Osmond, Chief Steve Reeves. Lt. Col. Jeff Roby, Asst. Chief Jason Stille and Deputy Chief Sherie Thomas were absent from the meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF MAY 21, 2025 P.S.A.C. MINUTES

Chief Reeves entertained a motion to approve the May 21, 2025 PSAC minutes.

MOTION

Chief Graham: I'll make a motion to approve the minutes. Sheriff Osmond seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Chief Graham, Sheriff London, Mr. McCarthy, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer. Motion approved.

III. REPORTS

A. Director's Report

Director Mark Stephenson reported on the following:

- Department of Education/VA Affairs: A representative conducted an audit. NLETC is signed up in a program that allows veterans to utilize their benefits while attending training. NLETC had not been audited since 2018. All of the documentation that was required was provided. It was clarified to the auditors that NLETC is not a community college, university or tech school. NLETC is still certified for the program.



- Job Task Analysis: NLETC has been working with DAS to obtain a contract for a new JTA. IO Solutions has been approached since they provide OPD with their entrance exam. IO Solutions would be able to develop a test based on the Job Task Analysis that any agency in the state could use during their hiring process. It would replace the TABE test for academy entrance.
- Management Program: There has been some discussion about the online portion of the management training. Due to the limited number of people enrolled in the online a number of extension requests come to the Council. Agency Counsel Sara Bockstadter is looking to streamline the course. There has also been discussion about creating a 3-day in-person class. The in-person class would allow the overflow who were unable to attend the online class to meet the requirements for training. It would also allow agency employees who are actually doing the work (i.e. tracking continuing education, helping the applicants complete the Chapter 8 application) to attend.
- Rule and Regulation Changes: The final draft with the changes is being prepared.

Sgt. Bolzer asked for clarification if the JTA test would be in place of the TABE test. Director Stephenson responded that the new JTA entrance test would be in place of the TABE test which would meet the requirements of having to read and write at an 11th grade level.

B. Deputy Director's Report

Deputy Director Gene Boner reported:

- 220th Basic Training Session: Started April 28th with 48 students. Currently 41 students are enrolled. With June 19th being a holiday no classes were scheduled for Thursday the 19th or Friday the 20th.
- New Instructor: Eric Javins will begin on July 7, 2025 as the DUI/SFST/Crash Investigations instructor. Eric spent 13 years with the Grand Island Police Department and the last 8 years with the Game & Parks Commission.
- The following training was held at NLETC:
 - Supervision: June 10-12, 2025 with 40 attendees.

C. Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy (Crime Commission report was moved ahead of the NSP report.)

Sgt. Nick Plate reported on the following:

- Camp 71 graduated 7 recruits on June 13, 2025.
- Camp 72 will start on July 7, 2025 with 23 recruits.
- Completing the inservice training.
- The Training Academy trooper vacancy has been posted.
- The NSP Junior Law for both boys and girls will take place the week of June 23-25, 2025.

D. Crime Commission Report

Executive Director Bryan Tuma reported the following:

- LB-346: There was an attempt to sunset the racial profiling committee. The committee had not met since May 2021. The Crime Commission will look to fill the empty slots on the committee.
- LB-499: Crime Victim's Reparations Advisory Group added 5 additional members to the board.
- LB-150: Sponsored by the Attorney General's Office establishes the mental health expansion pilot project. The Crime Commission will be the project manager. Looking at a facility (possibly Antelope County) where a certain number of beds will be modified for inmates who need mental health services. It will require a federal grant.
- Budget: The upcoming bi-annual budget will be impacted by reduced revenue.
- Grants: SCIP (State Crisis Intervention Program) is a federal grant that has been received. NLETC will be receiving a new firearms simulator for use of force training. The simulator will be portable in order to use if for regional continuing education training.
- Grants: COPS- This grant would be for inservice and regional training opportunities primarily targeting rural law enforcement and how they interact with schools (school safety, school crisis response). The grant proposal was just submitted.

- National Criminal Justice Association: Federal grant funds are tied up until Congress passes the bill. 3.32 billion has been allocated to the Department of Justice to address a variety of needs. 2.055 billion has been allocated to the Department of Homeland Security for hiring additional border patrol agents and for state and local homeland security efforts.

Sheriff London asked about the bill that was going to decrease the number of continuing education hours. Executive Director Tuma responded that the bill died.

IV. Old Business

NO OLD BUSINESS

V. New Business

A. Revocation Hearing

Terry Hughes (LR 215-21)

Chief Reeves elected to move item V. B (Appeal Hearing) ahead of the revocation hearing.

1 **B. Appeal Hearing-Denial of Entrance Into Reciprocity**

2 Brendan Whitted-Nebraska City Police Department (25 PSAC-104)

3 **CHAIR:** This appeal hearing before the Police Standards Advisory Council in the
4 matter of Nebraska City Police Department v. Nebraska Law Enforcement
5 Training Center, Case Number 25-PSAC-104 is called to order. The date
6 is June 18, 2025 and the time is 9:23 a.m.

7 **CHAIR:** The following members are present, Chief Paul Graham, Sgt. Drew
8 Bolzer, Dan Osmond, Sheriff Dan Osmond, Sheriff Greg London, Matthew
9 McCarthy, myself Chief Steve Reeves. Members not present; Asst. Chief
10 Jason Stille, Lt. Col. Jeff Roby and Deputy Chief Sherie Thomas. I'll note
11 that there's a quorum of the Council present, so this hearing may proceed.
12 Attorney Sara Bockstadter is here as legal advisor to the Council.

13 **CHAIR:** The Council has been asked by the Petitioner, Nebraska City Police
14 Department, to consider reversing Director Stephenson's denial of
15 application for certification to its applicant, Brendan Whitted.

16 **CHAIR:** The Council will hear this matter pursuant to its authority as stated in
17 Nebraska Revised Statutes 81-1403, its related statutes, and Title 79 of
18 the Nebraska Administrative Code.

19 **CHAIR:** I will note that the Petitioner is present through Chief Murry and is not
20 represented by Counsel?

21 **MURRY:** No sir.

22 **CHAIR:** The petitioner's applicant, Brendan Whitted, is present. The Nebraska Law
23 Enforcement Training Center's Director, Mark Stephenson, is present and
24 not represented by counsel.

25 **CHAIR:** Petitioners have the following rights in these proceedings; you have the
26 right to be heard, either in person or by counsel, who you have hired at
27 your own expense. Have you retained counsel in this matter?

28 **CHAIR:** Previously answered as no. You have a right to notice, that is to receive a
29 statement from the State of Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center,
30 detailing or justifying its actions in this matter. You also have a right to
31 notice of the date, time, and location of the appeal hearing before the
32 Council. Additionally, you have a right to have this hearing, to present oral
33 arguments, submit written statements or exhibits, and provide testimony.
34 At the conclusion of the appeal hearing, the Council will consider what
35 was presented to the Council and will affirm, modify, or deny the decision
36 of the Director. The decision of the Council is final.

37 **CHAIR:** Do you understand these rights?

38 **WHITTED:** Yes sir.

39 **CHAIR:** Did you receive notice from Director Stephenson stating the reasons for
40 the denial of Brendan Whitted's reciprocity application?

41 **MURRY:** Yes.

42 **CHAIR:** Did you receive notice of today's hearing?

43 **WHITTED:** Yes sir.

44 **MURRY:** Yes sir.

45 **CHAIR:** Did you notice any defects in either of those notices that prejudiced you
46 from presenting your appeal case?

47 **WHITTED:** None.

48 **MURRY:** No sir.

49 **CHAIR:** The Police Standards Advisory Council shall act as the Hearing Board for
50 this appeal. Neither I, nor any other Council member, will be a witness for
51 either side and I am not aware of any matter, which I believe, may be
52 grounds for challenge by either side against me or the Council members.
53 Does any Council member have any personal knowledge of this case?

54 **BOLZER:** The defendant applied to our agency and I was supplied his employment
55 background.

56 **CHAIR:** Anyone else? The rest of the members replied "no".

57 **CHAIR:** Does either side have any further questions or challenge for cause against
58 any member of the Council?

59 **MURRY:** No sir

60 **DIRECTOR:** No sir.

61 **CHAIR:** Does either party contest the Council's authority to hear this type of case?

62 **DIRECTOR:** No.

63 **MURRY:** No sir.

64 **CHAIR:** Does either party have any questions?

65 **MURRY:** No sir.

66 **DIRECTOR:** No sir.

67 **CHAIR:** Are the parties ready to proceed with the case?

68 **MURRY:** Yes sir.

69 **WHITTED:** Yes sir.

70 **CHAIR:** Mr. Stephenson, do you have any procedural documents for this case,
71 and if so, please present them to the Council.

72 **DIRECTOR:** I do have two exhibits that I would ask to be accepted into evidence at this
73 time. Both are contained in a single binder. The first exhibit contains
74 documentation from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center's file
75 for Mr. Whitted. All person identifying information has been redacted.
76 Those include; his change in status, application for training, employment
77 verification, character affidavit, authority to release. The second exhibit is
78 the denial packet to include; copies of the original denial letter, a letter
79 from Chief Murry requesting reconsideration, a copy of the final denial
80 letter, and a copy of the original letter from Chief Murry requesting the
81 appeal for PSAC on June 6th. I also have in this second one, the letters
82 supporting Mr. Whitted that Chief Murry submitted for his reconsideration
83 included in this folder.

84 **CHAIR:** Exhibit 1 is a personal change in status form, two will be the application...

85 **GOBEL:** No, all together.

86 **CHAIR:** All together?

87 **GOBEL:** Yes.

88 **DIRECTOR:** The second exhibit starts with the Exhibit 2 tab, which is the denial packet.

89 **CHAIR:** Ok. Chief Murry and Mr. Whitted have you had the chance to review these
90 exhibits?

91 **MURRY:** Yes sir.

92 **WHITTED:** Yes sir.

93 **CHAIR:** Chief Murry and Mr. Whitted do you have any objections to the receipt of
94 the exhibits into evidence?

95 **MURRY:** No objections sir.

96 **WHITTED:** No sir.

97 **CHAIR:** Exhibits 1 and 2 are received.

98 **CHAIR:** Does either side wish to address any further preliminary matters?

99 **DIRECTOR:** No sir.

100 **CHAIR:** Chief Murry or Mr. Whitted do you wish to make an opening statement?

101 **MURRY:** Yes sir I would like to make an opening statement.

102 **CHAIR:** Go ahead.

103 **MURRY:** I am Chief Benjamin Murry of the Nebraska City Police Department.
104 Thank you for the opportunity to come before the Police Standards
105 Advisory Council this morning. We are requesting reconsideration to allow
106 Mr. Brendan Whitted to test for reciprocity to certify as a Nebraska law
107 enforcement officer. Mr. Whitted did not receive a letter in good standing
108 from the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department as required by
109 Nebraska standards. We did receive an email presenting three allegations
110 on three separate occasions. These allegations have been listed as the
111 first allegation occurred January 29, 2019, conduct unbecoming, failing to
112 properly exercise duties associated with rank, St. Louis Metropolitan
113 Police Department summary; "The involved employee, while working

114 department approved overtime, conducted an occupied car check. The
115 involved employee released a subject they knew had a warrant, in
116 possession of a firearm.” In speaking to Mr. Whitted, his response on this,
117 he explained the situation. There were four subjects in the vehicle with
118 warrants. One had a felony wanted. He did arrest the subject for the felony
119 wanted. This subject was related to a retired police captain, it was later
120 found out. The second subject that had a minor warrant that was in his
121 possession of a firearm, this subject was legal to own and be in
122 possession of a firearm. During FTO there had been several times that
123 officers did not arrest on minor warrants due to how busy they were during
124 their shift. He felt he had discretion to allow the subject to turn himself in
125 as occurred during FTO many times. Missouri State Statute has changed
126 to allow an affirmative defense now under Statute 575.10, 180, Failure to
127 execute an arrest warrant, offense and violation of penalties. Subsection 3
128 shows, it shall be an affirmative defense to prosecute under this section if
129 the law enforcement officer acted under exigent circumstances and failing
130 to execute an arrest warrant on a person who has committed a
131 misdemeanor offense under Chapters 301, 302, 304, 307 or a
132 misdemeanor traffic offense in another state. State of Missouri has
133 amended their statute to allow officer not to arrest on a warrant now based
134 off those sections. The second allegation, April 2019, a false reporting,
135 failure to follow evidence property procedures. St. Louis Metropolitan
136 Police Department summary; “The involved employee wrote false

137 information in the narrative section of a police report.” No further details.
138 Mr. Whitted’s response; he had recovered a bullet fragment at a scene of
139 a property damage. He did not think the bullet fragment was involved with
140 the report he was taking. Stated in his report that the Sergeant was
141 advised. He did not get a chance to meet with the sergeant about it and
142 did not enter the bullet fragment into evidence. Mr. Whitted stated that this
143 was a response that officers did when they would state the sergeant was
144 advised in their report that when they read their report that would they
145 were advised of that. The third allegation was April 2019, failure to
146 acknowledge and respond to radio call. The summary from St. Louis
147 Metro Police Department; “The involved employee failed to respond
148 directly to a Code 1 radio assignment.” No further details. Mr. Whitted’s
149 response advises that he does not even recall being brought in reference
150 failing to respond to a Code 1 call. He did state that it may have been to a
151 mix-up on his part. He stated that he was in the bathroom when a Code 2
152 call for a disturbance came out and a pursuit call came out at the same
153 time. The pursuit came by the station he was at, so he responded to that.
154 When he was made aware that he was assigned a code 2 that had now
155 become a code 1 (unintelligible) call, he left the pursuit call and responded
156 to the code 1 call. Mr. Whitted stated that he did not, was not even aware
157 of that because he had not been brought in for an IA investigation on this
158 incident. Brendan did come to Nebraska to attend Peru State College to
159 obtain the degree in Criminal Justice. Brendan did obtain a bachelor’s

160 degree in 2013 in Criminal Justice. Brendan returned to St. Louis to follow
161 his dream as a police officer. Brendan worked for St. Louis PD until going
162 to St. Charles Police Department. We did receive a letter in good standing
163 from St. Charles Police Department during the time that Brendan was
164 there. Brendan returned to St. Louis PD as he found out that the grass
165 isn't always greener on the other side. Brendan had to start his
166 probationary time over again with St. Louis due to his departure to St.
167 Charles. This is when Brendan obtained the three allegations against him.
168 Brendan was with St. Louis PD, September 2016 to November 2017,
169 Brendan did not receive any allegations or IA investigations during that
170 time with St. Louis PD. Brendan started St. Charles PD November 2017
171 until March of 2018 when he returned to St. Louis PD where he was hired
172 with a probationary period. Brendan began again with St. Louis PD around
173 June 2018. Brendan went seven months with no allegations. Brendan
174 moved back to Omaha area because he felt he had better opportunities in
175 Nebraska. Brendan started with Nebraska City PD on April 2nd 2025.
176 During that time I have been able to interact with Brendan as a person as
177 well as an officer. Brendan has been nothing but open and honest about
178 the mistakes he has made with St. Louis Metro Police Department.
179 Brendan has been very humble and appreciative of the second chance.
180 As he's stated on many occasions during our in-house training, to
181 complete the training requirements that he does not want to be taught
182 short cuts. He wants to do things the right way as a police officer. Short

cuts is what he believes got him in trouble in St. Louis. We have presented recommendation letters from two sergeants, two detectives, one lieutenant and one officer FTO and one federal agent. Those were presented in the packet from Director Stephenson. I would like to present some of the statements from those. Sergeant Christopher Murray, no relation, stated "that he had trained thirteen academy classes and trains hundreds of recruits, I don't remember all of those I've trained but I certainly remember Brendan. He was a joy to have around, and I suspect he will be a true asset to law enforcement agencies. I would hire him." I have trouble pronouncing his name and I apologize, Uzoma Onwumere, "I've had the privilege of working closely with Brendan for three years in my capacity as a St. Louis police officer prior to my departure to become a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. One thing I noticed about him right away was that he was a person of the utmost integrity. He approached every situation with a clear moral compass. Brendan consistently demonstrated honesty, fairness and respect for others. He also listened attentively, spoke with clarity and de-escalated many tense situations with ease. Usually through jokes or laughter, he consistently took on an empathetic and diplomatic approach to dealing with citizens. That made him a natural at building trust and positive relationships which is a critical component for community policing. You may wonder why someone with the skills I've mentioned was let go from our department and is now looking to join your organization. During my time with the

206 department, there were a few sergeants who had specific ways they
207 wanted reports written. Specifically we wrote reports that contained a
208 section where we would advise our sergeants of situations. We were
209 writing our police reports too. This practice of including a section like this
210 was standard procedure across the entire department. However, when
211 Brendan wrote his own reports the same way the entire department had
212 written them for years, they accused him of false reporting and his
213 sergeant claimed he was never advised of the situations. Brendan was
214 involved in this incident coupled with being relatively new, under five years
215 experience, and the higher ups singled him out was why he left the
216 department. Unfortunately his case was not unique and a few other
217 promising patrol officers were let go for similar reasons.” Detective Kim
218 Hayes; “Brendan taught me valuable tactics in becoming a police officer.
219 In addition, his knowledge of police work is outstanding and his inspiration
220 to serve the community is unmatched. He is in the top 10% of good
221 officers I’ve worked with in the past seven years.” Brian Hayes, Field
222 Training Officer; “He is hard working, honest, and will go above and
223 beyond the call of duty. Brendan is always to learn, is always willing to
224 learn and is teachable. We need more police officers like Brendan and
225 because he was an asset to this police force. I believe, due to certain
226 politics from within our police department caused Brendan’s departure to
227 be premature.” Lieutenant Phillip Hodges; “I’ve had the privilege of
228 working alongside Mr. Whitted in Emmanuel Medical Center for a few

229 years. As he has helped to maintain positive position of integrity,
230 professionalism, and respect within our security department.” Detective
231 Brandon Clark; “Unfortunately Mr. Whitted ran into some unforeseen
232 troubles that cost him. His time with our department I do believe Mr.
233 Whitted was not given a fair chance and some politics played a role and
234 did not allow him to prove himself as a young officer. The mistakes, I
235 believe, he made were teachable lessons. Although Mr. Whitted made
236 those mistakes I do believe he has learned from them, and this loss was
237 detrimental to our department more than his bright future.” Sergeant Todd
238 Ross; “I did not hear of any issue or complaint from co-workers, citizens or
239 businesses. Also, however in this profession we all know it’s easy to make
240 a minor mistake and it gets blown larger than it really is. Brendan had a
241 few minor issues I believe could have been resolved without termination,
242 forced resignation of Brendan. Those issues were teachable moments
243 every young officer will encounter. I do believe Brendan has grown and
244 has learned from his past and could once again be a valuable officer to
245 any police department wanting to give him another chance.” We have
246 presented recommendations letters from two sergeants, two detectives,
247 one lieutenant and one officer FTO and one federal agent. We are before
248 you today to request that Brendan Whitted be allowed to complete
249 reciprocity testing to obtain a Nebraska law enforcement certification. I see
250 this as St. Louis Missouri’s loss and Nebraska’s gain to obtain, what I
251 believe, that one day will be one of the best officers to serve our

252 community within Nebraska City. I would like to present Brendan Whitted
253 for any questions or clarifications that I've gone over here at this time.

254 **CHAIR:** We'll circle back around in just a minute. Mr. Stephenson, do you wish to
255 make an opening statement?

256 **DIRECTOR:** Yes sir I do. Members of the Council, Brendan Whitted was appointed as
257 a police officer for the Nebraska City Police Department on April 7th 2025
258 and has applied for the reciprocity certification course. I review Mr.
259 Whitted's application. The review consists of comparing the information
260 supplied by Mr. Whitted and his agency as well as additional background
261 information against the standards that are set forth in Nebraska
262 Administrative Law, Title 79, Chapter 8. The basis for the denial of Mr.
263 Whitted's application is found on the following grounds; Nebraska
264 Administrative Code, Title 79, Chapter 3, Section 004.03, states; "The
265 applicant will have all past law enforcement employers, agencies, submit a
266 written verification to the director regarding his or her dates of
267 employment, duty assignments, departmental agency, rank and
268 confirmation they left in good standing." On page 8 of the personal
269 character affidavit for the Nebraska Law Enforcement certification,
270 question 9; "Have you ever been terminated, suspended, disciplined or
271 permitted to resign in lieu of termination from any job?", Mr. Whitted
272 responded "yes". Mr. Whitted stated that he was terminated from the city
273 of St. Louis due to policy mistakes during probationary period. The
274 background investigation supplied by the Nebraska City Police

275 Department revealed and email from Sergeant Hodges of the internal
276 affairs division of the St. Louis Police Department outlining disciplinary
277 actions when they terminated, no re-hire classification which would not
278 indicate Mr. Whitted left in good standing. Mr. Whitted's ability to, inability
279 to obtain a letter of good standing from the previous law enforcement
280 employer was in conflict with Nebraska Administrative Code, Title 79,
281 Chapter 3, section 004.03. For this reason Mr. Whitted's application for the
282 basic reciprocity course was denied.

283 **CHAIR:** Thank you. Now is the time further evidence may be presented to the
284 Council. This may include written evidence, witness testimony and/or
285 unsworn statements by yourselves. We will start with the Petitioners. Do
286 you have any written evidence for us to consider other than the items that
287 have been received which were the reference letters that you referred to
288 and then there's a copy of the statute that you referred to.

289 **MURRY:** No further submissions sir.

290 **CHAIR:** Chief Murray or Mr. Whitted, do you have any witnesses to testify?

291 **WHITTED:** No sir.

292 **CHAIR:** Chief Murry, you mentioned that Mr. Whitted may want to testify on his
293 own behalf?

294 **MURRY:** He is available for any questions you may have or any clarification as to
295 what has been presented here today.

296 **CHAIR:** Mr. Whitted, do you want to testify?

297 **WHITTED:** Do you mind if I stand up?

298 **CHAIR:** No. Are you going to testify?

299 **WHITTED:** Yes.

300 **CHAIR:** Ok. Can I get you to raise your right hand? Do you swear and affirm that
301 the testimony you are about to make shall be the truth, the whole truth and
302 nothing but the truth?

303 **WHITTED:** Yes sir.

304 **CHAIR:** Go ahead.

305 **WHITTED:** So before I give any statements or anything of that nature I'm a man of
306 faith, so I give God the glory for just even having the opportunity to be
307 here again. To have a door closed and re-opened that you'd never thought
308 would be re-opened. I want to give a thanks to you guys for having me to
309 hear out my case today. It's been a long six years of being away from law
310 enforcement, something you have always wanted to do. I want to thank
311 Chief Murry personally for reaching out to me. A hundred days ago I was
312 on my way out, back to St. Louis thinking that the opportunity that I have
313 been wanting would not come true. But with Chief Murry reaching out to
314 me, hearing out my case, and giving me the opportunity to get to this point
315 I want to thank you. And I want to thank my parents, my support system,
316 that has always been there, would be right here with me if they could be
317 today that told me to not give up on my dream of being a police officer. I
318 believe that we all know that we have to the willpower to do this position
319 and it is a calling to do this position. I believe that is my calling to do, to be
320 a police officer. When I was a police officer six years ago I was a good

321 officer. I was hard working. A little overzealous but I was a good officer. I
322 want to assure you guys that if you have questions, anything that you
323 need to get more clarification, it will be nothing but the truth and honesty in
324 regards to what happened in my time in St. Louis Metropolitan Police
325 Department. Thank you.

326 **CHAIR:** Mr. Stephenson, do you have any questions of this witness?

327 **DIRECTOR:** No.

328 **CHAIR:** Do any Council members have any questions for this witness?

329 **LONDON:** Brendan, you started June of 2018.

330 **WHITTED:** Yes sir.

331 **LONDON:** Ok. How long did you work for them before they terminated you?

332 **WHITTED:** About seven months.

333 **LONDON:** Seven months.

334 **WHITTED:** Yes sir.

335 **LONDON:** On your termination letter did they list all three violations?

336 **WHITTED:** I never received a termination letter.

337 **LONDON:** Did you have a Loudermill meeting where you met with the chief?

338 **WHITTED:** No sir.

339 **LONDON:** They had to give you some documentation.

340 **WHITTED:** I got sent down to Internal Affairs, then like I said, the third allegation I
341 wasn't even brought in for. So I got sent down to Internal Affairs for those
342 two and by the end of that second one I was terminated. This third one

343 was a shock to me when I applied to Nebraska City and they told me
344 about this case.

345 **LONDON:** Which third one are you talking about?

346 **WHITTED:** In regards to not responding to a Code 1.

347 **LONDON:** Ok. They never gave you any documentation saying you're terminated?

348 **WHITTED:** No sir.

349 **LONDON:** Ok. Thank you.

350 **CHAIR:** Did you have any kind of an interview? Were you allowed to present
351 evidence before your termination?

352 **WHITTED:** I wasn't allowed to do anything. I had my union rep who was an attorney
353 literally talk to them and that was it. And he said they are letting you go.
354 They told me to come down with all my gear to headquarters to turn it in
355 and he said that they told him they were terminating me.

356 **LONDON:** You were still on probation, right?

357 **WHITTED:** Yes sir.

358 **LONDON:** Ok, that's why you didn't have, ok I understand.

359 **CHAIR:** So you hired on in June of 2018?

360 **WHITTED:** Yes sir.

361 **CHAIR:** And you were terminated or let go how many months in?

362 **WHITTED:** I believe about seven months. It was March I believe.

363 **CHAIR:** And what was your probationary period when you hired on?

364 **WHITTED:** From June until June.

365 **CHAIR:** Ok. 12 months. And then when did you go to St. Charles? That was next?

366 **WHITTED:** That was prior to the June hire. I was with St. Louis city from September of
367 2016 to November of 2017. From November of 2017 to March or April of
368 2018 is where I was with St. Charles city and then I came back and due to
369 that hiring process it took a couple of months but came back June 2018.

370 **GRAHAM:** When was your first incident that happened?

371 **WHITTED:** Looks like it was January 2019.

372 **GRAHAM:** They talked to you then?

373 **WHITTED:** Yes.

374 **GRAHAM:** And what did they tell you then? Did they give you corrective action they
375 tell you what you did wrong?

376 **WHITTED:** No, they just sent me down to IAD and I explained what happened and
377 why I brought this individual in and why I let go of the other individual.
378 Once I said that, the case was closed and I went about my day and then
379 further weeks came, or a couple of days came, I don't really remember
380 which, I was sent down to IAD for another case.

381 **GRAHAM:** It was a separate one?

382 **WHITTED:** Yes. They were all pretty close together.

383 **CHAIR:** So in January 2019, did they give you something at the conclusion of that?
384 Did you get the results?

385 **WHITTED:** I have never received any type of paperwork from St. Louis Metropolitan
386 Police Department.

387 **CHAIR:** And then you had, who did you meet with after the April 2019 incident?

388 **WHITTED:** I met with IAD.

389 **CHAIR:** Ok. And then nothing from the other, the very last one?

390 **WHITTED:** No.

391 **CHAIR:** You didn't even know about that until now?

392 **WHITTED:** No.

393 **McCARTHY:** When you came back to St. Louis the second time, were you on FTO for

394 any period of time?

395 **WHITTED:** I believe they gave me a three month period.

396 **McCARTHY:** Ok, so then you had completed that successfully?

397 **WHITTED:** Yes sir.

398 **McCARTHY:** And then you were completely on your own by the time you got called in to

399 IAD in January, is that right?

400 **WHITTED:** Yes sir.

401 **CHAIR:** Anything?

402 **CHAIR:** Chief Murry and Mr. Whitted, do you have any additional evidence or

403 testimony you wish to present?

404 **MURRY:** Yes sir. I would like to present that I did not receive any other

405 documentation from St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department other than

406 an email from the sergeant stating these three allegations. We did send

407 everything with the signed release for any information, and I did not

408 receive anything other than the three allegations.

409 **CHAIR:** Chief Murry and Mr. Whitted have you concluded presenting your case?

410 **WHITTED:** Yes sir.

411 **MURRY:** Yes sir.

412 **CHAIR:** Mr. Stephenson do you have any written evidence for us to consider?

413 Witness testimony or further statements?

414 **DIRECTOR:** No. I'll save it for my closing.

415 **CHAIR:** Any Council members have any questions for Mr. Stephenson?

416 **LONDON:** Mark, did you have any other problems except for the failure that they
417 didn't give you a letter of recommendation?

418 **DIRECTOR:** All of his application and all of his other paperwork is complete and ready
419 to go. This was the one thing that has prevented him from testing for the
420 reciprocity.

421 **LONDON:** Ok. Bottom line, everything looks good except he didn't get a letter of
422 good standing. Ok. Thank you.

423 **CHAIR:** Chief Murry or Mr. Whitted, in light of what was presented by Mr.
424 Stephenson, do you have any additional, anything additional to offer
425 before closing statements?

426 **WHITTED:** No sir.

427 **MURRY:** No sir.

428 **CHAIR:** Chief Murry or Mr. Whitted, do you wish to make a closing statement?

429 **MURRY:** Yes.

430 **CHAIR:** Go ahead.

431 **MURRY:** In closing I believe that we have presented today that Mr. Whitted was
432 caught up in a situation with St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department of
433 some political situations within the department. We hate to say that that
434 happens, but we know it does in departments across this nation. With the

fact that I did not even receive anything from St. Louis Metropolitan Police documentations to support any of this other than an email from the sergeant. My concern is on this that anybody could send this out with this information and present it if they have an axe to grind or a bone to pick with somebody. There's no further documentation from St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department that would allow me to go any further and I've not been able to obtain any further information from them other than this email for these allegations listed on there. As the allegations were stated, they were one or two sentence allegations with no further documentation to show beyond that. Any type of reprimand, any type of corrective action that was taken with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. Mr. Whitted has presented everything when asked. He has been open, upfront, and honest that he made mistakes. That he is the one that did these things. Never once did he say that he didn't. These are learning lessons I believe and the department, we've all started and had these times in our career that we had situations that presented to us that we may or may not have made the correct decision on. I believe for us as law enforcement officers, how we learn from our mistakes is what creates the experience that we have in the years to come. I appreciate your time and opportunity to appear here.

CHAIR: Thank you. Mr. Stephenson do you wish to make a closing statement?

DIRECTOR: Yes sir. Mr. Whitted disclosed all necessary information and provided the requested legal documents which appear before you today in Exhibits one

458 and two. This case has been presented to you based upon that
459 information.

460 **CHAIR:** Thank you. Does any Council member wish to make a motion on this
461 matter?

462 **LONDON:** I would move that the Council go into Executive Session based on the
463 prevention of needless injury to the reputation of Brendan Whitted and for
464 the purposes, purpose of executive session we will allow the following to
465 remain in the room; all Council members and legal advisor Sara
466 Bockstadter. Yes, and we'll have Drew recuse himself too.

467 **OSMOND:** I'll second.

468 **CHAIR:** Motion is seconded. Any discussion?

469 **CHAIR:** Hearing none, let's vote.

470 **GOBEL:** Sheriff London?

471 **LONDON:** Yes.

472 **GOBEL:** Mr. McCarthy?

473 **McCARTHY:** Yes.

474 **GOBEL:** Sheriff Osmond?

475 **OSMOND:** Yes.

476 **GOBEL:** Chief Reeves?

477 **CHAIR:** Yes.

478 **GOBEL:** Sgt. Bolzer?

479 **BOLZER:** Abstained.

480 **GOBEL:** Chief Graham?

481 **GRAHAM:** Yes.

482 **GOBEL:** Motion approved. We are in Executive Session at 9:54 a.m.

483 **McCARTHY:** Do you need a motion?

484 **CHAIR:** Yes please.

485 **McCARTHY:** I'll make a motion to come out of Executive Session.

486 **GRAHAM:** Second.

487 **GOBEL:** Sorry, who was second?

488 **GRAHAM:** I was.

489 **GOBEL:** Thank you.

490 **CHAIR:** We have motion and second to come out of Executive Session. Any

491 discussion? Hearing none, let's vote.

492 **GOBEL:** Mr. McCarthy?

493 **McCARTHY:** Yes.

494 **GOBEL:** Sheriff Osmond?

495 **OSMOND:** Yes.

496 **GOBEL:** Chief Reeves?

497 **CHAIR:** Yes.

498 **GOBEL:** Sgt. Bolzer will abstain. Chief Graham?

499 **GRAHAM:** Yes.

500 **GOBEL:** Sheriff London?

501 **LONDON:** Yes.

502 **GOBEL:** Motion approved. We are out of Executive Session at 10:12 a.m.

503 **CHAIR:** The Chair will entertain a motion from the Council on this matter.

504 **LONDON:** I hereby move that the Council grant the appeal of the petitioner in case
505 25 PSAC-104 reversing the denial of the application by the Director for
506 admission to the reciprocity program and grant a waiver of the letter of
507 good standing requirement from Brendan Whitted's past law enforcement
508 agencies and that would be St. Louis Police Department.

509 **OSMOND:** I'll second.

510 **CHAIR:** Any discussion on the motion? Hearing none, let's vote.

511 **GOBEL:** Sheriff Osmond?

512 **OSMOND:** Yes.

513 **GOBEL:** Chief Reeves?

514 **CHAIR:** Yes.

515 **GOBEL:** Sgt. Bolzer?

516 **BOLZER:** Abstained.

517 **GOBEL:** Chief Graham?

518 **GRAHAM:** Yes.

519 **GOBEL:** Sheriff London?

520 **LONDON:** Yes.

521 **GOBEL:** Mr. McCarthy?

522 **McCARTHY:** Yes.

523 **GOBEL:** Motion approved.

524 **LONDON:** Good luck.

525 **CHAIR:** Petitioners as you have heard, the Council has decided to reverse the
526 denial of the application by the Director for the admission to the reciprocity

527 program and grant a waiver of letter of good standing requirement from
528 Brendan Whitted's past law enforcement agencies, particularly the St.
529 Louis P.D.

530 **CHAIR:** Is there anything further?

531 **MURRY:** Thank you very much for the opportunity.

532 **CHAIR:** We are adjourned. The time is 10:14 a.m.

533 **SARA:** I will just note that the Council will prepare written findings of facts and
534 conclusions of law and they will be sent copies.

1 **V. A. Revocation Hearing-Terry Hughes (LR 215-21)**

2 **CHAIR:** This revocation hearing before the Police Standards Advisory Council in
3 the matter of State of Nebraska v. Terry Hughes, Case No. LR-215-21 is
4 called to order. The date is June 18, 2025 and the time is 10:15 a.m.

5 **CHAIR:** The following Council members are present; Chief Paul Graham, Sgt.
6 Drew Bolzer, Sheriff Dan Osmond, Sheriff Greg London, Matthew
7 McCarthy and myself, Chief Steve Reeves. The following members are
8 not present; Asst. Chief Jason Stille, Lt. Col. Jeff Roby, Deputy Chief
9 Sherie Thomas. I will note that there is a quorum of the Council present,
10 so this hearing may proceed. Attorney Sara Bockstadter is here as a legal
11 advisor to the Council.

12 **CHAIR:** The Council will hear this matter pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute
13 81-1403 and Title 79 of the Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 9,
14 Revocation of Law Enforcement Officer's Certification.

15 **CHAIR:** In this case, the petitioner has filed a formal revocation complaint against
16 Terry J. Hughes the respondent officer. The allegations for revocation are
17 contained in the complaint filed by the State of Nebraska on April 29,
18 2025. An answer was received from the respondent and filed on about
19 May 22, 2025. I will note that on May 29, 2025 a Pre-Hearing Conference
20 was scheduled to be heard on June 9, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. to address
21 Respondent's request for a continuance incorporated within respondent's
22 answer. The Certificate of Service reflect that the order for the Pre-
23 Hearing Conference was sent by United States mail to the same physical

24 address and email address respondent provided in his answer.
25 Respondent failed to appear at the Pre-Hearing Conference on June 9,
26 2025. Respondent's request for a continuance was denied during the Pre-
27 Hearing Conference and the formal revocation hearing was ordered to
28 commence on June 18, 2025 at approximately 9:10 a.m. as previously
29 scheduled. The Certificate of Service reflects that the Journal Entry and
30 Order from the Pre-Hearing Conference was mailed to the respondent at
31 the same physical address and email address respondent provided in his
32 answer. I will note that this is the same address in which personal service
33 was provided to Mr. Hughes.

34 **CHAIR:** Special Assistant Attorney Jonathan Hendricks appears today on behalf of
35 the State. I will note that Terry Hughes is not present nor is counsel
36 present representing him.

37 **CHAIR:** The Police Standards Advisory Council shall act as the Hearing Board for
38 this appeal. Neither I, nor any other Council member, will be a witness for
39 either side and I am not aware of any matter, which I believe, may be
40 grounds for challenge by either side against me or the Council members.

41 **CHAIR:** Does any Council member have any personal knowledge of this case. (All
42 members responded no.)

43 **CHAIR:** Does either side have any further questions or challenge for cause against
44 any member of the Council?

45 **JON:** No.

46 **CHAIR:** Are the parties ready to proceed with this case?

47 **JON:** Yes.

48 **CHAIR:** Mr. Hendricks may proceed with an opening statement at this time.

49 **JON:** Thank you Mr. Chairperson. Jon Hendricks, Special Assistant Attorney
50 General. I'm here this morning to request the Council recommend the
51 revocation of the law enforcement certification of Terry J. Hughes. After
52 the presentation of evidence I believe you'll be able to do so under the
53 authority set forth in Nebraska Revised Statute 81-1403, subsection
54 6(a)(iii), due to a misdemeanor violation of state or federal law if the
55 violation has a rational connection with officer's fitness or capacity to serve
56 as a law enforcement officer. Also, Nebraska Revised Statute 81-1403,
57 subsection 6(c) a violation of Mr. Hughes' Nebraska Law Enforcement
58 Officer oath of office, code of ethics and statutory duties. Thank you.

59 **CHAIR:** Mr. Hendricks you may proceed with your case. Do you have any exhibits
60 or testimony to offer at this time?

61 **JON:** I do. I have exhibits. May I approach?

62 **CHAIR:** Yes.

63 **JON:** I offer Exhibit 1, which is a copy of the original complaint. It has sub-
64 exhibits 1A-1F which were attached to the original complaint. I would offer
65 Exhibit 2, which is a letter dated May 2, 2025 notifying Mr. Hughes of
66 today's hearing. I would offer Exhibit 3, which is a return of service
67 showing Mr. Hughes was served with Exhibit 2 on May 9, 2025 notifying
68 him of today's hearing. I would offer Exhibit 4, which is the police reports
69 from the Omaha Police Department from an incident occurring July 2,

2021 that Mr. Hughes was involved in and later convicted of an offense related to this investigation. I would offer Exhibit 5, which is the summary of the internal affairs investigation regarding Mr. Hughes. I would offer Exhibit 6, which is the investigator report of Dennis Leonard regarding Mr. Hughes. Exhibit 7 was marked but I decided not to offer that so I will just skip to Exhibit 8, which was a copy of the order for the pre-hearing conference that was set for June 9th. As discussed, Mr. Hughes had requested a continuance in his answer. This hearing was set up for Mr. Hughes. He was provided notice by mail and email and then did not appear at the pre-hearing conference. The notice of that pre-hearing conference is marked as Exhibit 8 and then the journal entry reflecting that Mr. Hughes did not appear at that conference is Exhibit 9.

CHAIR: Exhibit 1, 1A through 1F, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 9 are received. Mr. Hendricks does the State have any witnesses to testify?

JON: No Mr. Chairperson.

CHAIR: Do you have any other further evidence?

JON: No.

CHAIR: Has the State concluded presenting its case?

JON: Yes.

CHAIR: Mr. Hendricks you may proceed with your closing.

JON: Thank you. Again I would request the Council recommend the revocation of the Law Enforcement Certification of Terry J. Hughes. Mr. Hughes received his law enforcement certification in 2003. He was employed at

the Omaha Police Department from September 2002 to December 2022. Mr. Hughes was charged on July 6th in the Douglas County Court with 2 offenses of terroristic threats and 1 count of use of a firearm to commit a felony. All felony charges relating to a criminal investigation of events occurring on July 2, 2021. According to the police reports which have been marked and received as Exhibit 4, on July 2, 2021 law enforcement responded to a residence in Omaha and made contact with a female resident, Ms. Q. The resident explained that she and Mr. Hughes had been in a relationship prior, however, had ended their relationship. According to Ms. Q, on this evening in the early morning hours, Mr. Hughes arrived at her residence uninvited while still in his police uniform. and let himself into the residence. Mr. Hughes then made his way to her bedroom and began pounding on the door. When Mr. Hughes found that Ms. Q was present with another male in her bedroom Mr. Hughes became upset and began to ransack the residence, tipping over a dresser, then going to the kitchen and tipping over a freezer and a coffee table. Officers were able to observe this damage at the scene. It was further reported by the male that was present, Ms. Q and a third male, who was a brother of Ms. Q, that at one point Mr. Hughes had unholstered his service weapon. While he did not point it directly at anyone in particular, began to make threats while holding a weapon that he should shoot people. It was further stated that, by the male and Ms. Q that at one point Mr. Hughes either dropped or set down his service weapon during this event and had left the

116 residence and then realized that he had left his service weapon there and
117 returned. The male handed the service weapon back to Mr. Hughes. Mr.
118 Hughes again threatened him saying; "I should shoot your ass", while
119 holding the firearm in his hand. Mr. Hughes retired from the Omaha Police
120 Department on December 6, 2022. On January 4, 2023 an amended
121 complaint was filed in Mr. Hughes' Douglas County Criminal case,
122 charging him now with two counts of attempted criminal mischief over
123 \$5000.00, both Class 1 Misdemeanors. Mr. Hughes pled no contest to
124 those charges and was convicted of the amended charges. He was
125 sentenced to a year of probation. The court records of those offenses are
126 provided in Exhibit 1C. An informal complaint was received on January 9,
127 2023. Mr. Hughes was notified of that informal complaint by a letter from
128 the Executive Director dated February 1, 2023. On November 26, 2024
129 Mr. Hughes was notified by certified mail of the Executive Director's
130 decision to request formal revocation of his law enforcement certificate.
131 Mr. Hughes was personally served with notice of today's hearing on May
132 9, 2025 which was provided in Exhibit 3. I would ask that the Council
133 recommend the revocation of Mr. Hughes' law enforcement officer
134 certification on the authority found in Nebraska Revised Statute 81-1403,
135 subsection 6(a)(iii), which was a misdemeanor violation of State or
136 Federal law, if the violation has a rational connection with the officer's
137 fitness or capacity to serve as a law enforcement officer on the basis that
138 this occurred while Mr. Hughes was in uniform, his service weapon was

139 involved and was reportedly used to make threats. Also under Nebraska
140 Revised Statute 81-1403 (6)(c) which was a violation of Mr. Hughes' law
141 enforcement code of ethics, which required that you obey the criminal
142 laws of the city, county, state and federal government. Thank you.

143 **CHAIR:** Does any Council member wish to make a motion on this matter?

144 **GRAHAM:** I move that the Council go into Executive Session based on the prevention
145 of needless injury to the reputation of Terry Hughes and for the purpose of
146 executive session we will allow the following to remain in the room; all
147 Council members and legal advisor Sara Bockstadter.

148 **OSMOND:** Second.

149 **CHAIR:** Any discussion? Hearing none, let's vote.

150 **GOBEL:** Chief Reeves?

151 **CHAIR:** Yes.

152 **GOBEL:** Sgt. Bolzer?

153 **BOLZER:** Yes.

154 **GOBEL:** Chief Graham?

155 **GRAHAM:** Yes.

156 **GOBEL:** Sheriff London?

157 **LONDON:** Yes.

158 **GOBEL:** Mr. McCarthy?

159 **McCARTHY:** Yes.

160 **GOBEL:** Sheriff Osmond?

161 **OSMOND:** Yes.

162 **GOBEL:** Motion approved. We are in Executive Session at 10:27 a.m.

163 **McCARTHY:** I'll make a motion to come out of Executive Session.

164 **GRAHAM:** Second.

165 **CHAIR:** Any discussion? Let's vote.

166 **GOBEL:** Chief Reeves?

167 **CHAIR:** Yes.

168 **GOBEL:** Sgt. Bolzer?

169 **BOLZER:** Yes.

170 **GOBEL:** Sorry. Chief Graham?

171 **GRAHAM:** Yes.

172 **GOBEL:** Sheriff London?

173 **LONDON:** Yes.

174 **GOBEL:** Mr. McCarthy?

175 **McCARTHY:** Yes.

176 **GOBEL:** Sheriff Osmond?

177 **OSMOND:** Yes.

178 **GOBEL:** That's everybody, I'm losing it today. Motion approved. We're out of

179 Executive Session at 10:36 a.m.

180 **CHAIR:** Is there a motion from the Council on this matter?

181 **LONDON:** Based on clear and convincing evidence presented at the hearing today in

182 case number LR-215-21, and the fact that the respondent was duly

183 notified of today's hearing and failed to appear before the Police

184 Standards Advisory Council, I hereby move that the Council revoke Terry

185 Hughes' Nebraska Law Enforcement Officer certification. Said revocation
186 effective upon review and approval of the Nebraska Commission on Law
187 Enforcement and Criminal Justice.

188 **GRAHAM:** Second.

189 **CHAIR:** Any discussion on the motion? Let's vote.

190 **GOBEL:** Sgt. Bolzer?

191 **BOLZER:** Yes.

192 **GOBEL:** Chief Graham?

193 **GRAHAM:** Yes.

194 **GOBEL:** Sheriff London?

195 **LONDON:** Yes.

196 **GOBEL:** Mr. McCarthy?

197 **McCARTHY:** Yes.

198 **GOBEL:** Sheriff Osmond?

199 **OSMOND:** Yes.

200 **GOBEL:** Chief Reeves?

201 **CHAIR:** Yes.

202 **GOBEL:** Motion approved.

203 **CHAIR:** The motion to revoke the respondent's Law Enforcement Officer certificate
204 has been sustained and will now be forwarded, along with the findings of
205 fact and conclusions to the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement
206 and Criminal Justice, for final action and a subsequent public hearing. The
207 date is contingent on the preparations of the findings and their review and

208 approval by this body. I would anticipate that the Crime Commission will
209 review at its August 15, 2025 meeting in Lincoln. Notice of the Crime
210 Commission hearing will be provided to the parties. If there is nothing
211 further we are adjourned.

212 **GOBEL:** 10:38

213 **CHAIR:** The time is 10:38 a.m.

C. Revocation-Voluntary Surrender

Joshua Townsend: LR-308-25

Special Assistant Attorney General Jon Hendricks entered one exhibit. Exhibit 1 is the Consent to Revocation of Law Enforcement Certificate and Waiver of Notice and Hearing for Joshua Townsend. Chief Reeves accepted the exhibit, and it was entered into the record.

Mr. Hendricks provided the factual summary of the details leading up to the revocation. Mr. Hendricks requested that the Council except the relinquishment and recommended that Mr. Townsend's Law Enforcement Certificate be revoked under the authority granted in Nebraska Revised Statute 81-1403(6)(c), due to a violation of Mr. Townsend's oath of office, code of ethics and statutory duties.

MOTION

Chief Graham: Based upon the fact that the respondent has signed a Consent to Revocation of Law Enforcement Certificate and Waiver of Notice and Hearing and has voluntarily surrendered his Nebraska Law Enforcement certificate, I make a motion the Council accept the surrender of Joshua Townsend's Law Enforcement certificate based on the recommendation outlined by Jon Hendricks. Said revocation to be effective upon review and acceptance of the surrender by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. Sgt. Bolzer seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Chief Graham, Sheriff London, Mr. McCarthy, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer. Motion approved.

D. Waiver of Management In-Lieu-Of NLETC Management

1. David Leavitt: Alliance Police Department
2. Daniel Conway: Douglas County Sheriff's Office

Director Mark Stephenson reported that Chief David Leavitt of the Alliance Police Department completed the FBI-LEEDA Trilogy of courses along with a bachelor's and master's degree in criminal justice administration from Columbian Southern University. Lt. Conway Daniel Conway from the Douglas County Sheriff's Office has completed the FBI-LEEDA Trilogy of courses along with additional course work in media relations and background investigations for police applicants. The courses have been evaluated and found to meet the State standards. Director Stephenson recommended that the Council approve their requests.

MOTION

Sheriff Osmond: I'll make a motion that we grant the waiver of management in-lieu-of the NLETC management course for David Leavitt and Daniel Conway. Provided that they do the on-line course. Chief Graham seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Sheriff London, Mr. McCarthy, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer, Chief Graham. Motion approved.

E. Extension of 1-Year Requirement for Supervision

Brady Tucker: Washington County Sheriff's Office

Director Mark Stephenson reported that Sgt. Brady Tucker is requesting an extension of his 1-year requirement for Supervision training. He was unable to attend the June 2025 course and is requesting an extension to attend the 2026 Supervision course. Director Stephenson recommended the approval of the extension.

MOTION

Sheriff London: I'll make a motion that we grant the waiver for Brady Tucker of the Washington County Sheriff's Office, grant the extension of his supervision course until next year when he can take it. Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Mr. McCarthy, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer, Chief Graham, Sheriff London. Motion approved.

F. Academy Instructor Requests

1. Professional Original
Tyler Hinchey-NLETC
Brandon Riley-NLETC

After review by the NLETC staff, Deputy Director Gene Boner recommended that the Council approve both of these applications.

MOTION

Sheriff London: So moved. Sgt. Bolzer seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer, Chief Graham, Sheriff London, Mr. McCarthy. Motion approved.

2. General Renewal
Justin Brase-Nebraska State Patrol

After review by the NLETC staff, Deputy Director Boner recommended that the Council approve the renewal of the general academy instructor certification for Justin Brase.

MOTION

Sheriff Osmond: I make a motion to approve the General Renewal instructor application for Justin Brase of the Nebraska State Patrol for the subject areas that are marked approved on the instructor application provided in the agenda packet. Chief Graham seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer, Chief Graham, Sheriff London, Mr. McCarthy, Sheriff Osmond. Motion approved.

G. Hiring Bonus Grant Approvals

Hailey Pohevitz-Bellevue PD
Michael Klee-Columbus PD
Makayla Huddleston-Dawson Co SO
Timothy Schweitzer-Gothenburg PD
Larry Lucas Jr.-Hall Co SO
Logan Crown-Lancaster Co SO
Manuel Lucero-Superior PD

Jessica Wagoner reported that the individuals listed under item G applied for the hiring bonus grant. The compliance team vetted the applications utilizing the NLETC database. It was determined that applicants listed have met the requirements to receive the hiring bonus grant. Jessica Wagoner; "I would recommended that you approve the hiring bonus grants for the applicants listed under item G."

MOTION

Sheriff London: So moved. Chief Graham seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Sgt. Bolzer, Chief Graham, Sheriff London, Mr. McCarthy, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves. Motion approved.

H. NCO's Eligible for Automatic Extension

Paige Arent-Blair PD
Harlie Nolze-Burt Co SO

Andres Velazquez Chavez-Columbus PD
Jacob Weatherman-Scottsbluff PD

Jessica Wagoner reported that the NCO's listed above have completed all qualifications to be eligible for the automatic extension. Jessica Wagoner recommended that the Council grant the automatic extension for those listed under item H.

MOTION

Sheriff Osmond: I'll make a motion to grant the extension for the NCO's listed on item H. Chief Graham seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Chief Graham, Sheriff London, Mr. McCarthy, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer. Motion approved.

VI. Other Business

A. Informational Items

1. Trainees: The trainees were listed on the agenda for the Council's information. No action needed.
2. NCO's Completed 80 hours of training: The NCO's who have completed 80 hours of training were listed on the agenda for the Council's information. No action needed.

B. Date, Time & Location of Next Meeting

July 16, 2025, 9:00 A.M., Library, Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, 3600 North Academy Road, Grand Island, Nebraska 68801.

Hearing no further business, Chief Reeves adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven Gobel, Secretary to the Police Standards Advisory Council