

# MARYLAND CORRECTIONAL TRAINING COMMISSION

## Minutes – 186th Meeting – January 11, 2017

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Secretary Stephen T. Moyer, Chair, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services  
LaMonte E. Cooke, Director of Correctional Services, Queen Anne’s County Department of Corrections (Vice-Chair)  
J. Michael Zeigler, Deputy Secretary of Operations, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services  
Lt. Daniel Lasher, President, Maryland Correctional Administrators Association  
Patricia Schupple, Deputy Director, Howard County Department of Corrections  
Deborah Richardson, Director, Baltimore County Department of Corrections  
Lynette Holmes, Deputy Secretary for Support Services, Department of Juvenile Services  
Sheriff Timothy Cameron, President, Maryland Sheriff’s Association  
Stuart M. Nathan, Assistant Attorney General representing Brian E. Frosh, Attorney General  
Secretary Sam Abed, Department of Juvenile Services  
Christopher Duffy, Correctional Officer of the State of Maryland  
Ben Stevenson, President, Maryland Criminal Justice Association  
Wallis Q. Norman, Executive Director of Residential Services, Department of Juvenile Services  
Commissioner Dayena Corcoran, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Symphar R. Charles, Chief, Learning and Career Development, Federal Bureau of Prisons  
Dr. Beverly O’Bryant, representing Dr. Maria Thompson, President, Coppin State University

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Albert L. Liebno, Jr., Acting Executive Director  
Kate Gossard, Director of Support Services  
Andrea King-Wessels, Training Administrator, Division of Parole and Probation  
Michelle Wilson, Assistant Attorney General  
Lewis Pindell, Media Specialist  
Jeanne Chenoweth, Recorder  
Susan Strausbaugh, Leadership Development Institute

### **GUESTS**

Nicole Amedori, Department of Juvenile Services  
John Wisniewski, Department of Juvenile Services  
Jonathon Scruggs, AFSCME/ Schlachman, Belsky & Weiner, P.A.  
Sgt. William Hawkins, DPSCS/MCIW  
Donna Bounds, Worcester County Jail,  
Garry Mumford, Worcester County Jail,  
Damian Priznar, Worcester County Jail,  
David Wright, Attorney for Ronald Williams  
Ronald Williams, Department of Juvenile Services  
Dallas Dryor, Department of Juvenile Services  
Martez Green, Department of Juvenile Services  
English Sampson, Department of Juvenile Services  
Chris Hinrichs, Office of the Attorney General  
Merrilyn Ratliff, Office of the Attorney General

The 186th meeting of the Correctional Training Commission (CTC) was called to order by the Chair, Secretary Stephen T. Moyer, at 10:05 a.m. at the Public Safety Education and Training Center (PSETC), Sykesville, Maryland. A quorum was present.

The agenda was as follows:

1. Legal Issues
  - a) Update on Decertification Hearings
  - b) Minutes
2. Approval of Minutes – October 12, 2016
3. Executive Director Report and Update
4. Election of Vice-Chairperson
5. Old Business
  - a) Correctional Training Commission Executive Director Update
6. New Business
  - a) Department of Juvenile Services – Updates to COMAR
7. Request for Waiver of Entrance Level Training
8. Request for Recertification

Secretary Stephen Moyer, Chair, asked all members, staff and guests to introduce themselves.

**1. Legal Issues**  
**a) Minutes**

Ms. Michelle Wilson stated that, according to the compliance board of the Open Meetings Act, it is up to the CTC members to make a determination as to the appropriate way to publish meeting agendas and minutes. She stated that the issue pertained to agenda items, which are sensitive to a specific agency and officer, being published with the agency and officer name. Ms. Wilson stated that in the past, agencies and names were listed, but now that the minutes must be posted on-line for public viewing, this issue should be addressed for the current and future agendas and minutes.

**A MOTION to not publish agency and individual names on the agenda and in the minutes headings for the current and all future minutes was made by Lt. Daniel Lasher. SECONDED: Mr. LaMonte Cooke. The MOTION carried.**

**b) Update on Decertification Hearings**

Ms. Michelle Wilson reminded the Commission that a decertification hearing will be held immediately following the Commission meeting today. She also updated the Members on the status of the remaining pending decertification hearing. Ms. Wilson stated that an Assistant Attorney General had been assigned to the case and suggested scheduling the hearing for immediately after the next Commission meeting on April 12, 2017. The members agreed. Ms. Wilson stated that further information and a confirmation would be forthcoming.

**2. Approval of Minutes – October 12, 2016**

**A MOTION to approve the minutes from the October 12, 2016 meeting was made by Lt. Daniel Lasher: SECONDED: Mr. LaMonte Cooke. The MOTION carried.**

**3. Executive Director's Report and Update**

Acting Executive Director Albert Liebno stated that a full report was in the binder reflecting Police and Correctional Training Commissions (PCTC) activity which had taken place since the last quarterly meeting. He stated that the Certification Unit was beginning their annual processing of certification cards that are issued to all compliant correctional officers. Mr. Liebno explained that this is a timely process and asked for patience in receiving responses to other services such as program approvals. There were no questions for Mr. Liebno.

**4. Election of Vice-Chairperson**

**A MOTION to re-elect Mr. LaMonte Cooke as Vice Chair of the Correctional Training Commission was made by Secretary Sam Abed. SECONDED: Lt. Daniel Lasher. The MOTION carried unanimously.**

**5. Old Business**

**a) Correctional Training Commission Executive Director Update**

Secretary Moyer reviewed the status of the Executive Director positions. He reminded the Commission that there will be a half-time Executive Director for the Police Training and Standards Commission as well as a half-time Executive Director of the Correctional Training Commission. Secretary Moyer explained that there will also be a full-time Executive Director of the Police and Correctional Training Commissions overseeing the staff and facilities of the training center. He stated that recruitments are in the process for all three positions.

**6. New Business**

**a) Department of Juvenile Services – Updates to COMAR**

Mr. Albert Liebno presented changes to COMAR submitted by the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) to correct two out of the three mandated employee titles which are no longer used. He referred the members to the information in the binder which showed all of the edits and modifications necessary to bring COMAR up to date. Mr. Liebno stated that the titles of Resident Advisor and Case Management Specialist will be used instead of Youth Supervisor and Juvenile Counselor. He further stated that the document also suggests an amendment to adjust the entrance-level training topics based on the most recent task analysis study. Mr. Liebno stated that DJS was asking for approval from the Commission to publish these amendments to COMAR in the Maryland Register for comment.

**A MOTION was made by Lt. Daniel Lasher to allow for publication of the proposed amendments to COMAR 12.10.01.01, 12.10.01.03, 12.10.01.04 and 12.10.01.09, which update the job classification terms used by the Department of Juvenile Services and the Minimum Standards for Entrance-Level Training: SECONDED: Mr. LaMonte Cooke. The MOTION carried.**

**7. Request for Waiver of Entrance Level Training**

Mr. Albert Liebno stated that staff received a request from the Worcester County Jail to waive the entry-level training requirements for the certification of Damian Priznar. He reviewed that Mr. Priznar was previously employed by the Ocean City Police Department in their booking department. Mr. Liebno advised that, even though Mr. Priznar was never a certified correctional officer, he successfully completed entrance-level training at the Eastern Shore Criminal Justice Academy (ESCJA) in December 2013 as well as in-service training for each subsequent year. He further stated that Mr. Priznar was not eligible for correctional officer certification at that time because the Ocean City Police Department was not a correctional facility.

Assistant Warden Donna Bounds reviewed that Mr. Priznar had completed the ESCJA while he was with the Ocean City Police Department as well as the subsequent years of in-service training which he personally paid for. She described Mr. Priznar as a valuable asset to the Worcester County Jail.

*Recorder's Note: Mr. Benjamin Stevenson joined the meeting at 10:25 a.m.*

Damian Priznar reviewed his education and training with the Ocean City Police Department as well as the duties he had been performing. He stated that he applied for a position with the Worcester County Jail and was hired in September 2016. Mr. Priznar explained that because of his prior training and experience, he and the Worcester County Jail were asking that he not be required to attend another entrance-level training academy as required by COMAR.

Upon questioning, Mr. Liebno confirmed that the ESCJA was a Commission approved entry-level academy. He also stated that staff had received a completed Application for Certification and background investigation as required by COMAR.

**A MOTION was made by Mr. LaMonte Cooke to grant a waiver of entrance-level training to the Worcester County Jail for the certification of Damian Priznar. SECONDED: Lt. Daniel Lasher. The MOTION CARRIED.**

Secretary Moyer stated the next item would be heard in Closed Session.

*Recorders Note: Ms. Chenoweth read the COMAR closed session regulation into the record.*

**A MOTION was made by Mr. LaMonte Cooke to adjourn to a Closed Session: SECONDED: Lt. Daniel Lasher. The MOTION carried unanimously.**

*The meeting adjourned to a Closed Session at 10:27 a.m.*

## **8. Request for Recertification**

*Recorder's Note: Deputy Secretary J. Michael Zeigler joined the meeting at 10:50 a.m. and Ms. Patricia Schupple joined the meeting at 10:55 a.m.*

**A MOTION was made by Lt. Daniel Lasher to deny the agency's request for recertification: SECONDED: Mr. LaMonte Cooke. The Members were polled to record their vote. The MOTION carried.**

Secretary Moyer invited the parties back into the meeting and informed them of the decision.

**A MOTION was made by Sheriff Timothy Cameron to adjourn to an open session: SECONDED: Mr. LaMonte Cooke. The MOTION carried.**

*Recorder's Note: This concluded the closed session. The meeting adjourned to an open session at 11:02 a.m.*

Secretary Moyer announced the outcome of the issue voted on during the closed session.

**A MOTION to adjourn was made by Deputy Secretary J. Michael Zeigler: SECONDED: Secretary Sam Abed. The MOTION carried.**

*The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.*

These “minutes” are a synopsis of the Commission’s discussion and decisions and not a verbatim rendering of the proceedings.