



LAW ENFORCEMENT CERTIFICATION BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Thursday, June 13, 2024

TIME: 9:00 AM

LOCATION: San Juan County Criminal Justice Training Authority
428 Road 6480, Farmington, NM 87401

Meeting Minutes

I. OPENING

A. Roll Call

- The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Law Enforcement Certification Board Misconduct Manager Laura Escarcida conducted roll call, confirming the in-person attendance of members: Sheriff Adan Mendoza, Vice-Chair Chief Summer Mirabal, Ms. Carly Huffman, and Ms. Cody Rogers Benavidez. Board Members Joseph Walsh, Chief Thomas Romero (Ret.) and Julie Ball attended virtually. Dr. Green was absent. A quorum was established.

B. Approval of Agenda

- Member Carly Huffman made a motion to approve the agenda. Member Cody Rodgers Benavidez seconded. None opposed, motion carries unanimously.

C. Approval of Minutes from March 21, 2024, Meeting

- Member Cody Rogers Benavidez made a motion to approve the March 21, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Member Chief Erin Toadlena-Pable seconded. None opposed, motion carries unanimously.

D. Welcome from Sheriff R. Shane Ferrari, San Juan County Sheriff's Office

- San Juan County Sheriff R. Shane Ferrari appeared before the Board and welcomed the Board to San Juan County and provided his professional background. Board members were thanked for their service on the Board and duties, and law enforcement roles in their duties and interest in mitigating Board workload by making hiring decisions that are based on a good fit not to just fill a position. He recognized that many agencies face difficulties with hiring timeframes and the thought process of needing people and this lessens the hiring standards and qualifications, thus wavering from traditional practices. Sheriff Ferrari restated the importance now more than ever that we get the right candidates, and they are not hired to fill but hired to fit. The role starts at recruiting level to teach organization values and leadership fundamentals, understanding culture of agency and it springs into discipline and what they are doing on their due diligence in holding people accountable not only to law and policy and constitution and responsibilities. He believes law enforcement is getting better and it is because they are vetting better. Seeing the progress being made with the Certification Board and Training Council is a perfect opportunity. He indicated that he was excited that Director Chavez was onboarded as he has worked with her for many years and seen the quality of her



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work, so excited about the future of law enforcement in San Juan County. He thanked members for coming to San Juan County and offered his service to the Board.

II. REPORTS

A. Report from Interim CEO / LEA Director Sonya K. Chavez

- An update was provided by Interim Chief Executive Officer / NM Law Enforcement Academy Director, Sonya K. Chavez. Director Chavez indicated that the NMLEA is continuing to hire, and it sits at a 53% fill rate presently. Director Chavez indicated that since the last meeting two new employees were onboarded, one being an internal DPS candidate Jessica Arballo and the second Henry Delgado. We currently have two positions posted, PST manager and LE instructor position and asked for referrals. Director Chavez introduced Josh Calder, who is on the agenda as a recommendation for appointment to the Chief Executive Officer. Director Chavez updated on the recent basic police officer class graduation of class #207 of 42 people and a public safety telecommunicator class of 26 people within the same week. NMLEA currently has a Certification by Waiver class in progress. The NMLEA team has supported APD in EVOC class, Inst. Josh Calder traveling to Carlsbad Police Department to teach ethics, and other instructors in Dallas currently to support EVOC classes. They are not only supporting NM programs but other jurisdictions in the country. We hosted Governor's Office interns and will host another four interns in July. Hosted leadership development program, participant Renee Baca with the Federal Courts who shadowed NMLEA leaders. Director Chavez updated on her recent undertakings, including meeting with Chief Heebe with Chief's Association, presented to the District Attorney's Association in Las Cruces, accepted the National HIDTA award in Washington, DC on behalf of New Mexico, was a keynote speaker at the CNM Academy, and leading 2 workshops at the Safe NM Annual Training Conference, and was a judge for a statewide SWAT competition. Dir. Chavez also provided updates on ACADIS and advised of the rollout of career roles within the database, which is significant for users to view and review their own records. This will place the responsibility of users to check their own training records. Director Chavez indicated that the State of New Mexico received funds to implement human trafficking training and NMLEA Deputy Director Cassandra Reed has put together a working group with State Police to come up with a practical and innovative methods and instruction for human trafficking. Weeks prior the NMLEA hosted public safety partners from Chihuahua, Mexico.

Director Chavez stated that the NMLEA was asked to submit budget numbers to the Secretary's Office, so they could provide preliminary numbers to the Governor's Office. The priorities identified are to finish Job Task Analysis, which is a curriculum redo expected to cost \$1.8 million, were previously allocated \$500k. The contractor conducting the analysis has conducted surveys to agencies and feels confident that we will be able to get the funding in our budget to complete the project next year. Also working hard on finishing updates to the firearms range, indicating some upgrades have been made but sufficient funds were not made available so starting over on a second phase and have plans in place. Director Chavez mentioned that she will remain available for any questions on the project. She also updated the progress on developing and updating the track, which is on the radar. Director Chavez indicated that early on in her tenure she renewed the possibility of developing a new academy, indicating that additional space is needed. Space is tight and we were in a position of cleaning out a storage closed to create a working space, which is



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suitable but not ideal. We have several spots to fill and need to prioritize space. Director Chavez discussed negotiations on identifying space for the Law Enforcement Certification Office and the Secretary's office is in support, so we are seeking funding to support a lease. She indicated a new academy is expected to take years, but she has met with a potential vendor who offered to provide schematics of the project. Director Chavez stated that legislative meetings are being held and she intends on attending many, encouraging members to do the same. The NM Department of Justice will be scheduling an orientation for Board and Council members, which was previously done but offered to do another session. Also, the NMDOJ has offered a roadmap/guide to assist with the rule making process and moving forward they will be assisting the working group. The contract lawyer has been delayed; the contract is still in process. She also updated on NMLEA instructors not being in the law enforcement retirement plan and that it is important to ensure the instructors are placed in the plan as it is an issue with recruiting and retention, so steps are being taken to address this issue legislation and asked for Board member support. Lastly, she also advised that LEA will be working on posting the meeting agendas before the 72-hour OMA requirement. Dir. Chavez opened the floor for questions. Member Chief Thomas Romero (Ret.) asked whether there is a mechanism for law enforcement officers whether retired or inactive can get a news blast from the NMLEA, like the newsletter that is currently provided to agencies. Director Chavez indicated that is not something that she has thought about but important, she indicated that the newsletter is something that she has directed be issued quarterly and will work with staff to create a mailing list for inactive or retired officers as well. Member Romero offered his assistance and believed our inactive officers are good resources as well. Member Romero applauded Director Chavez for addressing the instructor retirement issue and recognized it has been an issue since his time with the NMLEA in the late 80's and early 90's and noted that was a reason for many officers' leaving.

B. Updates from Rule Making Working Groups

1) Misconduct Rules Working Group

2) Certification Qualifications and Issuance Rules Working Group

- Member Cody Rogers Benavidez expressed her happiness to hear that the NMDOJ will be providing resources to assist with rulemaking. The groups are facing issues with how much to tear down and how much to rewrite, because the tendency is to do everything all at once. The plan is to get a general scope before the Board to weigh in on the importance and how to triage to focus on the rewrite. The expectation is to have some concrete issues before the Board at the next meeting. Member Julie Ball reinforced stated that they were unaware of the difficulty that this project would evolve and the problems that they'd encounter. Director Chavez was thanked for offering support for this process. She states the importance of following the rule making code to ensure completeness and wants to make sure there are no statutory conflicts. Member Ms. Ball also thanked Sheriff Ferrari for hosting and apologized for not attending in person. Member Rogers Benavidez expressed his interest in having rule making address some of the issues and cases that have caused appeals to district court, indicating that he would like those areas of the rules to be prioritized or a starting point of the rewrites.



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III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice-Chair Mirabal called on Rachel Feldman who signed up for Public Comment, but Ms. Feldman indicated that she would address the Board at the time the agenda item she requested is called on. Vice-Chair Mirabal opened the floor to determine whether any other audience members wished to provide public comment with no response.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Review and Appointment of the Chief Executive Officer Position – Recommended Finalist Joshua Calder

- Member Julie Ball addressed the Vice-Chair and members of the Board indicating she was the chairperson for the interview committee that included members Rogers Benavidez and Dr. Green, which was a good collection of different minds. She provides a brief overview of the actions taken by the interview committee indicating that a total of six applications were received which were previously provided to Board members. Of the six, two declined, one applied for the wrong position, so three candidates were interviewed. The committee developed interview questions, all completed a selection matrix and took extensive notes. The committee enjoyed speaking with all three candidates but found candidate Joshua Calder as a perfect fit for the position. Member Ms. Ball summarized Calder's qualifications as currently being a NMLEA law enforcement instructor, prior to NMLEA he worked for Carlsbad Police Department and developed a professional standards program which showed initiative. Calder has a master's degree in public administration, is a pilot, possesses an Ethics Master Instructor Certification and Police Use of Force Instructor, which she found important for the job. She indicated he has worked throughout the state and was not just I-25 corridor familiar which is important because there are other parts to New Mexico. Rogers Benavidez thanked all the applicants who showed interest in the position and recognized they were very qualified. He mentioned that this is a new position for the Board and recognized it as a tremendous opportunity for the CEO to pave the way for this Board. He indicated they did not want an applicant with only law enforcement experience and believes Calder fits the bill. Director Chavez mentioned that it is a loss to the NMLEA, but she has observed his abilities and was inspired by Calder's leadership. Member Rogers Benavidez asked if the Board could meet Calder, he was introduced to the Board. No further discussion was held. Vice-Chair entertained a motion to appoint Joshua Calder to the Chief Executive Officer position. Member Cody Rogers Benavidez moved to appoint Joshua Calder to the Chief Executive Officer position. Member Chief Toadlena-Pablo seconded. None Opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Update and Approval to Implement the Misconduct Database

- Law Enforcement Certification Board Staff Manager Laura Escarcida presented to the Board referencing a statutory obligation to deploy a publicly available misconduct database. Significant efforts have been placed on designing a functional database as well as ensuring that data cleaning is completed for migration into the database. Fields within the database meet all statutory requirements with additional fields created based upon



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feedback from Board Members. Data cleaning and migration has been finalized for cases disposed of during the years of 2022-2024. A substantial focus must be placed on prior and historical data before it can be considered for migration and is expected to take time as LECB is facing a staff shortage. However, work continues and is expected to be completed to meet the July 1st deadline. Vice Chair Mirabal entertained a motion to approve the implementation of the misconduct database. Board Member Carly Huffman moved to implement the misconduct database. Member Rodgers Benavidez seconded. None Opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Ratification and Approval of Pending Certifications

1) Law Enforcement Officers (Exhibit A)

- Vice Chair called on Director Chavez to present this item. Director Chavez referenced Exhibit A to the Board's agenda and indicated that APD Class #129 listed on the exhibit is being asked to be tabled at this time as several individuals did not meet the qualifications for certification at the time of the meeting but recognized that the academy is working on remedying and will have list of recommended individuals from this class at the Board's next regular meeting. Director Chavez identified all other classes identified on the exhibit and sought ratification of those individuals, while tabling APD Class #129. Vice Chair Mirabal entertained a motion to ratify certifications as presented. Member Mr. Walsh moved to approve as recommended by the Director and Vice Chair. Member Sheriff Mendoza seconded. Members Sheriff Adan Mendoza, Vice-Chair Chief Summer Mirabal, Ms. Carly Huffman, and Ms. Cody Rogers Benavidez, Mr. Joseph Walsh, Chief Thomas Romero (Ret.) and Julie Ball approved. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

2) Public Safety Telecommunicators (Exhibit B)

- Vice Chair called on Director Chavez to present this item. Director Chavez presented Agenda Exhibit B and identified the classes listed and recommended ratification of all individuals listed on page 1 of the exhibit. Vice Chair Chief Mirabal entertained the motion to approve Public Safety Telecommunicator certifications as listed in Exhibit B. Member Ms. Huffman moved to approve certification as listed in Exhibit B. Member Sheriff Mendoza seconded. Members Sheriff Adan Mendoza, Vice-Chair Chief Summer Mirabal, Ms. Carly Huffman, and Ms. Cody Rogers Benavidez, Mr. Joseph Walsh, Chief Thomas Romero (Ret.) and Julie Ball approved. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Request for Agenda Placement by Rachel Feldman to discuss legislation and interactions between the Law Enforcement Certification Board and the New Mexico Law Enforcement Standards and Training Council

- Rachel Feldman presented two items she would like to introduce to the Board. Ms. Feldman indicated she works with a community group and working on and supported legislation that created the Board and Council. They are looking at follow-up conversations on important areas or changes to the statute that could be clarified, so they can introduce any updates as informed or educated on how the statute changes are going. She indicated that information would be useful to have this summer as it is unclear whether they can be presented in September or October.



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The second item request by Ms. Feldman is related to a policy recommendation based upon her position as a member with the New Mexico Standards and Training Council. Ms. Feldman handed out a document she created recognizing the duty of both the Board and Council require rulemaking and would like the public body to consider the policy regarding communication between both public bodies. The first policy recommendation is related to the Council approving certification requirements and then providing them as a recommendation to the Board, as the Board determines certification and needs to have final approval for any change requirements. The second policy recommendation is associated with the Board and their duties related to misconduct, the policy would provide the ability to recommend to the Council the need for additional subject matter or refinement to curricula for basic academy training. Ms. Feldman notes that this policy would create a preventative feedback loop to learn from patterns of misconduct. Ms. Feldman respectfully asked that the Board consider these policies and accept them, she stood by for questions. Vice Chair Mirabal asked whether Ms. Feldman has been appointed to speak to the Board on behalf of the Council. Ms. Feldman stated that she had not. There were no other questions from Board members. No action was taken.

V. ADMISSION APPEALS & DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

The meeting may be closed to the public during this portion of the agenda pursuant to the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(1), (3) and/or (7). Closed session is limited to discussion of the matter(s) identified in the motion and any final action will take place after, on the record and in open session.

A. Admission Appeals

1) Gino Evans – Albuquerque Police Department (APD Academy BPOT applicant)

- Gino Evans presented at the meeting expressing gratitude to the Board for hearing his matter and addressed points of his background that may have been in contention and caused the admission rejection. The Vice Chair asked how old Mr. Evans was when he was in the military, he stated he had just turned 18. Member Sheriff Mendoza asked when Mr. Evans attended the state police academy, Mr. Evans indicated it was in January 2020. Mr. Mendoza asked when he started the APD academy, which Mr. Evans indicated the pre-academy started April 8th and when he showed up for the actual academy he was notified of application deficiencies. Member Romero inquired into vision exam and current vision, which Mr. Evans provided response for and further answered whether he wears corrective lens. Vice Chair Mirabal entertained a motion to uphold the rejection or request a second review by the Director. Member Sheriff Mendoza asked the Director if she knows specifically where the issue is with admission to state police academy and whether any discrepancy exists. The director indicated that his transport academy is not at issue, the vision issue is not a direct reason, but other conduct is the basis for the rejection. Vice Chair Mirabal moved to request a second review by the Director so the Board can discuss this further. Member Mr. Walsh seconded the motion. Members Sheriff Adan Mendoza, Vice-Chair Chief Summer Mirabal, Ms. Carly Huffman, Ms. Cody Rogers Benavidez, Mr. Joseph Walsh, Chief Thomas Romero (Ret.) and Julie Ball approved. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously. None Opposed. Motion carried unanimously.



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2) Mark Roberts – Albuquerque Police Department (APD Academy BPOT applicant)

- Mark Roberts was presented at the meeting addressing the Board and thanking them for their time. Mr. Roberts indicated that he understands that there are questions about his moral character and criminal history, indicating that he constantly is working to improve himself. Mr. Roberts went into detail regarding his past interactions with the criminal justice system, employment and accomplishments. He requested the Board reconsider the admission rejection. Member Mr. Walsh noted prior history involving interactions with law enforcement and the criminal justice system and asked whether Mr. Roberts has addressed any potential substance abuse issues, which steps were explained by Mr. Roberts. Member Romero asked Director Chavez whether based on the new information from Mr. Roberts if it changed her decision to reject. Director Chavez was glad that Mr. Roberts appeared as it helps understand the progress that has been made but when looking at reported incidents and timeframes, concern remains and although she has compassion for him but considering she is thinking about the Albuquerque Police Department, the community and policing in New Mexico. She referenced the Albuquerque Police Department DWI scandal and wants to ensure that she is doing what is best for everyone and considers the future. She referenced the incredible responsibility when reviewing these and there is influence based on his presentation but could not in good conscience recommend admission given Mr. Roberts' background despite efforts made to change behaviors. Member Romero stated that the certification would not only impact the agency as it is good for any other agency and concern is protecting the public and ensure that they maintain ethics and integrity. Vice Chair Mirabal clarified the record in that Mr. Roberts has two DWI's and not three as previously stated by Director Chavez. Mr. Roberts provided disposition information related to the third incident. Director Chavez stated that regardless of the charge his actions were still a violation of the law.
- Vice Chair Mirabal entertained a motion to uphold the rejection or request a second review by the Director. Member Mr. Walsh motioned to uphold the rejection. Member Romero seconded the motion. Members Ms. Carly Huffman, and Ms. Cody Rogers Benavidez, Mr. Joseph Walsh, Chief Thomas Romero (Ret.) and Julie Ball approved. Vice Chair Mirabal and Member Sheriff Mendoza opposed. Motion carried.

3) Michael Burton – Albuquerque Police Department (APD Academy BPOT applicant)

- Michael Burton presented and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to appear before the Board and addressed points of his background and the subject matter causing the admission rejection. Member Sheriff Mendoza inquired into additional detail of the denial basis. Member Sheriff Mendoza asked Mr. Burton whether there was any intent to lie, deceive, or hide his background. Mr. Burton stated not at all and discussed his intentions. Member Romero asked Mr. Burton whether he was ever physically arrested because if fingerprints were run and it came back with a hit, he must have been taken into custody in some manner or some point. Mr. Burton indicated that he can't remember specifically he has been fingerprinted multiple times for various positions but can't remember for traffic violations. Member Romero expressed confusion over the fingerprint returns indicating an arrest. Member Romero stated that now Mr. Burton disclosed he had a warrant issued for failure to pay. Mr. Burton confirmed that he had



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multiple traffic tickets and didn't pay at first but needed to take care of them before joining the military. Member Walsh asked Mr. Burton what steps have been taken to obtain paperwork to clarify the misunderstanding in paperwork and his position that there was not an arrest, asking if he has contacted the court or sought a public information request. Mr. Burton stated that he has attempted contact and that there is an issue because he did not have the ticket number needed to locate his record. He did ask for a clearance letter but was denied because he did not have the ticket number. Member Walsh is concerned with the disconnect in that the burden is on Mr. Burton and incumbent on him to contact the court to obtain all records to demonstrate his interactions with the court and law enforcement, that he can then present to the Board to show whether there was a clerical error or whether he did make a misrepresentation. Member Walsh stated that before he would be comfortable approving an application he would like Mr. Burton to make the efforts to obtain the necessary paperwork to clarify any misunderstandings. Mr. Burton states that he may not be too clear, but he did make contact but was met with barriers to getting the information. Member Vice Chair Mirabal clarified the denial basis in that he was not forthcoming in the application and not solely on the traffic violation. Mr. Burton indicated that he was informed by his academy of the issue and told to resubmit with the change, which caused the issues with his application. Member Ms. Huffman stated she has concerns about Mr. Burton changing his answer admitting to something he didn't do just for admission to the academy and that his actions pose questions within themselves. Mr. Burton believed he was being truthful when he gave the answer. Director Chavez stated that she addressed issues with his employer/academy and further clarified the issues that caused her rejection decision. She states that it is important to be truthful and if there was an issue he could have clarified on the application but not being truthful or changing his answer is now the record at the NMLEA. Despite Mr. Burton's presentation Director Chavez states that her recommendation stands. Member Sheriff Mendoza stated that he does not believe there is an integrity issue but missteps and got bad advice and he does not believe that should bar him from being a police officer.

- Vice Chair Mirabal entertained a motion to uphold the rejection or request a second review by the Director. Member Mr. Rogers Benavidez motioned to uphold the rejection. Member Romero seconded the motion. Members Ms. Carly Huffman, and Ms. Cody Rogers Benavidez, Mr. Joseph Walsh, Chief Thomas Romero (Ret.) and Julie Ball approved. Vice Chair Mirabal and Member Sheriff Mendoza opposed. Motion carried.

4) Jordan Tapia – Clayton Police Department (LEA CBW applicant)

- Clayton Police Department Chief Al Nieves and Jordan Tapia presented themselves to the Board. Chief Nieves sought approval to speak to support Jordan Tapia in his appeal to the Board. He provided a background on Mr. Tapia related to his law enforcement employment in California and disciplinary history, his observation of his qualifications as well as expressing his support for Mr. Tapia. Mr. Tapia presented it to the Board and thanked the Board for the opportunity to share his story. He provided his law enforcement employment background. He indicated that he has not been perfect, but he has owned it, going into his disciplinary history with his former department. Mr. Tapia



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went into detail, providing the Board with information related to his actions which caused his application rejection and expressed apologies for his actions. He asked that the Board consider acceptance of his application into the next academy. Vice Chair Mirabal asked how long Mr. Tapia has worked with Clayton Police Department, Mr. Tapia indicated since January 29, 2024. Mr. Tapia stated that he also has a character letter he'd like to read but the Board indicated it has received a copy. Member Romero states that he appreciates everything Mr. Tapia has done but remains concerned about threatening harm to employees and passing it off as a joke. Member Romero stated he was curious about other reported conduct where progressive discipline was issued. Mr. Tapia described the incidents, actions, and discipline imposed by his former agency. Member Romero asked Mr. Tapia to clarify why he made statements reported and indicating he did not like the coworker but presenting differently about the relationship with the coworker. Mr. Tapia stated that he was friends with the coworker but as time went on, he felt struggles with the relationship. Member Ms. Ball asked Director Chavez if her recommendation changed after hearing from Mr. Tapia. Director Chavez stated that she believes Mr. Tapia's actions were wrong and minimizing them but appreciates him taking responsibility and deferring to the Board. Member Ms. Ball asked Mr. Tapia whether the individual he directed his actions towards was his supervisor, he confirmed. Member Ms. Ball asked whether the individual was a person who had counseled him in the past and if the relationship went away, Mr. Tapia confirmed.

- Vice Chair Mirabal moved to request a second review by the Director so the Board can discuss this further. Member Sheriff Mendoza seconded the motion. Members Sheriff Adan Mendoza, Vice-Chair Chief Summer Mirabal, Ms. Carly Huffman, and Ms. Cody Rogers Benavidez approved. Members Mr. Walsh, Ms. Ball, and Mr. Romero opposed. Motion carried.

The Law Enforcement Certification Board went into closed session at 11:48 am. Roll Call was conducted with members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez and Ms. Ball. Absent was Member Dr. Green. The Board returned to open session at 3:05 pm.

B. Immediate Suspensions

1) Cesar Mendoza, Case #24-010 – Jal Police Department

- Chief Summer Mirabal called the matter of Cesar Mendoza, but the individual did not present himself to the Board. The Board reviewed the matter and Member Sheriff Mendoza made a motion for immediate suspension. Vice Chair Mirabal seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Rogers Benavidez, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, and Ms. Ball approved. Member Rogers Benavidez and Member Mr. Walsh opposed. The motion carried.

2) Felipe Hernandez, Case #24-003 – Las Cruces Police Department

- Chief Summer Mirabal called the matter of Felipe Hernandez. Felipe Hernandez did not



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present himself to the Board. The Board reviewed the matter. Member Sheriff Mendoza made a motion for the approval of the immediate suspension. Vice Chair seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, and Ms. Ball were in favor. Member Rogers Benavidez and Member Mr. Walsh opposed. The motion carried.

C. Proposed Settlements

- 1) Christopher Smelser, Case #22-066 – Las Cruces Police Department
 - Member Cody Rogers Benavidez made a motion to accept the proposal. Member Sheriff Mendoza seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Rogers Benavidez, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor, none oppose. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2) Antonio Salazar, Case #23-071 – Las Vegas Police Department
 - Member Mr. Walsh moved to approve the 90-day suspension. Member Chief Toadlena-Pablo seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor, none oppose. Motion carried unanimously.
- 3) James Walker, Case #23-040 – Edgewood Police Department
 - Member Mr. Walsh moved to approve the 90-day suspension. Member Rodgers Benavidez seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor, none oppose. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4) Christopher McGuinness, Case #23-020 – Tularosa Police Department
 - Member Sheriff Mendoza motioned to reject the settlement agreement and issue a Notice of Contemplated Action. Member Rogers Benavidez seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor. Member Mr. Walsh opposed. Motion carried.
- 5) Abraham Monge-Caldera, Case #23-061 – Albuquerque Police Department
 - Vice Chair Mirabal moved to accept the voluntary relinquishment. Member Chief Toadlena-Pablo seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor, none oppose. Motion carried unanimously.
- 6) Steve Odom, Case #23-065 – Otero County Sheriff's Office
 - Member Rogers Benavidez moved to approve the proposed settlement agreement. Member Ms. Huffman seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor, none oppose. Motion carried unanimously.
- 7) Esteban Manzanares, Case #23-049 – Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office



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- Member Sheriff Mendoza moved to accept the settlement agreement for a three-year suspension. Member Mr. Walsh seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor, none oppose. Motion carried unanimously.
- 8) Michael Werner, Case #23-008 – Albuquerque Police Department
- Member Mr. Walsh moved to approve the eight-hour suspension. Member Rogers Benavidez seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor, none oppose. Motion carried unanimously.
- 9) Jonathan Saucedo, Case #23-062 - Lordsburg Police Department
- Member Rogers Benavidez moved to approve the proposed agreement. Vice Chair Mirabal seconded. Member Rogers Benavidez seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor. Member Mr. Walsh opposed. Motion carried.
- 10) Lehanna Yazzie, Case #24-006 – San Juan County Communications Authority
- Member Chief Toadlena-Pablo moved to accept the proposed agreement. Member Ms. Huffman seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor, none oppose. Motion carried unanimously.
- 11) Val Panteah, Case #23-025 – Isleta Police Department
- Member Mr. Walsh moved to accept the proposed settlement for a suspension of thirty days. Member Ms. Huffman seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor, none oppose. Motion carried unanimously.
- 12) Kevin Napoleone, Case #22-065 – Albuquerque Police Department
- Member Rogers Benavidez moved to table matter. Member Chief Toadlena-Pablo seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor, none oppose. Motion carried unanimously.
- 13) Patrick Rael, Case #22-073 – Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office
- Member Rogers Benavidez moved to table matter. Member Chief Toadlena-Pablo seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor, none oppose. Motion carried unanimously.
- 14) Patrick Rael, Case #23-038 – Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office
- Member Rogers Benavidez moved to table matter. Member Chief Toadlena-Pablo seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in in favor, none oppose. Motion carried unanimously.



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D. Default Actions

- 1) Samuel Clouthier, Case #23-032 – New Mexico State Police
 - Member Sheriff Mendoza made a motion for default revocation. Vice Chair Mirabal seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in favor, none oppose. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Recommended Dismissals

- 1) Miguel Estrada, Case #23-063 – Lordsburg Police Department
 - Vice Chair Mirabal made a motion to dismiss LEA-90. Member Rogers Benavidez seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Ms. Rogers Benavidez, and Ms. Ball voted in favor. Member Mr. Walsh opposed. Motion carried.
- 2) Thomas Hill, Case #23-055 – Dona Ana County Sheriff's Office
 - Member Chief Toadlena-Pablo made a motion to dismiss the LEA-90 complaint. Vice Chair Mirabal seconded. Members Sheriff Mendoza, Chief Toadlena-Pablo, Chief Romero (ret.), Chief Mirabal, Ms. Huffman, Mr. Walsh and Ms. Ball voted in favor. Member Rogers Benavidez recused from consideration of the matter. Motion carried.

F. Litigation Matters

- 1) D-101-CV-2024-00106 Brad Lunsford
- 2) D-101-CV-2022-01960 Israel Castruita
- 3) D-101-CV-2023-00119 Rafael Labastida
- 4) D-101-CV-2023-01140 Skotchdopole v. Brian Coss, et al.
- 5) D-101-CV-2022-02044 John Bonet
- 6) D-101-CV-2024-00351 Justin Burke
 - No action was taken on the above-listed matters.

VI. CLOSING

A. Next Meeting

- Next meeting to be held September 12, 2024, in Silver City, NM.

B. Member Announcements

- No member announcements made.

C. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 3:18 pm.