

Florida Law Enforcement Consolidation Task Force Meeting
Tuesday October 11, 2011
Meeting Minutes

The Law Enforcement Consolidation Task Force was called to order at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Headquarters in Tallahassee.

The following task force members were in attendance, either in person or by telephone:

Julie Jones (DHSMV), Emery Gainey (OAG), Colonel Jim Brown (FWC), Colonel David Brierton (FHP), Colonel Jerry Bryan (DOACS), Gerald Bailey (FDLE), Chief Gerald Monahan (FPCA) and Sheriff Gee (FSA)

Agenda Item 1: Executive Director Julie Jones welcomed the committee members and others attending.

Agenda Item 2: Director Jones requested approval for the minutes from the August 24, 2011 meeting. Gerald Bailey made the motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by Emery Gainey and the vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

Agenda Item 3: No old business was brought before the task force.

Agenda Item 4: The following new business was discussed:

- a.) The comments submitted to the web site will be posted for viewing.
- b.) Douglas Pitts, Director of Security for the Department of the Lottery gave an overview of the law enforcement function within the office. They provide for the security and integrity of Lottery operations, address fraud and theft complaints, and educate the public on lottery scams.

Julie Jones asked Chief Vicki Cutcliffe, Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco, Department of Business and Professional Regulation to introduce herself. Chief Cutcliffe will present her agency information at the next meeting.

- c.) Director Jones gave a briefing on her meetings with the Governor's Office and Legislative staff. She has given them a list of teams, their scope and direction the recommendations might take:
 - Implement best management practices via policy;
 - Use Senator Latvala and Representative Glorioso legislative vehicles for short term wins this session; or
 - Continue to work on longer more difficult recommendations for potential legislation in the 2013 session.
- d.) Team Updates
 - Inspector General Investigative Function: Julie Leftheris gave the team update and said they are drafting their white paper. They have identified a need for independent legal counsel and are including information on public access, classification of staff, reporting structure, cost, duties and will recommend a model Office of Inspector General.
 - Aviation: Colonel Jerry Bryan is the sponsor and gave the team update. The team is drafting a report but has no formal recommendations yet. There should be a recommendation for consolidation.
 - Information Technology Consolidation: Deborah Stevens is the team leader and gave the team update. They are focusing on law enforcement applications and have identified several areas that could contain overlap. They will also share lessons learned during previous consolidation efforts.

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Meeting Minutes

- Environmental Law Enforcement: Colonel Jim Brown is the sponsor and gave the team update. He presented his report which contains the following recommendations:
 1. Integration of the DEP Division of Law Enforcement, in its entirety, into the FWC Division of Law Enforcement.
 2. Integration of the DACS Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement officers assigned to CARL Patrol and the investigator responsible for commercial aquaculture violations into the FWC Division of Law Enforcement.
 3. Enact statutory and administrative code changes where appropriate to integrate the functions.

The issue of their separate dispatch system and personnel was discussed including the option to merge with FHP instead of just co-locating. Colonel Brown has already begun consulting with legal staff of the three agencies that would be affected by the consolidation.

Colonel Bryan made a motion to support Colonel Brown's recommendations and Colonel Brierton seconded the motion. After discussion and clarification, the vote was unanimous to support the concept of the merger between the environmental law enforcement function in these agencies.

- Agricultural Interdiction Motor Carrier Compliance Merger: Colonel Jerry Bryan is the sponsor and gave the team update. The team is in the process of drafting their report. At this time they are not recommending interstate co-location because of the differences in the agencies' missions.
- Investigations: Mark Perez is the team leader and gave the team update. They have developed their scope and have not identified any mission creep between investigation units except for those identified by Colonel Brown in the environmental agencies.
- Law Enforcement vs. Civilianization: Lieutenant Colonel Kelly Hildreth is the team leader and gave the team update. They are drafting their report and have identified areas that could be civilianized including accreditation, fleet operations, training, evidence custodians and background investigations.
- Law Enforcement Administration and Support: Rick Creamer is the team leader and gave the team update. They have drafted their report and are waiting on comments. The report offers a how to guide on consolidation for agencies to use if functions are merged. This team will assist the Environmental Team with their consolidation effort.
- Accreditation: Al Dennis is the team leader and gave the team update. They have distributed a survey and are recording and validating the data. They are drafting a report addressing economic efficiencies that might be gained.
- Training: Mike Crews is the team leader and gave the team update. They have reviewed basic training, advanced/specialized training, agency specific training and training facilities. They are drafting a report and are recommending the use of on-line mandatory retraining except for firearms and use of force.

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Meeting Minutes

- Forensic Science Team: Vickie Gardner is the team leader and gave the team update. They are developing a draft report and have identified five agencies with laboratory functions but determined there is no overlap of services. Each agency performs their lab work to support their agency mission except for FDLE which supports their agency mission with their labs, but also provides support to other agencies.
- Vehicle/Fleet Management: Chief Gerald Monahan is the sponsor for this team and gave the team update. They are drafting a report and are reviewing fleet standardization, classification of vehicles, how agencies use funds to acquire vehicles, refurbishment, non-standard purchases, spare vehicle ratios and long-term funding strategies.
- Evaluation of Jurisdiction for the Florida Highway Patrol: Sheriff Gee is the team leader and gave the team update. The team is reviewing survey results distributed to Florida sheriffs and police chiefs and drafting a report.

Agenda Item 5: Next meeting will be scheduled either the first or second week in November to review the teams' final reports.

Agenda Item 6: Director Jones asked for comments. Commissioner Bailey made the motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mr. Gainey and the vote was unanimous.