



**FIREFIGHTER AND FIRE SAFETY INSPECTOR TRAINING COMMITTEE
STATE BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

MEETING MINUTES

October 18, 2017

~FINAL~

Committee Meeting Date and Location: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at the Ohio Department of Public Safety, 1970 West Broad Street, Conference Room 1106, Columbus, Ohio.

Committee Members Present: James Davis, Mark Resanovich, George B. Snyder and Dudley Wright II

Committee Members Absent: Deanna Harris

EMS Staff Present: Jean Booze, Beverly Cooper, Joel Demory, Melvin House, Valerie Koker, John Molnar, Ellen Owens, Bryan Reardon, Jack Smith and Rob Wagoner.

Assistant Attorney General: Trista M. Turley

Guest and Public Present: none

Mr. Wright called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mr. James Davis	Present	Mr. George B. Snyder	Present
Ms. Deanna Harris	Absent	Mr. Dudley Wright II	Present
Mr. Resanovich	Present		

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

OPEN FORUM ~ None

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Wright requested a motion to approve the consent agenda to include the August 16, 2017 Firefighter and Fire Safety Inspector Training Committee meeting minutes, August Fire Certifications and September Fire Certifications.

ACTION: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda items to include the August 16, 2017 Firefighter and Fire Safety Inspector Training Committee meeting minutes, August Fire Certifications and September Fire Certifications. Mr. Davis - First. Mr. Snyder- Second. None abstained. None opposed. Motion approved. *chair voted

FIRE CERTIFICATIONS & EXEMPTION REQUESTS (Military & Medical), Jean Booze

Jean Booze reported that there were three military exemption requests; 2017-10-1, 2017-10-3, and 2017-10-4. All documentation has been received and staff recommends approval.

ACTION: Motion to approve one military exemption requests; 2017-10-1, 2017-10-3, and 2017-10-4.
Mr. Davis – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

Firefighter Committee Report

Jack Smith, fire coordinator for the Division of EMS, reported that there have not been any fire charter site visits since the last meeting. There are four renewal applications and one new application for the City of Cleveland that are being reviewed.

At the Program Director's Conference the new course hour guides and new curriculum documents for all the new courses was rolled out.

The Hazard Recognition Officer curriculum is being created using the International Fire Service Training Association's (IFSTA) curriculum. The Fire Marshal's office is continuing to work on the eight-hour module for the new fire safety inspector code update. The Fire Marshal's office will provide direct delivery courses as well as on their 24/7 platform at no cost for six months and they will provide the Division of EMS with their modules.

The practical skill sheets are continuing to be reviewed to streamline the process. The fire rules have been completed.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS ~none~

GOLDMAN PROCEEDINGS

Mr. Wright, on behalf of the Firefighter and Fire Safety Inspector Training Committee called the proceeding to order at 2:28 p.m. on October 18, 2017 at the Ohio Department of Public Safety, 1970 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio.

Fire members of the Board present for these proceedings were:

ROLL CALL

Mr. James Davis	Present	Mr. George B. Snyder	Present
Ms. Deanna Harris	Absent	Mr. Dudley Wright II	Present
Mr. Resanovich	Present		

Executive Director Mel House was also present. There were four adjudication proceedings. Those proceedings were in the matter of:

- Fire Case Number 2016-21-F300, Brandon L. Balas, Fire Certificate 163321
- Fire Case Number 2016-22-F300, Thomas J. Sauter, Fire Certificate 150652
- Fire Case Number 2016-297-F300, Shane M. Workman, Fire Certificate 164806
- Fire Case Number 2016-487-BF100, James E. Risner, III, Fire Certificate 162854

These proceedings were an affidavit-based adjudication relative to a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing mailed to the respondents in the aforementioned cases and believed to have been properly served according to the Administrative Procedures Act (Chapter 119, of the Ohio Revised Code).

As the respondents did not properly request a hearing in the cases, these proceedings were held pursuant to *Goldman v. State Medical Board of Ohio*. The individuals named do not have the ability to present written or oral testimony today, but may be present to hear the proceedings and outcome.

The Fire Committee members were informed that they have already received the sworn affidavits from the EMS Investigators and accompanying exhibits for the Goldman Proceedings. The affidavits contain the evidence and testimony upon which the committee members deliberated. The Fire Committee members had the opportunity to review the affidavits and accompanying exhibits prior to the meeting and were offered the opportunity to review them again.

In lieu of a stenographic record being made, the minutes reflected that the original sworn affidavits and exhibits shall be kept as the official record of the proceedings in the aforementioned matters in the Office of the Division of EMS.

Mr. Wright recognized Assistant Attorney General Trista M. Turley, for the purpose of providing a brief synopsis of each case and a recommendation for disciplinary action. Ms. Turley presented a synopsis of the following cases:

- **Fire Case Number 2016-21-F300, Brandon L. Balas, Fire Certificate 163321.**

Mr. Balas is a certified Firefighter II and he submitted a renewal application on or about December 21, 2015, indicating that he has not completed all required continuing education hours. The Division of EMS contacted Mr. Balas by email and phone over a period of months with no response. Mr. Balas failed to document and upon request report continuing education hours. He failed to satisfy the continuing education requirements for a firefighter and he failed to complete 54 hours of approved continuing education. The recommendation is to revoke his certification.

- **Fire Case Number 2016-22-F300, Thomas J. Sauter, Fire Certificate 150652.**

Mr. Sauter is certified as a Firefighter II and he entered into a consent agreement on or about April 20, 2016 with the Executive Director. He agreed to pay a fine of \$250 and submit proof of completion of 54 hours of approved continuing education no later than August 20, 2016. Mr. Sauter did not submit the continuing education hours by that date and was sent a reminder letter on or about September 16, 2016 with no response. He violated the terms of the consent agreement issued by the Executive Director. The recommendation is to revoke his certification.

- **Fire Case Number 2016-297-F300, Shane M. Workman, Fire Certificate 164806.**

Mr. Workman is certified as a Firefighter II and he submitted a renewal application on or about January 5, 2016 attesting that he had completed all of the continuing education requirements. On or about March 15, 2016 Mr. Workman was subjected to a random audit. He did not respond to the initial letter; therefore, another letter was sent on or about April 27, 2016. The Division of EMS Investigator initiated contact with Mr. Workman; however, there was no response. Mr. Workman failed to accurately document and at the request of the division produce records of continuing education hours. He failed to satisfy the continuing education requirements for a firefighter certificate. The recommendation is to revoke his certification.

- **Fire Case Number 2016-487-BF100, James E. Risner, III, Fire Certificate 162854.**

Mr. Risner is certified as a Firefighter II. On or about November 17, 2016 the Clark County Court of Common Pleas entered a judgment entry of Respondent's plea of guilty to rape; a first-degree felony. He was sentenced to 15 years to life. The recommendation is to permanently revoke his certification.

Having heard the synopsis and recommended disciplinary action for each case, Mr. Wright requested a motion to admit the sworn affidavits and the accompanying exhibits in the aforementioned cases into evidence.

ACTION: Motion to admit the sworn affidavit and accompanying exhibits in the aforementioned cases into evidence. Mr. Snyder – First. Mr. Davis – Second. No Abstentions. None opposed. Motion approved.

There being no further evidence, these proceedings were closed at 2:35 p.m. The procedural and jurisdictional matters having been satisfied, the proceedings continued by deliberation on the sworn affidavits and exhibits. A written copy of the Executive Director's decision will be mailed to the respondents.

ACTION: In the matter of Fire Case Number 2016-21-F300, Brandon L. Balas, Certificate Number 163321, the Committee recommends that the Executive Director issue an adjudication order finding that Mr. Balas failed to comply with continuing education requirements as indicated in the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing and that Mr. Balas' firefighter certificate be revoked. Mr. Snyder – First. Mr. Davis – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

ACTION: In the matter of Fire Case Number 2016-22-F300, Thomas J. Sauter, Certificate Number 150652, the Committee recommends that the Executive Director issue an adjudication order finding that Mr. Sauter violated the terms of a Consent Agreement, and that Mr. Sauter's firefighter certificate be revoked. Mr. Snyder – First. Mr. Davis – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

ACTION: In the matter of Fire Case Number 2016-297-F300, Shane M. Workman, Certificate Number 164806, the Committee recommends that the Executive Director issue an adjudication order finding that Mr. Workman failed to comply with continuing education requirements as indicated in the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing and that Mr. Workman's firefighter certificate be revoked. Mr. Snyder – First. Mr. Davis – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

ACTION: In the matter of Fire Case Number 2016-487-BF100, James E. Risner III, Certificate Number 162854, the Committee recommends that the Executive Director issue an adjudication order finding that Mr. Risner has been convicted of rape, a felony of the first degree, and that Mr. Risner's firefighter certificate be permanently revoked. Mr. Snyder – First. Mr. Davis – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

FIRE INVESTIGATIONS, STAFF

Mr. Wright requested a motion to adjourn into Executive Session.

ACTION: *Motion to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing proposed disciplinary action against certificate holders pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) or pursuant to 121.22(G)(5) that involve matters required to be kept confidential under Ohio Revised Code Section 149.43(A)(2) or 4765.102(B).* Mr. Davis – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. None – abstained. Motion approved.

Roll Call

Mr. James Davis	Present	Mr. George B. Snyder	Present
Ms. Deanna Harris	Absent	Mr. Dudley Wright II	Present
Mr. Resanovich	Present		

ACTION: *Motion to recommend to the Executive Director to accept the following Consent Agreements.* Mr. Davis – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

2017-206-BF100 2017-384-F100	2017-438-F300 2017-582-F300
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ACTION: *Motion to recommend to the Executive Director to close the following cases. Individuals have not met the requirements of their Consent Agreement. Their respective certificates to practice or teach expired. Re-open if re-applies:* Mr. Davis – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

2014-665-F300	2016-206-BF100
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ACTION: *Motion to recommend to the Executive Director to close the following cases; individuals have met the stipulations of their Consent Agreements.* Mr. Davis – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

2010-182-F100 2015-237-F500	2015-501-BF100
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ACTION: *Motion to recommend to the Executive Director to accept the surrendering of their respective certificates and close the following cases:* Mr. Davis – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

2014-487-F300	2017-256-BF100	2017-433-F300	2017-455-F300
2017-170-F300	2017-316-F300	2017-436-F300	2017-456-F300
2017-171-F300	2017-344-F300	2017-449-F300	2017-457-F300
2017-177-F300	2017-428-F300	2017-450-F300	2017-493-F300
2017-187-F300	2017-429-F300	2017-451-F300	
2017-236-BF300	2017-432-F300	2017-454-F300	
*Rescind NOH			

ACTION: *Motion to recommend to the Executive Director to close the following case(s). Individuals did not provide required documentation to process their applications. Their applications were rendered incomplete:* Mr. Davis – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

2014-389-F500	2015-374-F500
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ACTION: Motion to recommend to the Executive Director to issue Notices of Opportunity for Hearings for the following cases: Mr. Davis – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

2013-704-F100	2017-137-BF300	2017-355-F100
2015-193-BF100	2017-167-F300	2017-421-F100
2015-571-F300	2017-173-F300	2017-423-F300
2016-79-BF100	2017-269-F300	2017-425-BF100
2016-626-F300	2017-286-F100	2017-504-F300
2017-82-BF100	2017-297-F100	

ACTION: Motion to recommend to the Executive Director to close the following cases due to one of the following reasons: inadvertently marked yes to conviction question, misdemeanor convictions that have previously been deemed “not involving moral turpitude”, local issues, and grandfathering issues of certification/conviction: Mr. Davis – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

2016-222-BF100	2017-308-F100	2017-469-F100
2016-599-BF100	2017-341-BF100	2017-471-F100
2017-192-BF100	2017-369-F300	2017-475-F500
2017-221-F500	2017-371-BF100	2017-481-F500
2017-282-F100	2017-395-F500	2017-482-BF100
2017-284-BF500	2017-412-BF100	2017-524-BF100
2017-298-BF100	2017-460-F100	2017-632-F300

Old Business ~ None

New Business ~ None

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Motion to adjourn. Mr. Snyder – First Mr. Davis - Second

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m. The next meeting will be held December 13, 2017 at the Ohio Department of Public Safety, 1970 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio.