



Signed original submitted on June 26, 2020

**Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission
Special Session Meeting Tuesday, April 21, 2020
held via
Telephone Conference Call**

April 21, 2020 Minutes

A. Opening

Call to Order

Chair Stanforth called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.
Chair Stanforth asked that everyone mute their phones to eliminate background noise.
Colonel Fambro led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Ms. Donna Long called the Roll Call.

Chair Stanforth stated this is unusual for all of us. This is the first teleconference the Chair has conducted. An automated system asked all call-in attendees to identify themselves as they called in. Chair Stanforth asked everyone to mute their phones unless they were speaking; and to state their name when speaking.

We are foregoing a lot of the traditional agenda items usually covered at our commission meetings. At this juncture we won't have committee reports, etc. With the Staff Report and the Executive Director Report, those issues will be discussed as they come up.

Commission members present - per roll call

Sheriff Vernon Stanforth-Chair
Chief Clayton Harris-Vice-Chair
Ms. Leah Amstutz
Colonel Richard Fambro
Sheriff Michael Heldman
Chief George Kral
Ms. Carol O'Brien
SAC Eric Smith

Commission members absent

Ms. Wynette Carter-Smith
Lt. James Fitsko

Staff Attorney General's Office – Per announcing name at call-in

Mr. Ryan Born-OPOTA Staff
Mr. Jeffrey Boucher-Associate Assistant Attorney General/AGO
Mr. Gregory Brillhart-OPOTC Staff
Ms. Savannah Brock-OPOTC Staff
Ms. Aja Chung-OPOTA Staff
Mr. Aaron Coey-OPOTA Staff

Ms. Courtney DeLong-OPOTC Staff
Mr. Douglas Dumolt-Director of Law Enforcement Operations/AGO
Mr. Jay Easterling-Chief Finance Officer/AGO
Ms. Jennifer Gates-AGO
Mr. Michael Golec-Deputy Director OPOTA Staff
Ms. Deena Gray-OPOTA Staff
Ms. Becki Hager-OPOTA Staff
Mr. Richard Hardy-Director of Professional Standards and Education/OPOTC
Ms. Kim Hahn-OPOTC Staff
Mr. Dwight Holcomb-Executive Director/OPOTC/A
Ms. Amber Jicha-AGO Staff
Ms. Corinthia Lacey-AGO Staff
Ms. Anne Laux-OPOTC Staff
Ms. Donna Long-OPOTC Secretary/OPOTC Staff
Mr. Matthew Lyons-OPOTC Staff
Mr. Scott Mann-OPOTA Staff
Mr. Michael McGreevy-OPOTC Staff
Mr. Richard Meadows-Deputy Director/OPOTA Staff
Mr. Lynn Moore-AGO Staff
Mr. Barry Newlin-OPOTA Staff
Ms. Cynthia Peterson-Senior Assistant Attorney General/OPOTC/A
Ms. Lori Rinehart-OPOTC Staff
Ms. Meredith Rockwell-Chief of Human Resources and Labor Counsel/AGO
Ms. Lynnette Rodrigue-Deputy Director/OPOTA Staff
Mr. Eric Schaefer-OPOTC Staff
Mr. Joel Seibert-OPOTA Staff
Ms. Sarah Shendy-OPOTA Staff
Ms. Sean Smith-OPOTA Staff
Ms. Sarah Thomas-OPOTA Staff
Mr. Dwight Underwood-OPOTA Staff
Mr. Michael Walton-Associate Assistant Attorney General/AGO
Mr. Scott Whatley-OPOTA Staff

Guests - Per announcing name at call-in

Mr. Elijah Baisden
Mr. Geoff Barnard
Mr. Richard Clawson
Mr. Brad Copeland
Mr. Chuck Crosby
Mr. Jeff Film
Mr. Gerald Forney
Ms. Jamie Freeman
Mr. Ed Hastings
Mr. Bill Holland
Mr. Mike King
Mr. Ed Malone
Mr. Ron Morenz
Mr. Jeremy Noveli
Mr. Ernie Oergel
Mr. Wayne Parker
Mr. Kent Patterson

Mr. Ryan Pearson
Mr. Joe Richards
Mr. Kenneth Ryan
Mr. Mark Ryan
Ms. Kathryn Schaeffer
Ms. Carol Simon
Mr. Sean Smith
Mr. Jerry Snay
Mr. Jamie Tavano
Mr. Dave Wiseman

There were a total of 79 people who participated in the teleconference. Unfortunately, there were a few names that were unattainable.

B. New Business

Chair Sheriff Stanforth

COVID-19 – The Chair turned the discussion over to Executive Director Holcomb. Mr. Holcomb thanked Chair Stanforth; stating it's been an interesting 7 weeks or so since the Governor started down this road of all the things to be implemented to protect the citizens of Ohio during the COVID-19.

Mr. Holcomb updated the Commission on the operations at OPOTC/OPOTA. Everyone knows that as we work diligently this is a constant moving target. Once we have a particular date, those dates are being pushed back due to the severity of this health scare that is going on.

- March 9, 2020, the Governor first declared the State of Emergency in the State of Ohio for the COVID-19.
- March 10, 2020, the Governor recommended colleges and universities begin to suspend their operations, which then happened across our State.
- On or about March 11, 2020, the Governor issued the closing of K-12 schools for a 3-week period. At that particular time, we began to shut down OPOTA Advanced Training Operations for the anticipated 3-weeks suspension of training.
- Since that time, all the organizational things have continued to get pushed back. For our advanced training side of the house, we aren't anticipating starting any classes until at least June 4, 2020.
- In May, we will look at where we are in the state and when we may be able to start back with training on our advanced training side of the house.
- On the Commission side of the house, the academies are out there working on the basic curriculum, trying to get new cadets on the streets.
- On March 20, 2020, OPOTC issued a memo to academies trying to assist them in finding a way to provide the continuing education in an academy setting, without necessarily having large groups.
- There were 45-50 hours of on-line training which could be done by monitors, splitting up the students to make smaller groups of cadets within the classes, allowing the academies to continue.
- On March 20, 2020, what looked to be the suspension of working from home would be over after several weeks. For this reason, there were no academies being closed and no state certification exams being scheduled as we waited for things to calm down and return to normal. As things rolled on it became evident that wasn't going to happen.
- On March 31, 2020, there was a meeting between Attorney General Yost and senior staff for the Attorney General's office. At this time the OPOTC staff was asked to come up with a way to supply and then provide the state certification exams. This included doing school closings and all the things we tried to avoid doing with the COVID-19 because of close contact and the potential to spread the virus.

- We started working on a plan to give the state certification exam only at the London academy.
- April 20, 2020, was the first day of testing at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at OPOTA-London. Testing was limited to no more than 40 individuals at a time. The entire gym was used to assure social distancing of about 12 feet between tables. Precautions are taken with the arrival of the cadets, with temperature checks, all the doors are open removing any need of contact entering or leaving, the facility is being sanitized between tests, and external restrooms were brought in for the cadets so they could be contained and cleaned between sessions.
- We are doing all we can to keep the cadets safe as well as the academy staff.

Seven staff members volunteered to come in during this COVID-19 emergency to assist with the exams. The staff realizes the importance of assisting the academies to get the cadets tested and on the streets. Mr. Holcomb thanked Mr. Hardy who has been spearheading the exam side of things allowing him to focus on the security and safety of all individuals.

Mr. Holcomb stated there were two more days scheduled for exams this week. We are working with the academies as they are getting into their physical fitness testing. He will be traveling to observe and assist in getting an academy done with their physical fitness testing, so they can move on in the process.

Going back to the March 30th memo where OPOTC staff worked very quickly to try to identify the things that could be done via on-line learning. Some academies were reducing them into smaller groups, then broadcasting it over monitors to maintain the integrity of the training. This seemed to have worked very well, all of these academies around the state, made the decision whether they wanted to continue on with their education or if they needed to suspend it. We found a lot of academies might have suspended academy operations because they were connected with a college, university or school district where those institutes were closing their doors and locking buildings due to COVID-19. This aided in the stopping of much of the training around the state.

Mr. Holcomb's hope is as we come into May, those academies which did have to close will be able to resume their education. From our staff's standpoint, we are prepared to assist in the closing of those academies and in providing the state certification exams to get cadets on the streets. We are trying to do everything we can from our standpoint to assist with all the academies to conclusion.

Mr. Holcomb asked if the Chair or members of the Commission had any questions? Chair Stanforth hearing no questions from the Commission moved to the next agenda item.

RESOLUTION 2020-01 - The next item discussed was the proposed resolution which was presented to each Commission member. Chair Stanforth turned the discussion over to Mr. Holcomb.

Mr. Holcomb stated it comes down to trying to effectively function here, where we are imbedded by guidance either through the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code and through rules and regulations of the Commission that as Executive Director of OPOTC he is asking to have a little more authority and ability to be able to assist with academies in streamlining the process of keeping the academies running and getting cadets out on the street. That was the purpose of this resolution, which has a finite date, which is when the Governor declares the end of the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

Again, this is being used to help streamline the process to allow us to do everything we can for the academies around the State to train their cadets.

MOTION:

Chief Kral made the motion to approve the presented Resolution 2020-01. The motion was seconded by Ms. O'Brien. After the discussion below a roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously. Yes-8, No-0, Absent-2.

DISCUSSION:

Ms. O'Brien complimented the actions Mr. Holcomb, Mr. Hardy and Ms. Peterson have taken during this, they have been nimble, they've been responsive; their goal was to work with law enforcement and get things done in a time when a lot of things are screeching to a halt. They've done a great job. Chair Stanforth stated the Commission appreciated their efforts.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Chair Stanforth, Sheriff Heldman, Chief Harris, Ms. O'Brien, Chief Kral, Ms. Amstutz, Colonel Fambro, and SAC Smith all voted yes.

Chair Stanforth and Vice-Chair Harris will independently sign the document and submit to Ms. Long for the appropriate signature to be attached to the document.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS - PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED BY EMAIL - Chair Stanforth stated there were several questions and/or comments submitted by email; the discussion was turned over to Mr. Holcomb.

Mr. Holcomb stated there were several emails with questions. The questions from each individual centered around the same topics.

Question: When will OPOTA release current academies that had suspended operations and can that happen on May 1, 2020?

Answer: Once again in this type of a question we have to remember that it is up to each individual academy when they continue their operations. What we have said here continuously is keep your cadets safe, follow the guidelines setup by the Governor and Ohio Department of Health, but it is an individual academy's discretion.

Comment: Academies that are tied to a college, university or school district may have complications with working with those entities, but again it's up to the commanders and to the administration to each of those academies as to when they want to continue with their operations.

Comment: Looking for some guidelines or parameters from OPOTC for the cadets when they start back up.

Response: Once again, the guidelines would again be following the Ohio Department of Health rules and regulations, do the best you can for your cadets in social distancing, do what you can when it comes to the skills base. There are certainly a lot of challenges in this, as we try to maintain social distancing and keep everyone as healthy as we can. But, again it comes back to the individual academies' discretion.

Question: Would a current academy on standby be allowed to finish?

Answer: Yes, we don't want to, in any shape, way or means, hinder the education that continues. When the academies start back up, they can start from where they left off and continue on at that point. They may want to do a refresher over what they may have accomplished up to the date where they ceased function.

Comment: In the original memo of March 20th it was talked about when academies do start back up they would have 14 days in order to become reactive.

Response: At that time, we were looking at only a couple weeks of closure. Now we know it has been much longer, so Mr. Holcomb will be issuing a new directive here soon which will be extended to 30 days. We understand the academies have to start working with their instructors again, getting the instructors on the books. Some instructors may be instructing at multiple places. Since the COVID-19 has expanded out, the 14 days in the original memo doesn't work and will be extended out to 30 days to help the academies get that done.

Question: Will the SFST and Speed Measuring Devices training need to be completed by the Basic Academy in which the student was enrolled in or can it be completed outside of the original academy class?

Answer: Yes, we would want the academy that originally started with the cadets to finish the program and training. If we end up delaying the SFST and the Radar Lidar training, we want the same academy doing the training.

Question: Can we expect our academies to resume on Monday, May 4, 2020?

Answer: The academies can resume anytime you want. May 4th may seem like a good day since the Governor is working towards getting everybody back into work. But, once again it's up to the academies when they want to resume their education of their cadets.

Question: Will there be a limit on the number of students per classroom?

Answer: Again, that is up to the guideline's setup by the Governor and the Ohio Department of Health what each academy can do; keeping in mind the safety of all your cadets. It is an academy decision.

Question: Will there be an extension, if a new unit instructor is up for renewal, but does not have the required teaching hours due to COVID-19?

Answer: HB197 has provided extensions for this type of issue, when it comes to certifications. There's a method to allow those to continue on until such time that the training can be done.

Mr. Holcomb stated that was all the questions. Chair Stanforth asked Mr. Holcomb if he wanted to take any questions from the participants? Mr. Holcomb stated due to the number of participants here, he would rather stick to the agenda. We had asked that all the questions be submitted via email so they could be addressed in an appropriate manner here. Chair Stanforth agreed with keeping it to the agenda, but asked if there were any other topics or anything that needed to be more clarified than what the questions may have generated that you may have in mind; that would be beneficial for everybody? Mr. Holcomb requested anyone having additional questions, to please direct them to himself or Richard Hardy. However, most of the questions are centering around when can academies start back up, which is up to the academies; keep in mind the safety of all their cadets. From our standpoint at OPOTC, we are doing everything that we can so when those academies are done, we are prepared and ready to give the state certification exam.

FINANCIAL UPDATE - Mr. Holcomb introduced Mr. Jay Easterling, Chief Financial Officer for the Ohio Attorney General's Office.

Mr. Easterling wanted to discuss some pressing issues regarding funding. As you may know the COVID-19 Pandemic is certainly affecting revenues at the state level and it will certainly be affecting the revenues that the Attorney General has at its disposal.

He wanted to particularly talk about the funds that are used to run OPOTA. Those funds are 4210 which is the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy, the fund 5900 which is the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission, the 5LR0 which is the Casino money, and the 5MP0 which is the Sale of Forfeited Property.

His biggest concerns at this point is the Fund 4210 and 5LR0. In the last several years, expenditures have been out pacing revenues. We have been subsidizing operations at OPOTA each year out of other discretionary funding the office has. For example, in Fund 4210 fiscal 2018, expenditures outpaced revenues to the tune of over \$600,000. It was \$375,000 in 2017. He expects it to be similar this year. He doesn't believe our revenue projections are going to meet because as discussed earlier the operations have pretty much been at a standstill. He has several concerns and it is a bleak situation right now. In Fund 4210 of the appropriation that we have been given by the legislation for next fiscal year which is \$2,250,000, almost \$1,900,000 of that will be eaten up in payroll. Leaving \$351,000 for non-payroll expenditures.

In the 5LR0 fund which is our portion of the casino funding, our appropriation for next fiscal year 2021 is \$5,500,000 and over \$5,000,000 will be used in payroll funding. Leaving \$473,000 for all non-payroll related expenditures. In total, that is less than a \$1,000,000 OPOTA will have for non-payroll type operations. Which is not a lot of money, which is why we are subsidizing from other funds that the office maintains.

The first issue is the fact that revenues are not keeping up with expenditures. That in effect is eating into any cash balances these funds have built up over the years.

The next issue is the Casino money; he assumes that there have been questions about the legislation and how the legislation describes the use of those funds and how OPOTA has been using them since fiscal 2013. Which is the subject of an auditor of the state audit right now, that we are still waiting on results from. The bottom line could very well be that we are not able to use that money in the fashion or the manner that we have used it over the years. If that is true, then that is going to be \$5,000,000 hole that we are going to have to recover in other funds, particularly the funding from the background checks and the funding from the collection's enforcement section.

We are still waiting for the final word on that audit, but regardless he believes there's going to be legislation required to allow us to use that funding for OPOTA operating expenses. Without that there, that's a \$5,000,000 hole.

The last thing he wanted to mention was capital. One of the things that we have to be very aware of for our own facilities, BCI and OPOTA, etc., the cost of making sure that buildings are updated and safe; that tracks are repaired and safe for driving; and that gun ranges are safe for shooting. Those are significant costs and of the \$10,000,000 that he requested in his capital budget for those types of expenses for BCI and OPOTA, the Governor's office recommended 64% of that is what we would receive. So, 36% of what he asked for, we aren't going to be able to do. Worse, he understands that as of today there's not been a capital bill introduced. There may not be a capital bill, the legislature may forego that and pick it up in 2 more years. Which means that the 64% of what he asked for we will not have. These were for significant asks, these are for badly needed roofing repairs, badly needed track and TTC repairs; parking lot repairs, and those are items that he is not going to be able to cover with operating funds if there is not a capital budget.

Without a capital budget, he is worried that our facilities will continue to degrade as some would say they have already. So, not to drag this on, he wants to make sure that everyone understands that revenue and capital issues have been ignored far too long by many administrations and while it was just starting to catch up with us, this COVID-19 thing has exasperated the entire issue. He doesn't know if fee increases and things that we could do to get into the black at this point and time would be punitive to those who would have to make those payments, because it would just be a ridiculous increase. The funding that he will have through other discretionary means are just not going to be available.

He wanted to give that financial picture, it's a bleak picture. He has discussed this with Executive Director Holcomb and Carol O'Brien in detail, but he appreciated the opportunity to give the description of where we find ourselves as far as budgets. He can take questions if anyone has any.

Mr. Holcomb turned it over to Chair Stanforth who asked the Commissioners if they had any questions for Mr. Easterling or Mr. Holcomb. Chair Stanforth commented, he was afraid to ask questions. Mr. Eric Smith in Cleveland appreciated the update, but obviously a lot of work to do; thank you for the update.

Chair Stanforth asked when they thought the audit would be done? Mr. Easterling stated his understanding was yet this fiscal year, which would be very helpful, but it is getting very late in the year. And the expenditure he has been making on behalf of that fund out of other funds, it is going to get late in the year for him to be able to reverse those entries.

Chair Stanforth asked if we want to discuss what may occur, worst case scenario or is it premature to have that discussion? Mr. Easterling stated he believes that at this point it would be premature and the administration understands the situation. He has briefed everybody on the situation, but for right now it might be premature to make any suggestions or go any further.

Mr. Holcomb agreed with Mr. Easterling, who continues to review all the financial data and look at the projections and everything. He and his office are doing a fabulous job in trying to figure out where we can go into the future.

Ms. Amber Jicha asked if there was any worry about employee layoffs? Mr. Easterling stated he doesn't know the answer to that question at this time. He has not been in any discussions regarding any of that.

Chair Stanforth asked if there were any other financial updates that needed to be brought before the Commission? Mr. Holcomb responded no, Mr. Easterling did an excellent job of telling us where the state over all is heading, especially for the Attorney General's Office. Mr. Easterling's staff is diligently looking at the future and where things will be heading. Mr. Holcomb thanked Mr. Easterling.

Chair Stanforth stated on his agenda, that is the last item under new business; are there any other items Mr. Holcomb? Mr. Holcomb stated no sir, that was the end of the agenda and he had nothing new to add.

Chair Stanforth asked the Commissioners if they had any other new business, hearing none the Chair asked about old business? Hearing no old business, was there anything else for the good of the order? Mr. Holcomb stated the next Commission meeting is scheduled for May 14th at OPOTA. We will continue to follow what is happening at the state level with the Governor and Department of Health to see what we can do. Can we do something here in a safe environment or what might happen, but will keep that meeting penciled in.

Chair Stanforth asked if there was anything else before the Commission? Hearing nothing the Chair entertained a motion to adjourn.

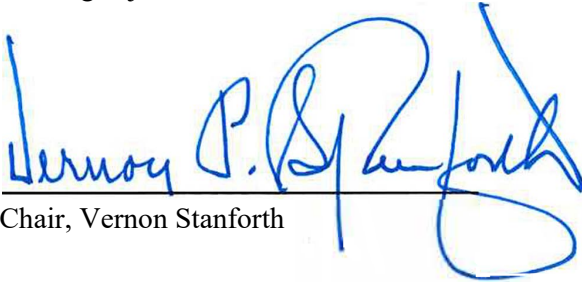
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MOTION:

Ms. O'Brien made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Sheriff Heldman. A roll call vote was taken for adjournment. Yes-8, No-0, Absent-2.

Chair Stanforth, Sheriff Heldman, Chief Harris, Chief Kral, Colonel Fambro, Ms. O'Brien, Ms. Amstutz, and SAC Smith all voted yes to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.



Vernon P. Stanforth

Chair, Vernon Stanforth

These transcripts are not verbatim. Audio recordings are available upon request.

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION 2020-01

COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY

Whereas on March 9, 2020, Mike DeWine, Governor of the State of Ohio, declared a State of Emergency in Executive Order 2020-01D in order to protect the well-being of the citizens of Ohio from the dangerous effects of COVID-19, to justify the authorization of personnel of State departments and agencies as are necessary, to coordinate the State response to COVID-19, and to assist in protecting the lives, safety, and health of the citizens of Ohio;

Whereas Executive Order 2020-01D included that State agencies shall develop and implement procedures, including suspending or adopting temporary rules within an agency's authority, consistent with recommendations from the Department of Health designed to prevent or alleviate this public health threat;

Whereas on March 10, 2020, Governor DeWine recommended colleges and universities suspend face-to-face learning and move to online distance learning;

Whereas the closing of college and university campuses significantly impacted Peace Officer Basic Training Academies, as well as other types of basic academies, many of which are housed on college and university campuses;

Whereas on March 17, 2020, Amy Acton, Director of the Department of Health, issued an Order prohibiting mass gatherings in the State of Ohio. Mass gatherings were defined as any event or convening that brings together fifty (50) or more persons in a single room or single space at the same time, such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, or any other confined indoor or outdoor space. Additionally, this order strongly encouraged avoiding unnecessary non-family social gatherings of more than ten (10) people in compliance with President Trump's coronavirus guidelines issued March 16, 2020. Lastly, this order urged social distancing of 6 feet between persons whenever possible;

Whereas on March 23, 2020, Amy Acton, Director of the Department of Health, issued a Stay at Home Order for all citizens of the State of Ohio and a further limitation on mass gatherings to no more than ten (10) persons with exceptions for Essential Activities, Essential Businesses, and Essential Government Functions;

Whereas both the March 17 and March 23, 2020 Orders by Dr Acton limited the Peace Officer Basic Training Academies ability to present their coursework in group settings and had a significant negative impact on the ability to conduct the hands-on skill-based courses that are part of the OPOTC approved curriculum;

Whereas HB197 signed on March 27, 2020, allowed for the extension of license and certification deadlines, excusing both state agencies and individuals from actions needed to maintain those license and certificates until 90 days past the declared end of the emergency or December 1, 2020, whichever is sooner, with those licenses and certificates remaining valid in the interim;

Whereas the COVID-19 State of Emergency and the Governor and Director's Orders have impacted the ability of statewide Peace Officer Basic Training Academies, as well as other types of Basic Academies, to function as they normally would. This inability is a result of campus closings, social distancing requirements, and safety concerns;

Whereas the COVID-19 State of Emergency has created a statewide need for more available law enforcement officers in order to fortify police agency manpower as officers are exposed to COVID-19 and potentially become ill and/or must be quarantined;

Whereas to fulfill the Attorney General and OPOTC's mission to address the need for additional law enforcement officers on the street, an academy-by-academy, and sometimes cadet-by-cadet, training determination by the Executive Director will be required to analyze completed coursework, testing readiness, and potential provisional certification;

Whereas the need for additional law enforcement officers on the streets will necessitate a case-by-case, officer-by-officer training determination by the Executive Director for any returning retired peace officers;

Whereas to help facilitate the statewide agencies' needs for additional available law enforcement officers and in order to react to the extremely fluid and time sensitive issues created by COVID-19; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC):

1. grants the Executive Director, Dwight Holcomb, the power to make decisions regarding temporary policies, procedures, and statutory application necessary due to the rapidly evolving impact of COVID-19 on the responsibilities and mission of OPOTC;
2. grants the Executive Director, Dwight Holcomb, the power in appropriate circumstances to allow the delay of Academy instruction, including, but not limited to, Unit 10-8 Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, a 40 hour segment, and Unit 10-6 Electronic Speed Measuring, a 40 hour segment, in order to test and provisionally certify cadets who have completed all other requirements, with an understanding that completion of those units is required post-COVID-19 state of emergency in order to gain full certification;
3. grants that this resolution takes immediate effect and terminates upon the Governor's declaration of the end of the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

Dated this 21st day of April, 2020.

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION

Sheriff Vernon Stanforth, Chair

Chief Clayton Harris, Vice-Chair

The signatures of Chairman Vernon Stanforth and Vice-Chairman Clayton Harris were affixed to Resolution 2020-01 on April 21, 2020. The signature pages are unable to be made accessible. If you would like a hard copy of the signature pages for your records, please contact me at Donna.Long@ohioattorneygeneral.gov or 740-845-2678 and I will be happy to provide them by U.S. Mail.

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION

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Whereas the COVID-19 State of Emergency has created a statewide need for more available law enforcement officers in order to fortify police agency manpower as officers are exposed to COVID-19 and potentially become ill and/or must be quarantined;

Whereas to fulfill the Attorney General and OPOTC's mission to address the need for additional law enforcement officers on the street, an academy-by-academy, and sometimes cadet-by-cadet, training determination by the Executive Director will be required to analyze completed coursework, testing readiness, and potential provisional certification;

Whereas the need for additional law enforcement officers on the streets will necessitate a case-by-case, officer-by-officer training determination by the Executive Director for any returning retired peace officers;

Whereas to help facilitate the statewide agencies' needs for additional available law enforcement officers and in order to react to the extremely fluid and time sensitive issues created by COVID-19; now, therefore, be it

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3. grants that this resolution takes immediate effect and terminates upon the Governor's declaration of the end of the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

Dated this 21st day of April, 2020.

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION



Sheriff Vernon Stanforth, Chair

Chief Clayton Harris, Vice-Chair

Whereas the COVID-19 State of Emergency and the Governor and Director's Orders have impacted the ability of statewide Peace Officer Basic Training Academies, as well as other types of Basic Academies, to function as they normally would. This inability is a result of campus closings, social distancing requirements, and safety concerns;

Whereas the COVID-19 State of Emergency has created a statewide need for more available law enforcement officers in order to fortify police agency manpower as officers are exposed to COVID-19 and potentially become ill and/or must be quarantined;

Whereas to fulfill the Attorney General and OPOTC's mission to address the need for additional law enforcement officers on the street, an academy-by-academy, and sometimes cadet-by-cadet, training determination by the Executive Director will be required to analyze completed coursework, testing readiness, and potential provisional certification;

Whereas the need for additional law enforcement officers on the streets will necessitate a case-by-case, officer-by-officer training determination by the Executive Director for any returning retired peace officers;

Whereas to help facilitate the statewide agencies' needs for additional available law enforcement officers and in order to react to the extremely fluid and time sensitive issues created by COVID-19; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC):

1. grants the Executive Director, Dwight Holcomb, the power to make decisions regarding temporary policies, procedures, and statutory application necessary due to the rapidly evolving impact of COVID-19 on the responsibilities and mission of OPOTC;
2. grants the Executive Director, Dwight Holcomb, the power in appropriate circumstances to allow the delay of Academy instruction, including, but not limited to, Unit 10-8 Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, a 40 hour segment, and Unit 10-6 Electronic Speed Measuring, a 40 hour segment, in order to test and provisionally certify cadets who have completed all other requirements, with an understanding that completion of those units is required post-COVID-19 state of emergency in order to gain full certification;
3. grants that this resolution takes immediate effect and terminates upon the Governor's declaration of the end of the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

Dated this 21st day of April, 2020.

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION

Sheriff Vernon Stanforth, Chair


Chief Clayton Harris, Vice-Chair