



Washington State

# Criminal Justice Training Commission

Location: WSCJTC Auditorium - Burien, WA

*December 13, 2023 – 10 a.m.*

- Welcome *Chair Quinn*
- Roll Call *Tracy Thornburg*
- Chair's Report *Chair Quinn*
- Director's Report *Executive Director Alexander*
  - Certification Report *Assistant Director Bliss*
  - Certification Glossary
- Old Business *Chair Quinn*
  - Independent Investigation Team (IIT) Best Practices - Ad Hoc Committee Update *Commissioner Scairpon/  
Alex Buijs*
- New Business *Chair Quinn*
  - Meeting Minutes (September 2023) *Chair Quinn*
  - Canine Evaluator Application *Valerie Jenkins-Weaver*
  - Commission Meeting Remote *Chair Quinn*
  - Participation Request
- Adjourn *Chair Quinn*

**Commission Chair:**

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**Executive Assistant:**

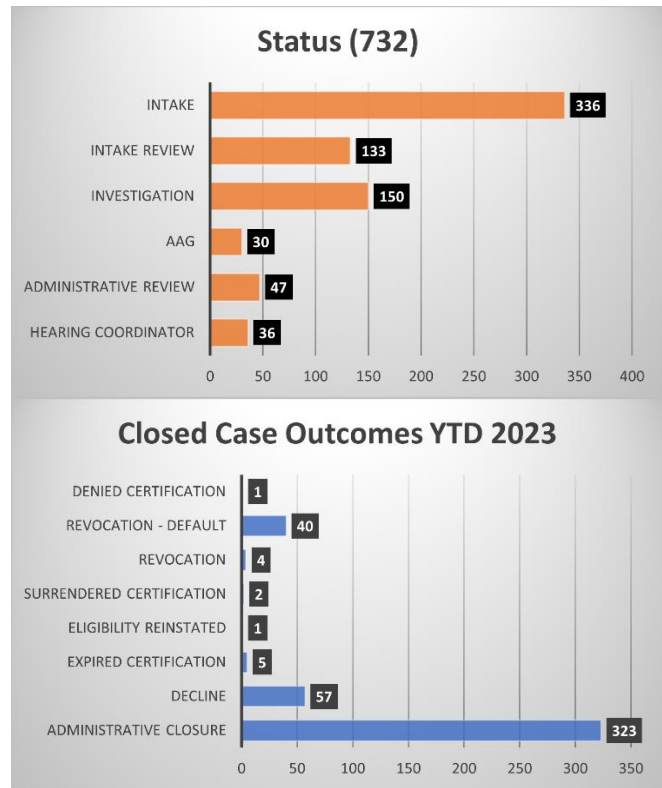
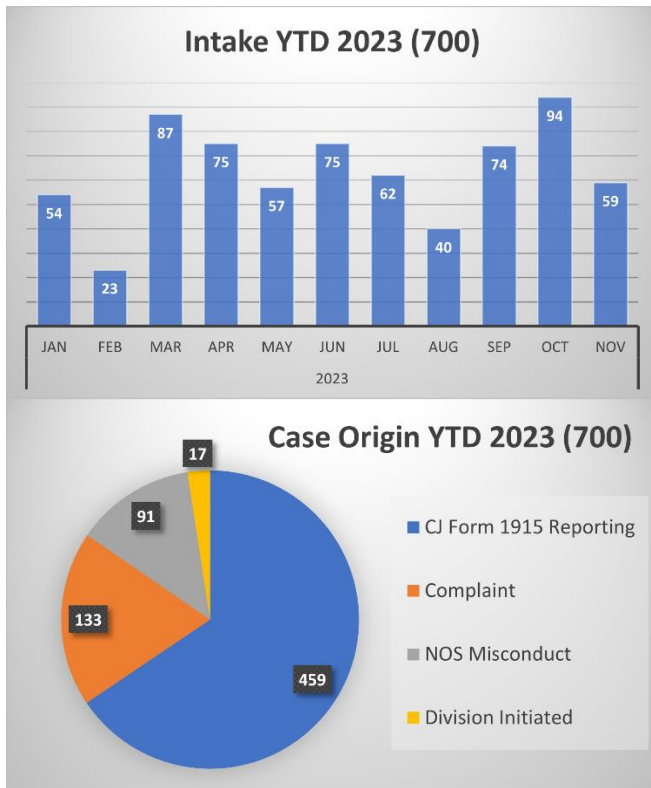
Tracy Thornburg, WSCJTC

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NOTICE: This meeting will be recorded.

## Certification: By the numbers as of 11/30/2023



Quarterly Tracking (September - November 2023)			
<b>Intake (Total)</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>Closed (Total)</b>	<b>142</b>
CJ Form 1915 Reporting	142	Denied Certification	1
Complaints	41	Revocation (Default)	14
NOS Misconduct	34	Revocation	3
Division Initiated	10	Decline	22
Assigned for Investigation	64	Administrative Closure	102
Administrative Review	27	Sent to Hearing Coordinator	18
Sent to AAG	3	Executive Director Review	0

Forms Processing		
	Quarter (September - November)	YTD
Notice of Hire (NOH)	419	1566
Notice of Separation (NOS)	278	1235
% of NOS Reporting Misconduct	12.2%	7.3%

## INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

# WASHINGTON STATE CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING COMMISSION

**TO:** WSCJTC Commissioners  
**FROM:** Kimberly Bliss, Assistant Director/Certification  
**SUBJECT:** Certification Report Glossary  
**DATE:** November 30, 2023



At the last Commission meeting, several Commissioners had questions about the data included in the quarterly Certification Report. Additionally, the Commission requested a “Glossary” that defines the categories of data included in the report.

We want to thank you for your informative feedback. We have endeavored over the last quarter to redesign and refine the Certification Division data tables to clearly communicate the status of certification cases year-to-date and in the three months since the last Commission meeting. In your final packet for the December meeting, you will receive (what we hope is) a more user-friendly data report. In the meantime, the Certification Division has drafted the attached Glossary to explain the various categories of data included in the upcoming data tables.

We look forward to your further questions and feedback at the December 13th meeting.

KAB:ng  
Attachment (1)



## Quarterly Certification Report Glossary

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**YTD Intake Chart** - Chart representing all cases complaints, CJ Form 1915 Reporting, Division Initiated, and Notices of Separation where misconduct is reported for each month of the current year.

**Status Chart** – Chart representing the status of all cases currently open.

- **Intake** – Cases in Intake status. The Certification Division receives a complaint or agency report, logs the incident, and assigns a case number. For complaints, the complainant is notified their complaint has been received and provided a case number.
- **Intake Review** – Cases that are being reviewed by the Chief Investigator or Operations Manager to determine if the complaint or agency report alleges misconduct which, if true, would invoke the WSCJTC's authority under RCW 43.101.105.
- **Investigation** – Cases under active investigation. A WSCJTC investigator conducts a fair, independent, objective, thorough, and timely investigation and completes an investigation report.
- **Administrative Review** – Cases in Administrative Review status. The Chief Investigator, Operations Manager, Division Manager, and Assistant Director review the investigation. At each level of administrative review, the investigation report is either approved or returned to the investigator for additional investigation.
- **AAG** – Cases currently under review with the Assistant Attorney General for potential issuance of a Statement of Charges.
- **Hearing Coordinator** – Cases undergoing the hearing process.
- **Executive Director Review** – Cases under review with the Executive Director.

**Case Origin Chart** – Chart showing the origin of cases received in the current year.

- **CJ Form 1915 Reporting** – Cases initiated based on a *CJTC Form 1915: Agency Report* from an employing agency.
- **Complaint** – Cases initiated after a complaint was submitted alleging peace or corrections officer misconduct.
- **NOS Misconduct** – Cases where a *Notice of Separation (NOS)* form indicated that the officer resigned/retired in lieu of termination or that they were under investigation for any wrongdoing or misconduct upon separation.
- **Division Initiated** – Cases the WSCJTC initiated on its own without the submission of an agency report, complaint, or NOS marked for misconduct.

**Closed Case Outcomes** – Chart representing the outcomes of cases closed in the current year.

- **Surrendered certification** – The officer surrendered their certification voluntarily.
- **Revocation** – The officer's certification was revoked by the decision of the hearing panel.
- **Revocation (Default)** – The officer did not request a hearing and their certification was automatically revoked.
- **Expired certification** – The officer's certification expired.
- **Eligibility reinstated** – The WSCJTC granted a petition to reinstate certification or permit eligibility for reinstatement of certification.
- **Denied certification** – The WSCJTC determined not to grant certification to a prospective peace or corrections officer.
- **Decline** - After an investigation, the WSCJTC determined that misconduct did not occur or that it would be unable to prove qualifying misconduct under the preponderance of the evidence standard.
- **Administrative closure** – The complaint or agency report is closed without investigation because the conduct or officer falls outside WSCJTC's authority, the WSCJTC is unable to identify the subject officer or actionable allegations, or the alleged conduct has already been addressed in another case.

**Monthly Tracking** – Section representing totals for the quarter indicated. Same definitions as above.

**Forms Processing** – Section representing the agency reports certification receives by month and year.

- **Notice of Hire (NOH)** – The employing agency submits a *CJTC Form 1903* to WSCJTC reporting a newly hired officer.
- **Notice of Separation (NOS)** – The employing agency submits a *CJTC Form 1902* reporting the officer's separation.

# IIT Best Practices

## *Ad Hoc Committee Work Plan*

<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>	Commissioners Nickeia Hunter, Bart Logue, Trishandra Pickup, Tim Reynon, Erik Scairpon, and Annalesa Thomas.
<b>AUTHORIZING REGULATION</b>	WAC 139-12-030 (4)(b) - "The independent investigation will follow accepted best practices for homicide investigations published and annually updated by the WSCJTC."
<b>GOALS</b>	<p>Upon completion of the IIT best practices annual review, the following outcomes should be achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• External stakeholders will share with LETCSA staff and Commissioners their concerns or requests regarding the IIT best practices.</li> <li>• Relevant statutory updates will be addressed and incorporated to ensure the program is in compliance.</li> <li>• The Commissioners and LETCSA staff will make efforts to ensure the review occurs during the calendar year and does not continue into the following year.</li> </ul>
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review external stakeholder input             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Address concerns and questions from committee members to stakeholders regarding input and edit requests</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Provide Commissioner input to WSCJTC staff to incorporate ahead of the full Commission review and reach a general consensus</li> <li>• Assist with LETCSA staff's report of ad hoc committee work to the full Commission at the regularly scheduled Commission meeting as needed</li> </ul>
<b>DELIVERABLES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inter-Office Communication (IOC) Memo from LETCSA staff at the September Commission meeting</li> <li>• Track changes version of best practices document of new edits</li> <li>• A clean version of the best practices document with accepted track changes/edits incorporated into document</li> <li>• Completed actions outline of all hosted meetings during review period</li> <li>• Verbal report from Commissioner representative of the ad hoc committee</li> <li>• Collated stakeholder input with details and response</li> </ul>



# Ad Hoc Committee Review Process

The table below details the review process for the IIT best practices and includes timeframes and the lead person(s) for each step.

<b>INPUT</b>	From January to May, WSCJTC staff will collect stakeholder input and meet with representatives as needed. Anyone may provide input during this period. However, it must be submitted by May 31 of the calendar year to be considered.	<b>LEAD</b>	LETCSA staff
<b>REVIEW</b>	The IIT best practices ad hoc subcommittee will meet with WSCJTC staff and representatives of stakeholder groups in June through August to discuss proposed edits. Stakeholders may be present to address Commissioner concerns.	<b>LEAD</b>	LETCSA staff and ad hoc committee members
<b>MEETING</b>	At the regularly scheduled Commission meeting, LETCSA staff will present the proposed edits and work of the ad hoc subcommittee. The work plan deliverables will be completed at this stage.	<b>LEAD</b>	LETCSA staff
<b>ADOPTION</b>	The Commission will either request additional stakeholder consultation or approve proposed edits. If additional stakeholder consultation is required, the Commission will have the goal of adopting the edits in December.	<b>LEAD</b>	Commission
<b>REPEAT</b>	The ad hoc subcommittee will be involved in the additional consultation as outlined in this process.	<b>LEAD</b>	LETCSA staff and ad hoc committee

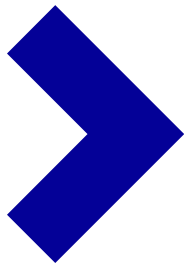


# Additional Information

## Important Dates



Stakeholder input is received until May 31 of the relevant calendar year. This is a hard deadline for the review to be considered at the September Commission meeting. Input may be provided to LETCSA staff at any point during the year. Anything submitted after that date is considered on a case-by-case basis and potentially would have to wait until next year. The ad hoc committee may initiate their review of input and edits before this date as well.

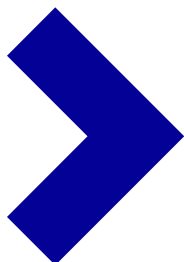


The ad hoc committee should complete its review in time for the regular September Commission meeting. If there are additional questions and/or input at that meeting, the best practices will be presented at the December meeting for final review and adoption. The Commissioners on the ad hoc committee should assist staff in communicating with other Commissioners and advocate for the work achieved during the review period.

## Input Guidance



Law enforcement and non-law enforcement groups both have the opportunity to provide edit requests to staff. The Office of Independent Investigations will also be participating in this process. Staff will directly collect input and host separate meetings with stakeholders before presenting to the ad hoc subcommittee. Input may be provided in meetings, in email or the post, over the phone, etc. Writing an email is the preferred method of input.



Stakeholders that submit input should make attempts to provide solutions when possible. If the individual does not have a solution, they would still be welcome to submit their input for review. The purpose of the annual review is to identify areas in the best practices that need to be modified for various reasons. Unless there are major statutory changes, significant revisions will not occur during this process.

**May 31**

Deadline for stakeholder input

**September**

Goal for Commission adoption of edits





WASHINGTON STATE  
**CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING COMMISSION**  
19010 1<sup>ST</sup> AVENUE SOUTH, BURIEN, WA 98148

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**COMMISSION MEETING**

Wednesday, September 13, 2023  
10 AM

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

De'Sean Quinn (Chair), Councilman, Tukwila  
Penelope Sapp (Vice Chair), Chief of Corrections, Kitsap County Sheriff's Office  
Ken Roske, Chief, Pasco Police Department  
Erik Scairpon, Chief, Marysville Police Department  
Ryan Dreveskracht, Attorney Presiding over Law Enforcement Practices and Accountability  
Mike Webb, Attorney General Designee  
Tim Reynon, Tribal Representative, Puyallup Tribe  
Darryl Barnes, Officer or First Line Supervisor  
Nickeia Hunter, Citizen at Large  
Walter Kendricks, Citizen at Large – East of Cascades  
Annalisa Thomas Citizen at Large  
Trishandra Pickup, Citizen at Large  
Sonia Joseph, Citizen at Large  
Katrina Johnson, Citizen at Large  
Bart Logue, Civilian Oversight over Law Enforcement

**WSCJTC STAFF PRESENT:**

Monica Alexander, Executive Director  
Renee Berry, Executive Assistant  
Jerrell Wills, Deputy Director  
Lacey Ledford, Legislative Liaison  
Megan Saunders, Manager, Communications  
Mike Devine, Manager, Certification Division  
Valerie Jenkins-Weaver, Program Manager, Certification Division  
Alex Buijs, Program Manager, LETCSA  
Kimberly Bliss, Assistant Director, Certification Division  
Jennifer Pendray, Program Manager, Coroner/ Medical Examiner  
Norma Gastelum, Confidential Secretary  
Ed Wade, Assistant Director, Support Services  
Bart Hayes, Manager, Advanced Training Division  
Derek Zable, Records Manager  
Kayla Wold, Hearings Coordinator

**OPENING**

*De'Sean Quinn, Commission Chair*

**Chair Quinn** called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM



**Renee Berry** conducted a roll call of the Commissioners. A quorum was present.

**Chair Quinn** thanked the Commissioners for being present and welcomed them to the meeting. He commended **Director Alexander** on excellent leadership and congratulating her for the 2023 Governor's Award for Outstanding Leadership award nomination.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

*Monica Alexander, Executive Director*

**Director Alexander** reminded the Commission of first graduating class from the WSCJTC Pasco Regional Academy on 9/14/2023. She thanked **Commissioner Roske** for the partnership and support with the regional academy. WSCJTC is working on opening the next regional academies in Skagit and Clark counties. **Director Alexander** gave updates on the status of the future regional academies and their importance of allowing more people to have access to training and still be able to go home to their families each day. The goal is also to reduce wait times for attendance in the Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA).

**Commissioner Barnes** asked if there was an update regarding regional Corrections Academies. **Director Alexander** explained that the BLEA regional academies are the priority due to the legislative funding, staffing, and campus space. She stated that the Correctional Academy class size has been increased to help decrease wait times.

**Kimberly Bliss** was introduced as the new Certification Assistant Director.

## CERTIFICATION REPORT

*Mike Devine, Certification Division Manager*

**Mike Devine** provided an update on the Certification Report. He provided an edit to the month of June. Instead of intake of 49, it should list 70. **Commissioner Reynon** asked for clarification on when the data was pulled for the report. **Mike Devine** responded that they are the current statistics on the report. **Commissioner Joseph** asked if the June and July stats roll over. **Mike Devine** explained that they are the current monthly case statistics. **Chair Quinn** asked to clarify if the stats represent an action. **Mike Devine** confirmed that the numbers represent an action taken. **Chair Quinn** asked about the category of "lack of jurisdiction". **Mike Devine** gave examples of cases that do not fall under the WSCJTC's statutory authority. **Commissioner Logue** asked for the stats of cases after they are sent to the Attorney General's Office and have completed the hearing process. **Mike Devine** responded that this can be provided.

**Commissioner Webb** asked a clarifying question if the data pulled was "point of time" statistics. **Mike Devine** confirmed that they were. **Commissioner Webb** asked if the retroactive reviews were complete or pending. **Mike Devine** explained they are beginning to seat hearing panels under the new law. **Commissioner Scairpon** asked if there is a complaint against federal law enforcement, does the complaint get forwarded to the appropriate jurisdiction. **Mike Devine** confirmed that it does. **Commissioner Thomas** asked to have a glossary created of the terms being used for the Certification Report. **Mike Devine** confirmed that a glossary will be created. **Commissioner Thomas** inquired that now that the division is fully staffed with additional investigators, how will the backlog of cases be addressed? **Mike Devine** answered that the Certification Division is not currently fully staffed. He gave an update on the investigator positions and current case load stats. The Certification Division is also in the process of purchasing a more advanced case management system. **Commissioner Reynon** asked if the

case monthly numbers listed in the report were cumulative. **Mike Devine** explained the monthly numbers and the intake process. Under the review process, the case numbers carry over. **Commissioner Logue** asked a clarifying question regarding intake plus current case numbers and those that are sent out. In addition, he asked if investigators were having to ask for additional documentation from what was initially provided. **Mike Devine** confirmed that at times, additional information is requested by investigators.

## OLD BUSINESS

### WAC language for the Coroner/Medical Examiner Certification & Scope of Authority

*Jennifer Pendray, Program Manager, Coroner/ Medical Examiner and Derek Zable, Records Manager*

After the last Commission meeting, staff engaged the AG based on the recommended language. We first set to determine if the recommended language was within the scope of authority provided to the WSCJTC. Unfortunately, much of the language was outside that scope. These conversations helped staff amend the WAC language to the authority provided to the WSCJTC in RCW 43.101.480. Also, the powers provided in RCW 43.101.080 provide no additional authority.

**Jennifer Pendray** gave a review of the development of WAC 139-27 for RCW 43.101.480. This requires the Commission to certify successful completion of medicolegal forensic investigation training required or exemption from the training requirement. Changes were made to the WAC from the suggestions from the last Commission meeting. The language was discussed, and the Attorney General's Office was consulted. Expanding scope beyond training is not permitted under the RCW.

#### Amended WAC Language:

**WAC 139-27-010(2)(b):** Removal of (b) from Good standing due to a lack of legal authority to have ethics requirements as a condition of certification.

**WAC 139-27-020(3):** The notice of ineligibility was added to establish the responsibility of the agency to notify the commission of ineligibility of a certificant at any time during the certification period.

**WAC 139-27-120:** Added to require the WSCJTC to collaborate with interstate and local agencies regarding certification eligibility regarding the status of their required industry licenses and/or certifications.

**Decrease in re-certification time:** The timeframe between recertification was reduced from five years to three years (with a corresponding decrease of continuing education from 45 hours to 30 hours). This was done to reflect the concerns by the commission of a long period between re-certification and subsequent confirmation that the certificant has maintained their good standing.

**Commission Scairpon** expressed his thanks to Jennifer Pendray for clarifying the Commission's questions regarding the scope of the RCW. **Commission Reynon** asked a question regarding if the certification training requirements were included within the WAC

amendments and within the scope of the Commission. **Jennifer Pendray** confirmed yes. **Commission Logue** asked what happens if a complaint regarding coroner/medical examiners comes through to the WSCJTC portal. **Jennifer Pendray** explained that medical examiner complaints would go to the American Board of Pathology.

**Chair Quinn** called for public comment. None received.

**Vice Chair Sapp** moved to approve the WACs. **Commissioner Scairpon** seconded the motion. **Commission Reynon** asked a question regarding a suggestion he made at the previous Commission Meeting regarding curriculum under WAC 139-27-070 and not adding cultural competency training to the list. **Jennifer Pendray** explained that it is already included in the Next of Kin training. **The motion passed unanimously.**

### Independent Investigation Team (IIT) Best Practices

*Alex Buijs, Program Manager, LETCSA*

**Alex Buijs** provided a timeline of the IIT Best Practices document. At the June 2023 Commission Meeting, the final approval of the proposed edits was postponed so that WSJCTC staff could coordinate with the Office of Independent Investigations (OII) and ensure the document aligns with their agency statute and practices. Representatives from IIT leadership also participated in discussions regarding these final edits.

#### Page 4 – Involved Officers

Current proposed language: “There shall be no communication (in any format) between any involved officer(s), witness officer(s), or other officer(s) until all interviews have been conducted by the OII or IIT.”

New proposed edit: “Communications on scene between involved officer(s) and other witnesses should be limited to statements made for immediate operational and/or safety needs. There should be no additional communication about the incident until all interviews have been completed by OII or the IIT or statements have been provided thereto.”

**Commission Reynon** commended the coordination of the OII and IIT. He asked about the Commission subcommittee and the need to be able to review Commission materials. **Alex Buijs** explained her understanding was that the Ad Hoc Committee was focused on the interview considerations. **Commissioner Logue** relayed his appreciation of the work done. He asked if the stakeholder’s questions and concerns have been captured and addressed. He also reiterated the importance of the subcommittee but stated that the annual review will be occurring soon. **Alex Buijs** gave the timeline of stakeholder engagement. **Commissioner Logue** stated as long as she can affirm that stakeholder engagement has occurred, he is satisfied with that. **Commissioner Scairpon** expressed that he enjoyed working on the subcommittee and there is benefit to the document moving forward. **Chair Quinn** reminded the Commissioners that previously the document was ready to be approved but needed additional stakeholder engagement. **Alex Buijs** asked if the annual review of the IIT Best Practices will include the subcommittee. **Chair Quinn** suggested it depending on the need for it. **Commissioner Scairpon** recommended moving through the material to discuss. **Commissioner Reynon** stated the importance of being able to fully review each draft. **Commissioner Logue** expressed his willingness to assist in the process. He appreciated the

summary document that was provided. **Chair Quinn** stated he would like a pre-briefing before the briefing with involvement of the subcommittee. **Alex Buijs** reminded the Commission of the upcoming annual review to further make edits.

#### Page 4 – Involved Officers

New proposed edit: “Communications on scene between involved officer(s) and other witnesses should be limited to statements made for immediate operational and/or safety needs. There should be no additional communication about the incident until all interviews have been completed by OII or the IIT or statements have been provided thereto.”

**Alex Buijs** shared that comments were previously provided from IIT Commanders and with consultation with the OII, their edits were agreed upon. **Commissioner Reynon** asked for clarification in regard to the “no communication” to “communication for operational and safety.” **Alex Buijs** responded that there were constitutional rights that were expressed to us. **Commissioner Logue** gave an example of the need for communication at the scene.

**Commissioner Logue** moved to approve Page 4 as written. **Commissioner Joseph** seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

#### Page 5 – Involved Agency Responsibilities

Current proposed language: “a. The notification to the OII and IIT should simultaneously occur. If the OII accepts the investigation, the IIT shall still be notified and respond to the scene of the incident. The involved agency would relinquish control of the scene to the IIT in accordance with RCW 43.102.120.”

New proposed edit: “a. The OII receives the initial notification of the incident and the need to respond in accordance with RCW 43.102.120. If the OII accepts the investigation, the IIT shall still be notified of the incident in accordance with WAC 139-12-030(1)(b).”

**Commissioner Joseph** asked a clarifying question about the process of accepting the investigation. **Alex Buijs** responded that the OII makes the initial determination and has the authority during the investigation in alignment with the RCW. **Commissioner Logue** asked if during the annual review, if additional edits can be included to the IIT Best Practices document. **Alex Buijs** confirmed. **Commissioner Reynon** asked if we are hoping for a uniformed approach to incidents. **Commissioner Scairpon** explained that the IIT Best Practices document is a best fit given the resources in the area. **Alex Buijs** stated the edits align the document with RCW and WAC. **Commissioner Scairpon** stated that notifications have started, but the response from the OII has not. Once the response from the OII is initiated, work will be required again to align the document. **Commissioner Roske** stated that the IIT Best Practices are good recommendations.

**Commissioner Kendricks** moved to approve the edits as written. **Vice Chair Sapp** seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**Commissioner Kendricks** asked when specifically, is the document up for annual review. **Chair Quinn** reiterated the need for the process for annual review. **Alex Buijs** stated the original document was released first September 2020. The review began in March of 2022 with

stakeholders. She asked if the future annual review would involve the subcommittee. **Chair Quinn** responded yes.

Current proposed language: “2. ... Statements made to the involved agency supervisor should be extremely brief and limited...”

New proposed edit: “2. ... Public safety statements made to the involved agency supervisor should be extremely brief and limited...”

Current proposed language: “a. The public safety statement can only be administered by the employer of the involved officer. If the public safety statement starts with, “You are being ordered/directed/compelled to answer the following questions...” The involved officer’s responses to these questions are considered compelled, and they cannot be considered by the IIT Investigators. If public safety information is obtained voluntarily, it may be used by the IIT.”

New proposed edit: “a. A public safety statement may be a compelled statement. Prior to disclosing the contents of a public safety statement to OII or the IIT, the involved agency shall describe the context, including whether the involved officer was told he or she was being ordered/directed/compelled to answer any questions. If public safety information is obtained voluntarily, it may be used by the OII or IIT.”

**Commissioner Joseph** asked if the difference was including the language “public safety” and in the second section, it describes the differences. **Alex Buijs** confirmed.

**Vice Chair Sapp** moved to approve the edits as written. **Commissioner Dreveskracht** seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

#### Page 6 – Involved Agency Responsibilities

Current proposed language: “5. Give all evidence in their possession to the OII or IIT.”

New proposed edit: “5. Provide evidence as requested to the OII or IIT as lawfully and legally required.”

**Commissioner Scairpon** moved to approve the edits as written. **Commissioner Thomas** seconded the motion. **Commissioner Reynon** asked a question regarding the edit for not giving all of the evidence or the reason behind the inclusion of “lawfully and legally required.” **Commissioner Pickup** asked why all the evidence would not being included. **Commissioner Scairpon** gave scenarios where this may be the case. **Alex Buijs** stated that it is covered in the next proposed edits. **Commissioner Pickup** requested that future packet have listed changes from the draft to the final materials provided for Commission meeting. **Alex Buijs** responded that the only difference between the draft and final meeting packet was that her presentation notes were included. **Commissioner Johnson** reiterated the need to have listed changes from the draft and final, as well. **Commissioner Joseph** stated her concerns for reviewing and approving the entire IIT Best Practices document in the current Commission meeting. **Renee Berry** stated that the timetable of receiving the meeting materials were agreed upon in the bylaws. **Commissioner Reynon** started it would be helpful to identify new information when the final meeting packet has been sent and a redline version of edits included. **Chair Quinn** requested a process improvement of the meeting packet to include redline versions.

**Commissioner Webb** proposed a motion to approve the edits with the understanding that the next quarterly meeting there will be more time to discuss the annual review process. **Commissioner Scairpon** seconded the motion. **Executive Director** recommended approving the document and moving forward including redline versions of edits. **Commissioner Scairpon** told the Commission that the current document in place is deficient and doesn't reference the OII. **Commissioner Kendrick**s asked if what is being asked is moving the document forward, with the recommendation of the Executive Director, with the expectation of future edits as needed. **Chair Quinn** confirmed. **Commissioner Thomas** requested a date set for the annual review. **Commissioner Kendrick**s asked if the Chair had the authority to request special meetings. **Chair Quinn** confirmed. **Commissioner Logue** summarized that the previous document was brought forward but asked for further stakeholder and OII feedback. That has been completed and incorporated into the proposed document. Since the document is a best practices document and not a WAC, there is room for maneuvering. Every time the approval is pushed off, the Commission is further out of compliance with a WAC. He suggested willingness to participate on the subcommittee.

**Commissioner Webb** moved to approve IIT Best Practices with the understanding that there will be a date chosen for the next annual review and convene a subcommittee for ongoing work and feedback. **Commissioner Kendrick**s seconded the motion. **Commissioner Scairpon** suggested the date of next September for the review. **Commissioner Reynon** requested that in the interim between now and September 2024, the subcommittee would be convened to review proposed edits anytime prior to September 2024 to the Commission. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**Executive Director Alexander** requested that suggestions to how the Commission would like the proposed future process to be compiled and sent out, to send to **Renee Berry**. **Commissioner Hunter** stated as long as the information clearly shows the language that was before and what is being proposed to change, and how the change impacts the outcome, that will help the process move forward smoother. **Commissioner Thomas** asked about the subcommittee members. **Chair Quinn** stated the previous subcommittee would reconvene including **Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Thomas, Commissioner Hunter, Commissioner Pickup, Commissioner Reynon, Vice Chair Sapp, and Commissioner Scairpon.**

Commissioners took at break at 11:51 AM. The Commission meeting resumed at 12:04 PM.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**Chair Quinn** called for review and approval of the meeting minutes from the June 14, 2023, Commission Meeting.

**Vice Chair Sapp** moved to approve the minutes. **Commissioner Kendrick**s seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Canine Evaluator Application**

*Valerie Jenkins-Weaver, Certification Operations Manager*

**Valerie Jenkins-Weaver** stated that the request is for the approval of Corporal Nathan Lerma from Mill Creek Police Department to be certified as K-9 Evaluator

She stated that all the officer is in good standing and in compliance with WSCJTC training standards.

**Commissioner Reynon** motioned to approve. **Commissioner Hunter** seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Limited Authority WACs**

*Valerie Jenkins-Weaver, Certification Operations Manager, Lacey Ledford, Legislative Liaison and Derek Zable, Records Manager*

The intent of these WAC changes is to update WAC 139-01-310, WAC 139-05, and WAC 139-06 to incorporate limited authority peace officers' certification requirements under RCW 43.101 after the passing of Substitute House Bill 1132. The WACs also received overall clean-up to enhance clarity, improve public comprehension, and edit minor grammatical errors.

**WAC 139-01-310** - Definitions for Title 139 WAC

**WAC 139-05-200** - Requirement of basic law enforcement training for officers

**Commissioner Reynon** asked if the revisions to the WACs were to add limited authority peace officers. If so, should "Washington" be included. **Valerie Jenkins-Weaver** responded that she didn't think so. He further asked about "supplemental training being necessary by the Commission. **Valerie Jenkins-Weaver** referred to Substitute House Bill 1132.

**WAC 139-05-210** Process for equivalency

**WAC 139-06-020** Agency reporting requirements—Force, separation, and investigation.

**WAC 139-06-040** Investigation and appeal—Procedures for misconduct.

**WAC 139-06-050** Statement of charges and notification for hearing.

**WAC 139-06-070** Conference and hearings procedures

**WAC 139-06-100** Outcomes for determinations of misconduct- Denial, suspension, probation, revocation, retraining, or dismissal of the statement of charges

**Chair Quinn** called for public comment. None received.

**Commissioner Kendricks** moved to approve the WACs. **Commissioner Johnson** seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Hearing Panel Applications**

*Derek Zable, Records Manager*







# CERTIFIED CANINE EVALUATOR APPLICATION

Washington State Criminal Justice  
Training Commission

Send completed packets to:  
[certmail@cjtc.wa.gov](mailto:certmail@cjtc.wa.gov)

The following documentation must be submitted for Commission approval on all applications for canine evaluators:


- Copy of certificate certifying to WAC 139-05-915 with at least 4 years' experience in the discipline they are applying.
- Agency transcript showing compliance with all mandated training including *Implicit Bias in Policing* or equivalent in the last 5 years.
- Certificate of recognition as a trainer of canines, in the discipline they are applying, by a professional organization of police and/or corrections dog handlers/trainers (includes departments and associations).
  - *If recognition is by a department, the applicant must provide what process was followed to be recognized as a trainer of canines by that department.*
- Date of completion of the CJTC Instructor Development class or other approved\* CJTC Instructor Course. 02/04/2022
- Letter and resume detailing how the applicant meets the above criteria.
- Letter from home agency supporting the applicant's position as an evaluator for the CJTC to certify teams on department time, as approved.
- Official CJTC transcript showing the applicant is a fully commissioned Washington State Certified Peace or Corrections Officer.

Applicant's Full Name: <b>Anthony C Bucat</b>		Applicant's Home Agency: <b>Lakewood Police Department</b>	
Applicant's Email Address: <b>abucat@cityoflakewood.us</b>		Applicant's Contact Phone: [REDACTED]	
Years of canine handler experience: <b>4</b>	Which organization(s) recognizes you as a trainer of canines: <b>Washington State Police Canine Association</b>		
Which discipline are you applying to evaluate? (Mark all that apply)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PATROL <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLOSIVE DETECTION <input type="checkbox"/> NARCOTIC DETECTION			
*If other approved CJTC Instructor Course, please explain:			

I recognize this is an application for certification or training to the Commission (See RCW 43.101.105(3)(c)); therefore, I hereby attest that I have read and understand the requirements outlined in the CJTC Policy "K-9 Certification Requirements" and WAC 139-05-915.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed this 13th day of November, 2023, in Lakewood, Washington.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

# Anthony Bucat

9401 Lakewood Dr Sw, Lakewood WA 98499 \* (██████████) \* abucat@cityoflakewood.us

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## PROFESSIONL PROFILE

I have been a Police Officer since July 2011 when I graduated as a Reserve Deputy for the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office. Since then I have become a certified full time Police Officer holding both a Washington State Peace Officer certification as well as a Federal Police Officer certification through the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. In 2019 I was selected as a Canine Handler for the Lakewood Police Department. I first certified through Washington State CJTC on March 29, 2019. I worked for my first four years under Washington State Police Canine Association Master Trainer James Syler and used him as a mentor for my canine career. Through that time with Officer Syler, I set my sights on becoming a trainer for the Washington State Police Canine Association.

In 2023 I became a certified trainer for Washington State Police Canine Association. After Officer Syler's retirement in early 2023, I became the canine trainer for our department and took the lead as the trainer for our Metro Training Group. Since then I have lead training for Lakewood Police Department, Tacoma Police Department and Puyallup Police Department. In 2023, I also taught my first 400 hour basic canine class for the other canine handler in my department.

I am up to date on department training to include specified training in Implicit Bias in Policing. I first certified as a Canine Handler on March 29, 2019 and have been consistently certified by Washington State CJTC since then. I completed Instructor Development in January 2022 through Washington State CJTC. I have spoken with and received letters of support from my department administration (Lakewood Police Department) as well as Deputy Nyhus from the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office who serves as the president of the Washington State Police Canine Association (organization recognizing me as a trainer).

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Lakewood Police Department, Lakewood, WA**

*Police Officer, February 2013 - present*

I was assigned to patrol in Lakewood from February 2013 until January 2019, handling patrol investigations, traffic enforcement and contacting community members. I responded to a variety of calls ranging from homicides to civil issues. I utilized different units in the department from Major Crimes investigators to the K9 unit for tracking wanted subjects. I have also been a member of the Lakewood Police Department Gang Unit gathering gang intelligence and assisting in gang investigations.

In January 2019 I was assigned to the Lakewood Police Department Canine Unit. I completed my 400 hour basic canine class and certified through the Washington State CJTC as well as the Washington State Police Canine Association. Since then I have deployed for multiple agencies throughout Pierce County for a variety of violent crimes. In 2023 I certified through the Washington State Police Canine Association as a trainer. I had the opportunity to teach my first

400 hour basic canine class and got that handler certified through the Washington State CJTC and Washington State Police Canine Association. I have since become our unit trainer as well as the lead trainer for our canine training group.

**Suquamish Police Department, Suquamish WA**

*Tribal Police Officer, September 2011 - January 2013*

I patrolled the Port Madison Indian Reservation as a commissioned Tribal Police Officer. I was assigned to patrol handling patrol calls, doing traffic enforcement and traffic investigations. I was assigned as the DUI unit for a period of time handling DUI investigations committed by Suquamish Tribal members.

**Kitsap County Sheriff's Office, Kitsap County, WA**

*Reserve Sheriff's Deputy, July 2011 – September 2011*

I graduated the reserve academy in July 2011. I patrolled unincorporated Kitsap County as a Reserve Deputy until September 2011. While with the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office I rode with full time Deputies learning the ins and outs of the job as well as handling general patrol calls.

**EDUCATION**

**Bainbridge High School, Bainbridge Island, WA**

*High School Diploma, Graduated 2006*

**Olympic College, Bremerton, WA**

*Business Management classes*

**Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Artesia, NM**

*Basic Federal Law Enforcement Academy 2012*

**Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission, Bruien, WA**

*Washington State Peace Officer Certification 2013*

**AWARDS AND HONORS**

- Distinguished Service Award (x2)
- Life Saving Award



To: Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission  
From: Lt. Peter Johnson, Lakewood Police Department  
Regarding: K9 WAC Evaluator

DATE: 31 October, 2023

This letter is intended to affirm the support of our agency for Officer Anthony Bucat to further his training experience in the capacity of a K9 WAC Evaluator. We are familiar with the potential time and resources involved in this position, and support his efforts.

Officer Bucat meets the requirements of the position and we thank you for considering him as a member of the CJTC Evaluator Team.

If you have any additional needs or requirements of Officer Bucat or the agency, please don't hesitate to ask.



Lkjg

Lt. Peter Johnson  
Lakewood Police Department  
9401 Lakewood Dr SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499  
PJohnson@cityoflakewood.us



## **Washington State Police Canine Association**

**To:** Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission

**Date:** 08-14- 2023

**From:** Jason Nyhus, Association President

**Regarding:** K9 WAC Evaluator

This is a letter of support for Lakewood Police Department Officer Anthony Bucat for the position of Criminal Justice Training Commission Washington Administrative Code K9 Evaluator.

Officer Bucat is an experienced Patrol K9 Handler and Trainer. Officer Bucat has attained his Trainers certification with the Washington State Police Canine Association (WSPCA). In the opinion of the WSPCA Executive Board, Officer Bucat's training and experience makes him more than qualified and will be an asset to the CJTC Evaluator's Team.

Officer Bucat meets or exceeds all CJTC requirements to be a WAC K9 Evaluator.



# Training History Report

WA State Criminal Justice Training Commission

Reported by Acadis® Readiness Suite

11/12/2023

For: **Bucat, Anthony C.**  
Student ID **1000-2437**

**Bucat, Anthony C.**

Person Status **Active**

DOB [REDACTED]

EEOC [REDACTED]

SSN [REDACTED]

Gender **Male**

## Employment

Organization	Active Dates	Title/Rank	Employment Assignment	Appointment Type	Current Status
Lakewood Police Department (Primary)	02/06/2013 - Current	Officer		Certified Peace Officer	Active
Suquamish Police Department	09/25/2011 - 02/04/2013	Officer		Non-Certified Tribal Police Officer	Inactive
Kitsap County Sheriff's Office	03/01/2011 - 10/09/2011	Reserve Peace Officer		Non-Certified Reserve Peace Officer	Inactive

## Certifications

Name	Issued	Expiration	Status
Certified Patrol Canine Team	03/29/2019	11/01/2024	Active (Active)
Peace Officer Certification	03/28/2013	Never Expires	Active (Active)
Annual Crisis Intervention Team Training Online	06/27/2018	08/30/2023	Expired (Inactive)

## Training

### Upcoming, Ongoing, & Unconfirmed

Course/Title (Course No.)	Training Dates	Grade	Status	Training Category	Hours
Duty to Intervene - 8898 - Duty to Intervene	08/03/2023		Assigned	Mandated (RCW)	3h 0m
LETCSA - 4050 - Introduction to the Historical Intersection of Race and Policing	02/14/2023		Assigned	LETCSA	3h 0m
Crisis Intervention - Annual CIT 2hr Online Course (2023)	01/03/2023		Assigned	CIT Crisis Intervention Team	1h 55m
LETCSA - 4030 - Effective Communication	06/15/2022		Assigned	LETCSA	2h 30m
LETCSA - 4040 - LGBTQ+ Core Competency	06/15/2022		Assigned	LETCSA	2h 30m
LETCSA - 4020-1 The Criminal Legal System: Structural Inequalities, Monetary Sanctions, Policy and Reform	02/03/2022		Assigned	LETCSA	2h 0m
<b>Total Hours</b>					<b>(14h 55m)</b>

### Current Period to Date (01/01/2023 - 11/12/2023)

Course/Title (Course No.)	Training Dates	Grade	Status	Training Category	Hours
LETCSA - 4070 - People First: Awareness, Challenges, and Response to Poverty and Recidivism	10/31/2023 - 10/31/2023		Completed - Passed	LETCSA	1h 0m



# Training History Report

WA State Criminal Justice Training Commission

Reported by Acadis® Readiness Suite

11/12/2023

For: **Bucat, Anthony C.**  
 Student ID **1000-2437**

**Total Hours (1h 0m)**

**Previous Period (01/01/2022 - 12/31/2022)**

Course/Title (Course No.)	Training Dates	Grade	Status	Training Category	Hours
Violence De-escalation (PTIS) - 2192 - 35 Patrol Tactics 24-hour In-Service (Lakewood, WA)	02/23/2022 10/05/2022		Graduated - 10/05/2022		24h 0m
Crisis Intervention - Annual CIT 2hr Online Course (2022)	08/30/2022 08/30/2022		Completed - Passed	CIT Crisis Intervention Team	2h 0m
Instructor Development - 2001-15 Instructor Development 1 (Pierce County)	01/31/2022 02/04/2022		Graduated - 02/04/2022		40h 0m
<b>Total Hours</b>					<b>(66h 0m)</b>

**Other Periods (through 12/31/2021)**

Course/Title (Course No.)	Training Dates	Grade	Status	Training Category	Hours
Crisis Intervention - Annual CIT 2hr Online Course (2021)	08/23/2021 08/23/2021		Completed - Passed	CIT Crisis Intervention Team	2h 0m
Crisis Intervention - 5509-8 CIT-Crisis Intervention Team 8hr - In-Service - Statewide (8 hrs) (1)	02/18/2021 02/18/2021		Graduated - 02/18/2021		8h 0m
Crisis Intervention - Annual CIT 2hr Online Course (2020)	08/31/2020 09/01/2020		Completed - Passed	CIT Online Refresher	2h 0m
Crisis Intervention - Annual CIT 2hr Online Course (2019)	12/11/2019 12/11/2019		Completed - Passed	CIT Online Refresher	2h 0m
Crisis Intervention - Annual CIT 2hr Online Course (2018)	06/27/2018 06/27/2018		Completed - Passed	CIT Online Refresher	2h 0m
Basic Law Enforcement Academy - 0090-3 Basic Law Enforcement Equivalency Academy (80 hrs) (14)	01/29/2013 03/28/2013		Graduated - 03/28/2013		80h 0m
Inactive Program - 0080-1 Basic Reserve Officer Academy (246 hrs) (1)	03/01/2011 07/16/2011		Graduated - 07/16/2011		246h 0m
<b>Total Hours</b>					<b>(342h 0m)</b>

A grade of ## indicates that the weights for this class are not valid and grades cannot be calculated.

**Education**

Degree Year	Level / Degree	Institution	Major	Minor
	Not Available / Not Available	Did Not Collect		

**Miscellaneous**

Allen LMS SID 0008576382  
 Profile Comments (Must Initial & Date) Officer

	Course	Section	Start Date	End Date	Score	Status
Task: My Course History						
	<u>1 - Annual Mandatory LEAD exposure training</u>	<u>001</u>		2/29/2020 15:00	0 / 0 (0%)	Pending Grade
	<u>2020-003 - Bloodborne Pathogens Training 2020</u>	<u>001</u>	3/23/2020 10:51	4/9/2020 19:08	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>2020 UOF - 2020 USE OF FORCE REFRESHER</u>	<u>001</u>		8/7/2020 00:00	0 / 0 (0%)	Pending Grade
	<u>2020 UOF - 2020 USE OF FORCE REFRESHER</u>	<u>001-UOFPDF</u>	7/10/2020 11:28	8/7/2020 00:00	0 / 0 (0%)	Pending Grade
	<u>2021 FE - 2021 Fire Extinguisher Training</u>	<u>001</u>	12/9/2020 02:49	12/9/2020 02:49	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>2021 LEAD - 2021 LEAD EXPOSURE TRAINING</u>	<u>001</u>	1/28/2021 17:37	1/28/2021 17:47	0 / 0 (0%)	Pending Grade
	<u>2021 FET - 2021 Fire Extinguisher Training</u>	<u>001</u>	1/28/2021 17:33	1/28/2021 17:37	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>2021UOF R - 2021 Use of Force Report Writing</u>	<u>001</u>	2/12/2021 19:59	2/12/2021 21:18	90 / 100 (90%)	Pass
	<u>2021BBP - 2021 Bloodborne Pathogens</u>	<u>001</u>	3/30/2021 18:10	3/30/2021 18:42	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>2021 HEAT - 2021 L&amp;I Heat Safety Training</u>	<u>001</u>	5/20/2021 16:55	5/20/2021 17:05	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>2021 - 2021 - Accident Prevention Program</u>	<u>001</u>	6/9/2021 09:43	6/15/2021 11:20	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>1300-03 - 1300-03 Chemical Hazard Communication Program</u>	<u>001</u>	9/10/2021 14:35	9/22/2021 08:22	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>2021-FET - Fire Extinguisher Training</u>	<u>001</u>	12/8/2021 01:27	12/8/2021 01:42	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>2021-FET - Fire Extinguisher Training</u>	<u>002</u>	12/14/2021 11:42	12/31/2022 00:00	0 / 0 (0%)	Pending Grade
	<u>2021-UOF - 2021 Use of Force Refresher</u>	<u>001</u>	12/15/2021 09:07	12/17/2021 18:35	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>2022-BBP - Annual Bloodborne Pathogens Training</u>	<u>001</u>	3/21/2022 13:05	3/29/2022 18:42	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>Order Serv - Protection Orders</u>	<u>001</u>	5/24/2022 12:01	5/25/2022 19:10	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>2022-DTI - Duty to Intervene</u>	<u>001</u>	11/14/2022 13:44	11/21/2022 13:27	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass



	<b>Course</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Status</b>
	<u>2023-BBP - Blood Borne Pathogens</u>	<u>001</u>	3/20/2023 11:04	3/30/2023 15:56	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>2023-Heat - Outdoor Heat Training</u>	<u>001</u>	5/7/2023 16:54	5/7/2023 16:54	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>2023-WFSS - 2023 Wildfire Smoke Safety Training</u>	<u>001</u>	6/8/2023 14:42	6/19/2023 18:28	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>2023-AP - Accident Prevention</u>	<u>001</u>	8/9/2023 09:25	8/13/2023 18:24	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>Chemical - Chemical Hazards</u>	<u>001</u>	9/11/2023 10:19	9/26/2023 01:43	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass
	<u>2023-BP - Biased Based Policing</u>	<u>001</u>	11/6/2023 10:59	11/10/2023 02:46	0 / 0 (0%)	Pass

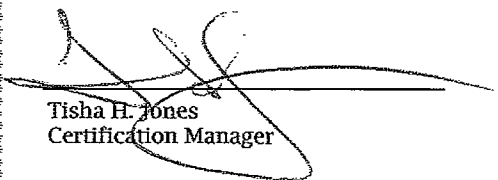
# Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission

*Recognizes that*

*Anthony C. Bucat & Kona*

*have met the minimum performance standards as set forth in WAC 139-05-915 and  
are therefore recognized as a certified*

## Patrol Canine Team

  
Tisha H. Jones  
Certification Manager



*March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019*

CERTIFICATION DATE

Expiration: Automatically in 24 months

# Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission

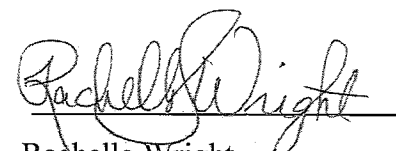
Hereby recognizes that

**ANTHONY C. BUCAT**

Has satisfactorily completed the 40-hour course of instruction in

**Instructor Development I (2001)**

Granted February 4, 2022



Rachelle Wright  
Program Manager

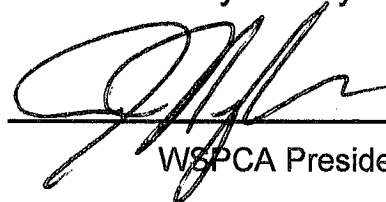


LET IT BE KNOWN BY ALL THAT THE  
**WASHINGTON STATE POLICE CANINE ASSOCIATION**  
HEREBY DOES GRANT AND BESTOW THE TITLE OF  
**PATROL DOG  
TRAINER**

UPON

**ANTHONY BUCAT**  
Lakewood Police Department

in recognition of demonstrated knowledge and ability in the field of  
police canine training on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2023.



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WSPCA President

November 16, 2023

Dear Chair Quinn and Director Alexander:

We are writing to ask that Commissioners be allowed to occasionally participate remotely in a Commission meeting, rather than in person, when individual circumstances require it.

Background. In the past year some of us have had to miss a quarterly meeting because work, family, or community obligations precluded travel to Burien. It is the travel time that presented the burden. We could have participated remotely in a two or three hour meeting, but we could not take the additional time to travel to Burien.

To attend a meeting in person, we must lose at least a day of work. Some of us also must make overnight childcare arrangements. We are usually able to do this. Unlike the Commission's public employee members (law enforcement, prosecutor, etc.), our role as community Commissioners is outside of our professional duties. The time away is not necessarily compensated so we use vacation or take leave without pay. Some of us have not been able to get permission to be away from work, or because of our job duties we have been in another state the day of a meeting, or we have had unexpected childcare emergencies or special family needs, or we have had to choose between exercising treaty rights and traveling to a Commission meeting.

RCW 43.101.030 requires the appointment of seven community members, at least three of whom are from historically underrepresented communities, and at least two of the seven must be from east of the Cascades. In order to facilitate the participation of these individuals, a policy that allows occasional remote participation seems to be a necessity. Respect for the diversity among Commissioners would also be honored by allowing remote attendance. It is this very diversity that makes the CJTC Commission such a unique and representative governing board.

Law enforcement and other public sector members of the Commission, while perhaps not experiencing the same economic consequences of serving as Commissioners that we do, may also have personal or professional reasons that once in a while prevent them from travel to Burien for an in-person meeting.

Intention. Our desire and intention is to most often attend Commission meetings in person because communication and rapport among group members is smoother and more natural when everyone is together in the same room. We acknowledge that hybrid meetings can be more challenging. However, the effect of an "in person" requirement has been that some of us could not participate at all. This is especially consequential since the agenda is usually a crowded one and we only meet quarterly. We recognize the value of in person communication but feel that remote participation is better than no participation, especially when the Commission meets so infrequently.

Authority. WCPA (Washington Coalition for Police Accountability) has looked into this and concluded that neither the CJTC statute, bylaws, nor the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) mandate a policy requiring attendance in person by a Commission member.

*Bylaws.* While the Commission Bylaws do expect Commissioners to attend, they do not say attendance must be “in person.”

*Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA).* Recent Covid-era amendments to the OPMA should be construed to allow participation remotely, as long as the meeting itself has a physical location. In amending the OPMA in 2022, the legislature specifically found and declared that “due to technological advances since the 1971 adoption of the open public meetings act, elected officials no longer conduct the public's business solely at in-person meetings, but can and do utilize telephonic and other electronic methods to efficiently conduct the business of state and local government remotely.” See Chapter 115, Laws of 2022, Section 1.

<https://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2021-22/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/House/1329-S.SL.pdf?cite=2022%20c%20115%20s%201>. We understand this statute is about access to government, and we are glad to see the CJTC Commission meetings being live-streamed. Participation by the public remotely, and by a commissioner occasionally seems doable and reasonable, and something the “guardians of democracy” should be lifting up.

The Washington State School District Association and the Municipal Research and Services Center have both examined the issue of remote attendance and state that as long as a meeting has a physical location to accommodate the public, members of the agency’s governing board can join remotely. See page 4 of <https://wssda.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Open-Public-Meetings-2022-web.pdf> and <https://mrsc.org/explore-topics/legal/open-government/open-public-meetings-act-faqs#physical-location>. We would offer that remote meetings are different from occasional remote participation by a commissioner and believe the policy we propose would be beneficial to the public, so that the community commissioners can fully engage and represent their “constituency.”

Request We ask the Commission to authorize an individual Commissioner to occasionally participate remotely in formal Commission meetings. If this request requires formal discussion or action by the whole Commission, we ask that you please put it in the agenda for the December 13 meeting.

Thank you for your attention to this request. We look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

Annales Thomas  
Katrina Johnson  
Kurtis Robinson  
Nickeia Hunter  
Ryan Dreverschat  
Sonia Joseph  
Tim Reynon  
Trishandra Pickup  
Walter Kendricks