



WASHINGTON STATE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING COMMISSION
19010 1ST AVENUE SOUTH, BURIEN, WA 98148

COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, June 12, 2024
10 A.M.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

De'Sean Quinn (Chair), Councilmember, City of Tukwila
Penelope Sapp (Vice Chair), Chief, Kitsap County Jail
Rosemary Kaholokula, Incumbent Prosecuting Attorney or Municipal Attorney **(Virtual)**
Rob Snaza, Sheriff, Lewis County Sheriff's Office
Erik Scairpon, Chief, Marysville Police Department
Ryan Dreveskracht, Attorney Presiding over Law Enforcement Practices and Accountability **(Virtual)**
Mike Webb, Attorney General's Office Designee **(Virtual)**
Assistant Chief Christina Martin on behalf of Commissioner John Batiste **(Virtual)**
Tim Reynon, Tribal Representative, Puyallup Tribe **(Virtual)**
Nickeia Hunter, Community Member **(Virtual)**
Walter Kendricks, Community Member – East of Cascades
Annalea Thomas, Community Member **(Virtual)**
Trishandra Pickup, Community Member **(Virtual)**
Sonja Joseph, Community Member **(Virtual)**
Bart Logue, Member with Civilian Oversight Over Law Enforcement
Velma Lockrem, Tribal Police Officer **(Virtual)**

Present after Roll Call:

Ken Roske – Chief, Pasco Police Department **(Virtual)**
Katrina Johnson, Community Member

WSCJTC STAFF PRESENT

Monica Alexander, Executive Director
Stephanie Huffman, Executive Assistant
Kimberly Bliss, Assistant Director, Certification
Jerrell Wills, Deputy Director
Kayla Wold, Hearings Coordinator
Lacey Ledford, Legislative Liaison
Megan Saunders, Communications Manager
Lauren Caputo Allen, Community Liaison Manager
Gunner Miller, Communications Intern

Renee Berry, Policy & Accreditation Manager

Welcome

De'Sean Quinn, Commission Chair

Chair Quinn called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M. **Stephanie Huffman** conducted a roll call of the Commissioners. A quorum was present.

CHAIR'S REPORT

De'Sean Quinn, Commission Chair

Chair Quinn announced his term as Chair will be up on July 13, 2024. **Chair Quinn** asked the Commissioners if they are interested in holding a special meeting to elect a new chair.

Commissioner Scairpon agreed that a meeting should be held. **Commissioner Kendricks** asked about the format of the meeting. **Chair Quinn** indicated he'd like an in-person meeting, but also suggested a hybrid meeting to include those Commissioners who cannot be present.

Commissioner Logue asked if nominations and a vote could occur today. **Commissioner Reynon** asked whether Chair Quinn or Vice Chair Sapp intend to keep their positions. **Commissioner Scairpon** expressed his appreciation for the way Chair Quinn has guided the Commissioners in his time as Chair. **Chair Quinn** suggested the Commissioners take some time to think about who they'd like to nominate. He would like to give someone else the opportunity to serve as Chair.

Chair Quinn announced he received a complaint about a violation of the Commission bylaws. He reminded all Commissioners about the bylaws they passed regarding not speaking on behalf of the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (WSCJTC). **Commissioner Snaza** spoke up and said he is not familiar with the complaint, but he is familiar with the person who filed the complaint. **Commissioner Snaza** said several sheriffs endorsed a candidate for governor, and because he had done it in uniform, there was a violation. The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) investigated seven individuals, who were all given warnings. **Commissioner Snaza** stated he will take whatever repercussions might ensue. He also clarified he is not involved in his brother's campaign for a state legislature position. If he did violate WSCJTC rules, he said he will take full responsibility. **Chair Quinn** thanked Commissioner Snaza for taking responsibility and issued a reminder to all Commissioners to be aware of the bylaws they passed. **Commissioner Snaza** apologized to all the Commissioners and the WSCJTC. It was not his intent to bring discredit upon them. **Commissioner Logue** asked if there were sanctions from the PDC. **Commissioner Snaza** confirmed he was sanctioned and received a letter. **Commissioner Logue** recommended documenting the violation and reminding all Commissioners of the rules. He asked for clarification about what kind of statements he is allowed to make, or whether he must request permission in advance. **Executive Director Alexander** responded that Commissioners are not to speak *on behalf* of the WSCJTC, but they can speak about the WSCJTC. **Taryn Jones** said, pursuant to the bylaws, Commissioners could

say, "I am speaking as an individual and not on behalf of the CJTC." She recommended Commissioners to be mindful of how individuals in the public might interpret a statement.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Monica Alexander, Executive Director

Executive Director Alexander informed the Commissioners that a new Corrections Officer Academy (COA) class started in Vancouver on May 7, 2024. The CJTC informed the Assistant BLEA Commander in Vancouver that the agency needed one additional classroom at the Vancouver Regional Academy, and it was quickly accomplished. There are still over 200 people on the waitlist for COA. Another COA class graduates at the Burien Academy on June 18, 2024. **Commissioner Snaza** said he has heard very positive feedback from recruits and graduates of the Vancouver Academy. **Vice Chair Sapp** also commended CJTC staff who work on the COA training. She expressed excitement that the COA is now 10 weeks instead of four weeks. **Executive Director Alexander** explained how much work goes into making sure the training is consistent across the regional academies. It is difficult to defend or support training that is not being taught properly. She commended Deputy Director Wills and Assistant Director Dave Miller, who travel all over the state and spend time at all the academies to ensure consistency. **Deputy Director Wills** spoke about Worldwide Instructional Design System (WIDS), a platform where the CJTC constructs its curriculum. The curriculum is delivered through the Learning Management System (LMS), called Acadis. That is where the CJTC keeps instructor guides and student guides. The CJTC also has an audit and evaluation team, which is how the CJTC ensures the curriculum is being delivered based upon the learning objective.

Commissioner Thomas asked how will community concerns be considered and who is responsible for monitoring and deciding how concerns will be moved up the chain? For instance, if a recruit displays aggression, how is it determined if this candidate should move forward if they are passing academically but may not be fit for the job? **Executive Director Alexander** clarified that only the agency can fire the candidate, but the concerns are brought through the CJTC's chain of command and the CJTC can send the recruit back to their agency. **Chair Quinn** stated that these situations have happened before. **Commissioner Snaza** said he has experience with some of the concerns raised by Commissioner Thomas, and he has removed candidates from both the academy and the agency.

Assistant Director Bliss said that recruit investigations are no longer performed within Basic Training Division (BTD) exclusively. The Certification Division took over recruit investigations about eight months ago. Those investigations are not certification investigations because officers cannot apply for certification unless they complete the academy. These investigations are intended to determine whether a recruit violated BTD rules and should be expelled from the academy. At the next Commission Meeting, the Commissioners will review WACs that will set rules about readmission to the academy. The Certification Division's investigation into a recruit

can result in a notification to the recruit's employing agency of its intent to deny certification to a recruit if they continue in the academy and apply for certification.

Commissioner Logue asked for clarification on what conduct by recruits rises to the level of a certification investigation. He specifically used Commissioner Thomas' example of aggressive behavior by a recruit. **Assistant Director Bliss** said the aggressiveness example would be addressed in the BTM investigation conducted by Certification Division investigators, because those are violations of BTM policies. Certification can only seek to deny certification if the misconduct implicates the revocation statute.

Commissioner Reynon asked if the CJTC is required to graduate recruits who complete basic training. **Assistant Director Bliss** stated that if a recruit completes the academy without misconduct, the recruit graduates from the academy and gets certified.

Executive Director Alexander said that if a recruit is not meeting standards, they normally are sent back to their agency. Those instances have nothing to do with the certification revocation because the recruits are not certified and do not finish the academy. **Deputy Director Wills** explained there is a process for appeal that some, not all, agencies may take when a recruit is dismissed from the academy. **Commissioner Logue** expressed he is very pleased that the CJTC is being proactive about investigating recruits. **Commissioner Johnson** asked how often these investigations occur. **Deputy Director Wills** responded that it is less than one half of one percent, maybe one recruit out of every 300 is investigated.

Renee Berry said the WSCJTC is going to International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST) accreditation. We are at the best practices marking and scoring for that. **Commissioner Logue** mentioned he had the opportunity to observe mock scenes at the Spokane Regional Academy. He suggested other Commissioners take the opportunity to attend the mock scenes if they can. **Executive Director Alexander** also invited the Commissioners to observe academy classes in training. Rich Peterson runs use of force training at the CJTC. He is teaching discipline on top of use of force and when to stop using force. He conducts a lot of training after hours. Many recruits are volunteering their time to stay late to learn use of force tactics.

Executive Director Alexander provided an update on the yet-to-open northwest regional police academy. Initially it was thought this academy would be the second academy opened, after the Pasco Academy. The process is taking longer than expected. The academy class that started last week in Burien has multiple students that could have attended the northwest regional academy if it was open. The current class in Pasco has 10 female recruits, some of whom are single mothers. The class also includes fathers who have said they wouldn't leave their families to come to Burien. **Commissioner Roske** said he has recently hired two single mothers who will be

attending the Pasco Academy who otherwise would be unable to go into this profession without the regional academy.

Executive Director Alexander updated the Commissioners that the first class at the Vancouver Regional Academy graduated. The first day of the next BLEA class in Vancouver is June 24, 2024. **Executive Director Alexander** spoke about three upcoming legislative tours of the WSCJTC campus. The CJTC cannot continue to operate efficiently at the current location. Staffing has more than doubled since the Executive Director came to the WSCJTC, and there is not enough space for CJTC employees. DLR group has a report on a predesign for the new facility due on June 28, 2024. They looked at three locations for the future WSCJTC campus. **Commissioner Snaza** said it is important that the WSCJTC has an Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC) and a state-of-the-art range facility. It is important for legislators to know that we are investing in the future of law enforcement. **Executive Director Alexander** spoke about a recent visit to Texas to view Fort Worth Police Department's academy, which is the size the WSCJTC is seeking for the State of Washington.

Lastly, the CJTC is 50 years old!

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Kimberly Bliss, Assistant Director, Certification

Assistant Director Bliss gave an update on staffing in the Certification Division. A second Chief Investigator started in June. One new investigator starts on July 22, 2024, and another is in backgrounding. The Certification Division is also hiring a Case Review Manager who will review cases and determine if they will be administratively closed or referred for investigation. Even with those positions soon to be filled, the Certification Division is severely understaffed. The division needs double the number of investigators that it has now. **Commissioner Logue** asked how the Commissioners can help make that happen. **Assistant Director Bliss** indicated the WSCJTC would be requesting more employees in the next biennial budget. **Chair Quinn** reflected that the WSCJTC is leading the nation in a lot of this work, and we need to provide the staffing and support for the Certification Division to take on its new responsibilities. **Assistant Director Bliss** explained that as education and outreach happens, we are getting more and more complaints. The Certification Division also recently gave a presentation at the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) conference and received many questions from agency representatives wanting to understand the Certification Division. Agencies understand their requirements better and are sending the CJTC more reports of misconduct. The more outreach we do, the more work we get. **Commissioner Snaza** commented on Assistant Director Bliss' presentation at WASPC and thanked her for the outreach. That class where she presented was very large with a lot of administrators in attendance. **Commissioner Roske** agreed with Commissioner Snaza and thanked Assistant Director Bliss for her informative presentation at WASPC.

Assistant Director Bliss spoke about hearing summaries and a report that was presented at the last Commission Meeting. While there were no hearings in the last quarter, nearly 25 officers have had their certification revoked to date in 2024. At least 14 officers have surrendered their certification. Another 11 officers have defaulted on their certification. One officer entered a settlement with the CJTC and is now on probation. **Commissioner Kendrick**s asked about the length of the probation. **Assistant Director Bliss** explained the first settlement and probation will last for two years. A second settlement is in the works that will likely be a four-year probation. **Commissioner Snaza** asked if the CJTC could request the officer's employment evaluations during the probationary period on an annual basis. **Assistant Director Bliss** said she will consult with the AG's office, but she believes the CJTC could request that information from the agency.

Assistant Director Bliss summarized current cases pending decertification. The Certification Division has eight Statements of Charges ready to be served on certified officers, four requests to surrender certification from officers under review, and 12 certification hearings scheduled. Certification staffing issues continue to contribute to a backlog. Also, approximately 40% of investigators' time has been spent doing recruit and WSCJTC internal affairs investigations in the first half of 2024. The Certification Division's new case management system Kaseware is finally up and running and is being fine-tuned. The process of building reporting functionality is taking time. It is entirely possible that in September, the CJTC won't have the reporting capabilities to present the exact same data it has in the past. **Commissioner Reynon** asked what happens to officers whose cases are being held up in a backlog. **Assistant Director Bliss** said some officers will have to wait, but the Certification Division is still going to follow our case prioritization policy. Investigations into officers who are presenting high risk to the public will not be held up in the investigation backlog. **Commissioner Logue** asked about the internal affairs investigations that Assistant Director Bliss previously said were taking up investigators' time. **Assistant Director Bliss** clarified that the internal affairs investigations she was talking about involve CJTC staff, not police officers from law enforcement agencies.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Quinn called for review and approval of the meeting minutes from March 12, 2024. **Chair Quinn** motioned to approve. **Commissioner Kendrick**s seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

King County Medical Examiner's Office Training Exemption Request

Jennifer Pendray, CJTC Medical Examiner Program Manager and Dr. Lacy, Chief Medical Examiner, King County Medical Examiner's Office

Jennifer Pendray presented a request for a training waiver submitted to the Executive Director by Dr. Lacy, Chief Medical Examiner for King County Medical Examiner's Office. Dr. Lacy requested a waiver for exemption from medicolegal forensic investigation training for medical examiners on behalf of Brian Mazrim, MD, an Associate Medical Examiner for the King County Medical Examiner's Office since 2001. The exemption is based on his education and experience.

WAC 139-27-100(2)(a)(i-v) states that a medical examiner may be granted an exemption to the training requirement if they are employed by a medical examiner's office, are board-certified in forensic pathology, have a current medical license in WA, and are in good standing at their place of employment. Dr. Mazrim is board-eligible in forensic pathology, not board-certified, as required by the WAC. He otherwise meets the requirements for exemption from this training. RCW 43.101.480(2) allows that the Commission exempt from this requirement any medical examiner who has obtained training comparable to the medicolegal forensic investigation training by virtue of educational or professional training or experience.

Commissioner Logue asked for the difference between board-eligible and board-certified. **Dr. Lacy** responded that board-eligible means Dr. Mazrim has completed all his necessary training but has not taken the exam to be board-certified. **Commissioner Dreveskracht** noted that the WAC states Dr. Mazrim must be board-certified to be considered for an exemption. **Jennifer Pendray** clarified that in this particular case, he is requesting a waiver, not an exemption. **Commissioner Reynon** asked how the Commissioners are authorized to grant the exemption if Dr. Mazrim has not been board-certified. **Jennifer Pendray** explained that the Chief Medical Examiner can request a waiver from that training if the person has received other requisite training and experience that excludes them from the training requirement. **Commissioner Scairpon** asked if there was some other mitigating factor that complicates Dr. Mazrim's ability to attend the training. **Jennifer Pendray** said the training is offered twice a year and lasts 40 hours. **Dr. Lacy** added that he would be away from work for a full week. **Commissioner Snaza** asked if, in a homicide case, the lack of board certification would come up into question in the jurors' minds. **Dr. Lacy** said Dr. Mazrim has testified for 23 years. He is considered an expert and has a two-and-a-half-decade track record. **Commissioner Kendrick**s asked what is preventing him from being board-certified. **Dr. Lacy** responded that Dr. Mazrim had passed the period where he could sit for the exam. He's proven he can do the job. **Commissioner Pickup** asked if Dr. Mazrim has received any training over the last 23 years. **Jennifer Pendray** confirmed he is continually receiving training. **Commissioner Logue** asked the legal advisor whether the Commissioners were able to grant the exemption request. Assistant Attorney General **Taryn Jones** clarified for the room that this was not an exemption request; rather, a waiver.

Commissioner Kendricks motioned to approve the request. **Commissioner Snaza** seconded the motion.

Commissioner Dreveskracht asked for the reason for the exemption request. **Jennifer Pendray** again mentioned that staffing and workload issues at the King County Medical Examiner’s Office would make it difficult for Dr. Mazrim to attend the 40-hour training. **Commissioner Dreveskracht** expressed concern in setting a precedent for granting exemptions. **Jennifer Pendray** explained that exemptions are granted frequently when the individual meets the requirements for the exemption. **Commissioner Pickup** asked if the waivers are granted so frequently, why is this one coming before the Commission? **Jennifer Pendray** explained that this is the first waiver request, but exemptions are granted frequently.

The motion passed with 11 in support and three against – Commissioner Webb, Commissioner Dreveskracht, and Commissioner Pickup. The motion was approved.

Public Disclosure WAC

Derek Zable/Lacey Ledford

WAC 139-02 – Public Records

The number of public records requests since 2021 has grown significantly, from 132 public records requests in 2021, to 435 in 2023, and potentially 600+ in 2024.

WAC 139-02-021 – Definitions

Sections 2) and (5) were updated.

WAC 139-02-050 – Availability of Public Records

Sections (1), (2), (3), and (4) were updated.

WAC 139-02-070 Costs for Providing Copies of Public Records

Sections (4), (5), (7), (8), (9), and (10) were updated.

WAC 139-02-090 Processing Requests for Public Records

Sections (2), (6), (9), and (10) were updated.

Commissioner Snaza pointed out there was written public comment in the Commission Packet. **Commissioner Snaza** asked about the background investigation records. **Commissioner Snaza** made a motion to approve the WACs. **Commissioner Johnson** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Hearing Panel Member Applications

Kayla Wold, Hearings Coordinator

Kayla Wold presented applications from the following prospective panel members: Chief Rich Allen, Olympia Police Department; Chief Matt Brown, Port Orchard Police Department;

Chief Mike Harden, Lake Forest Park Police Department; and Joshua Oh, Assistant General Council for Seattle Office of Police Accountability.

Commissioner Logue motioned to approve the hearing panel members. **Commissioner Reynon** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CLOSING

Commissioner Kendricks asked for a moment to speak prior to Chair Quinn adjourning the meeting. Spokane Police Department has killed five people this year, and Commissioner Kendrick knows something is wrong for a city the size of Spokane to have that many lethal force incidents in such a short time. **Chair Quinn** asked that someone from the CJTC follow up with Commissioner Kendrick.

Chair Quinn adjourned the meeting at 12:48 P.M.

Next Meeting: September 11, 2024, 10 A.M., WSCJTC

Written by:	<i>Lauren Caputo Allen</i>	9/23/2024 <u>Enter Date</u> Date
	Lauren Caputo Allen, Community Liaison Manager	9/24/2024 <u>Enter Date</u> Date
Reviewed by:	<i>Monica Alexander</i>	10/3/2024 <u>Enter Date</u> Date
	Monica Alexander, Executive Director	10/3/2024 <u>Enter Date</u> Date
Approved by:	<i>DeSean Quinn</i>	10/3/2024 <u>Enter Date</u> Date
	De'Sean Quinn, Commission Chair	10/3/2024 <u>Enter Date</u> Date