

**Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police  
Executive Board Meeting  
Omni Hotel at CNN Center  
Atlanta, Georgia  
February 9, 2014**

---

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Chief David Lyons.

President David Lyons deferred the roll call reading to Executive Director Frank V. Rotondo.

**Roll Call**

President, Chief David Lyons

1<sup>st</sup> VP, Chief M. Keith Glass

2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Chief George N. Turner

3<sup>rd</sup> VP, Chief Billy Grogan

4<sup>th</sup> VP, Chief Steve Land

Immediate Past President, Chief Frank Waits

Chairman of District Reps., Chief George Stagmeier

Executive Director, Frank V. Rotondo

General Counsel, Michael A. Caldwell

\*\* Indicates Board member not in attendance.

In accordance with the GACP Constitution and Bylaws, it was noted that a quorum of Executive Board members were in attendance.

**Others in Attendance:** Director Robbie Friedman, GILEE; Chief Joseph Wirthman, Jefferson PD; Chief Charles Walters, Gwinnett County PD; Chief Michael Jones, Suwanee PD; Chief Elaine Snow, Rome PD; Director Dan Branch, Buford DPS; Chief Billy Hancock, Ocilla PD; Director Vernon Keenan, GBI; Chief Stacey Cotton, Covington PD; Director Tony Winborn, GA Medical Board; Chief Chris Leighty, Morrow PD; Chief Dennis Nelson, Metter PD; Everett Suters, Guest of Chief Louis Dekmar; Chief Louis Dekmar, LaGrange PD; Chief Dan Flynn, Marietta PD; Chief Bill Westenberger, Kennesaw PD; Chief Wayne Dennard, Acworth PD; Chief Todd VandeZande, Hiram PD; Deputy Chief Geoffrey Parker, Hazlehurst PD; Chief Jeffery Cato, West Point PD; H.C. "Skip" Clark, Peachtree City PD; Chief Steve Heaton (Ret.); Fayetteville PD; Alice Johnson, Community Affairs, Atlanta PD; Chief/Associate VP Connie Sampson, GA State University PD; Chief Gary Owens; Grovetown DPS; Chief Mike Anchor, Augusta Tech PD; Chief Lance Poss, Columbia County BOE; Chief Bill McBride, Georgia Regents University PD; and Asst. Special Agent in Charge John Murphy, U.S. Department of Justice

**Presentation of Previous Minutes**

- Executive Director Rotondo presented for review the minutes of the last board meeting. **Motion made by Chief Frank Waits, seconded by Chief Billy Grogan, to accept the minutes of the December 10, 2013, Board meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Financial Report**

- Executive Director Rotondo presented the financial reports dated December 31, 2013. **Motion made by Chief Frank Waits, seconded by Chief Keith Glass, to accept the financial reports dated December 31, 2013, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

### Executive Director's Report

- Governor's Office of Transition, Support and Re-Entry  
Executive Director Jay Neal of the Governor's Office of Transition, Support and Re-Entry spoke briefly about the mission of that division of state government and how it blends in with the Governor's overall approach on criminal justice reform.
- Life Membership  
Executive Director Rotondo requested Life Membership be considered for Chief Michael F. Stapleton, recently retired from the University of North Georgia. Executive Director Rotondo noted that Chief Stapleton meets the criteria for GACP Life Membership and therefore requests favorable consideration. **Motion by Chief Frank Waits, seconded by Chief George Stagmeier, to approve Life Membership for Chief Michael F. Stapleton of the University of North Georgia PD. Motion passed unanimously.**
- FBI Program  
Federal law enforcement official Pete Fagan spoke about the FBI's "*Next Generation Identification*," a facial recognition program. Agent Fagan believes this program will have a positive impact on law enforcement. As the program continues to grow he will keep GACP informed.
- Legislative Issues
  - a. HB 1 – Executive Director Rotondo indicated that GACP has embraced the revised HB 1 as being a very acceptable law enforcement tool. Executive Director Rotondo then deferred to President Lyons to make a few comments regarding his evaluation of HB 1. Upon completion of his evaluation, he stated that as President of GACP he sent a letter to the author of HB 1, Chairman Wendell Willard, indicating that GACP supports this year's current version of HB 1.
  - b. HB 803, SB 355, HB 885 and others - Executive Director Rotondo spoke briefly about the following bills: HB 803, dealing with law enforcement encounters involving domestic animals, SB 355 relating to eye witness identification, HB 885 regarding medical marijuana, and others. Contributing to this discussion was one of GACP's tenured members, Tony Winborn, Director of Investigations for the Georgia Composite Medical Board.

With reference to HB 885 regarding Medical Marijuana, after a lengthy discussion the president indicated that he would author a letter dealing with that bill stating that GACP is opposed to medical marijuana; however, they request that further research be conducted on this issue as noted in SR756.

With respect to SB 355 regarding Eye Witness Identification, several GACP leaders intend to meet with the author of this bill, Sen. Bill Cowsert, to voice their concerns.
- Winter Training Conference Events  
Executive Director Rotondo spoke briefly about some of the events during our Winter Training Conference, including the GACP social function Monday evening starting at 6:00pm. He respectfully requested that the board members be available to escort the representatives and senators into the social meeting area.

➤ **Candidates for Open Board Positions**

Executive Director Rotondo noted that four members of GACP have announced that they are running for open board seats with the election to be conducted at GACP's Summer Training Conference in July, 2014. In alphabetical order, those members are:

- ✓ Chief Chris Leighty, Morrow PD
- ✓ Chief Kenneth Morgan, Fort Valley State Division of Public Safety
- ✓ Dennis Nelson, Metter PD
- ✓ Chief Joseph Wirthman, Jefferson PD

All of the above members were advised by Executive Director Rotondo that they may speak at the business meeting on Tuesday, February 11, 2014, for no more than five minutes regarding their platforms.

➤ **GACP Constitution**

Chief Joe Wirthman requested permission to address the board and President Lyons granted him permission. Chief Wirthman pointed out a discrepancy in the GACP Constitution which may have a bearing on the procedure used to elect two members on the executive board when there are four candidates running for office. After a short discussion on this issue, President Lyons requested GACP Parliamentarian, Michael Caldwell, evaluate the conflicting sections of the Constitution and present a written evaluation of the conflicting sections to him.

**President's Report**

- President Lyons followed up on one of the above noted sections presented in Executive Director Rotondo's report regarding Chief Wirthman's concern about conflicting sections of the Constitution.
- President Lyons stated that the Executive Board has endorsed Chief Louis Dekmar's bid to be the International Association of Chiefs of Police's (IACP) next 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President. He will be asking for consensus on this issue at the Tuesday, February 11, 2014, business meeting. Also associated with Chief Dekmar's bid for IACP Vice President, President Lyons indicated that he would be researching the possibility of obtaining a bus or buses to transport GACP members to Orlando, FL so that they may consider voting for Chief Dekmar.

**Board Reports**

- 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Chief Keith Glass – Chief Glass indicated that there will be some change associated with Summer Training Conference. He encourages all of the members who attend that conference to also attend GACP's banquet and that he would do everything possible to keep the banquet under two hours.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Chief George Turner – Note: Chief Turner had to leave the meeting after the Executive Director's report to attend a winter storm alert conference with his mayor.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> VP, Chief Billy Grogan – Chief Grogan spoke briefly about rendering assistance to Chief Dekmar's IACP campaign.
- 4<sup>th</sup> VP, Chief Steve Land – Nothing to report.

- Immediate Past President, Chief Frank Waits – Nothing to report.
- Chairman of District Representatives, Chief George Stagmeier – Nothing to report.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**Adjournment**

- **Motion made by *Chief Frank Waits*, seconded by *Chief Keith Glass*, to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**