

**Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police
Executive Board Meeting
Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Forsyth, GA
September 18, 2014**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the 1st Vice President, Chief George N. Turner.

Vice President George Turner asked Executive Director Rotondo to read the roll.

Roll Call

**President, Chief M. Keith Glass

1st VP, Chief George N. Turner

2nd VP, Chief Billy Grogan

3rd VP, Chief Dennis S. Nelson

4th VP, Chief Joseph W. Wirthman

**Immediate Past President, David L. Lyons

Chairman of District Reps., Chief George Stagmeier

Executive Director, Frank V. Rotondo

General Counsel, Michael A. Caldwell (arrived during Executive Director Rotondo's Report)

** 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 Daniel O. Branch, Buford D.P.S.; Chief Steve Heaton, Griffin P.D.; Retired Chief David Kerr, PhD.; Chief Wesley Walker, Lyons P.D.; Associate Vice President/Chief of Police Connie Sampson, Georgia State University; Deputy Chief Janet Moon, Suwannee P.D.; Assistant Chief Fred Stephens, Athens-Clarke County P.D.; Assistant Deputy Director Neil Gerstenberger, GBI/GCIC Unit; Program Manager Cheryl Payton, GBI/GCIC Unit

Presentation of Previous Minutes

- Executive Director Rotondo presented for review the minutes of the previous board meeting. **Motion made by *Chief Billy Grogan*, seconded by *Chief George Stagmeier*, to accept the minutes of the July 26, 2014 Board Meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

Financial Report

- Executive Director Rotondo presented the financial reports dated July 31, 2014 along with the financial reports for July 2013 thru June 2014. **Motion made by *Chief Joe Wirthman*, seconded by *Chief Dennis Nelson* to accept the financial reports dated July 31, 2014, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

Co-chair of GACP's Finance Committee, Associate Vice President/Chief of Police Connie Sampson asked Executive Director Rotondo to speak about GACP's recent audit and any questions and/or concerns that may have arisen as a result of member inquires. Executive Director Rotondo indicated there is no problem with the recent GACP audit. The results of the audit should be released next month.

In regards to member inquiries, Executive Director Rotondo explained he did not have all information available for presentation to the board; however, one GACP member asked several questions of the GACP accountant, which were answered accordingly. The questions asked by the member, including the accountant's responses, are as follows:

1. **Q:** Does Morris and McDaniel Inc. pay GACP rent for the use of an office at the GACP Building?

A: Yes, they pay \$500/month.

2. **Q:** Why is a 3rd party booking agent involved in hotel reservations during the Summer Training Conference and is there any "kickback" to GACP?

A: The hotel uses a private company named Pass Key. Pass Key is paid for by the Savannah Chamber of Commerce and there is no additional charge to the members for using this service.

3. **Q:** What types of upgraded lodging do staff members receive during the Summer Training Conference and does it result in a greater cost for the other attendees or membership?

A: All upgrades for lodging were contractually negotiated and as far as he knew, one comped room is given per each 50 reserved rooms. These comped rooms are always used to provide lodging for instructors.

4. **Q:** Why does GACP "push" the company APPRISS and is there any compensation to GACP for this arrangement?

A: A copy of a memorandum written by the Executive Director explaining this arrangement was provided to all members as well as to the inquiring member. This memorandum was emailed to all members in 2011 and provided details as to the reasons GACP encourages members to become involved in the electronic data transfer of motor vehicle accidents to the Georgia Department of Transportation. The memorandum also explained that APPRISS is the repository for the Georgia Department of Transportation. They were awarded this honor after responding to an RFP for services. A copy of the memorandum, authored by Executive Director Rotondo, was also published in GACP's quarterly newsletter. Additionally, the accountant is aware that the Executive Director, as often as possible, encourages the members to provide electronic accident reports to GA DOT expeditiously.

It was noted that there were other questions asked, but Executive Director Rotondo was not privy to the conversation. These questions were asked of the accountant and answered to what he believes was the inquiring member's satisfaction. However, the accountant is of the firm belief that the contract he has with GACP denotes he only addresses issues of concern or inquiries from either the Executive Director or member of the GACP elected board. He does not answer to the GACP membership in general. His professional audit will be available to the members of the executive board once completed.

Executive Director's Report

➤ Medical Marijuana Oil

Executive Director Rotondo introduced State Representative Allen Peake to the members. He gave a brief presentation regarding an issue of recent debate, the legalization of Medical Marijuana Oil. This topic initiated a discussion and several questions were asked of Representative Peake regarding the possibility of Medical Marijuana Oil leading to the legalization of marijuana in the state. The duration of Representative Peake's presentation and discussion was approximately 20-25 minutes.

➤ DUI Conviction Rates

Executive Director Rotondo introduced Assistant Deputy Director, Neil Gerstenberger, and Program Manager, Cheryl Payton, of the GBI/GCIC Unit. The focus of their discussion with members concerned an inordinately low DUI conviction rate state wide, which may result in future legislation.

➤ Hiring of Defense Attorneys as Prosecutors

Executive Director Rotondo spoke briefly regarding several projected legislative issues including, but not limited to the restriction of part-time prosecutors from being hired if they also serve as defense attorneys.

➤ Law Enforcement Body Cameras/Eyewitness Identification Issues

Executive Director Rotondo spoke about Law Enforcement body cameras and "eavesdropping" in the use of body cameras. Also, the topic of eyewitness identification was discussed.

➤ Labor Issues

Executive Director Rotondo asked General Counsel, Michael Caldwell, to explain the procedure he uses to help police chiefs who are having difficulties associated with either their personal employment or their understanding of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

➤ Executive Training Session

Executive Director Rotondo indicated that next month, he will ask for an Executive Session to discuss the history and evolution of the GACP office and will include an overview of office policy and organizational accounting principles.

➤ Chief Kissel and Law Enforcement Training

Next month, Executive Director Rotondo will ask for a decision from the President and the Board Members regarding Chief Kissel's letter concerning LE Training.

President's Report

- GACP President, Keith Glass was not in attendance.

Board Reports

- Chief Turner spoke briefly regarding Atlanta's special events and the use of drones. He requested that Executive Director Rotondo obtain additional information, particularly any information IACP may have regarding the use of drones.
- Chief Grogan asked Executive Director Rotondo if he was aware of the reasoning behind the Peace Officer's Annuity and Benefit Fund (POAB) failure to increase benefits to their members. Executive Director Rotondo requested that Chief Grogan contact the POAB, Executive Director, Bobby Carter, for an explanation of the lack of increases in benefits.
- There were no further questions from the Executive Board Members.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- None

Adjournment

- **Motion made by *Chief George Stagmeier*, seconded by *Chief Billy Grogan*, to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**