



Vermont Criminal Justice Council

RULES COMMITTEE: Minutes

July 15, 2021

July 15, 2021
9:00 AM
Teams Meeting

Members in Attendance:

Cassandra Burdyslaw
Evan Meenan
Brian Searles
Bill Sorrell

Members Absent:

Sheriff Mark Anderson

Other Attendees:

Heather Simons – Executive Director Vermont Police Academy
Cindy Taylor Patch – Vermont Police Academy
Jacob Humbert – Assistant Attorney General

Call to order:

Meenan called the meeting to order at 9:09 AM

Motion to Approve the Minutes:

Sorrell moved to approve the minutes. Burdyslaw seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Continued Discussion of Rule 18:

Meenan continued the walkthrough of the draft revisions to Rule 18. The particular topics and questions discussed included:

1. The lack of a specific statutory requirement to hold hearings on waiver requests.
2. The potential mechanisms that a waiver requestor might use to appeal a waiver decision.
3. The relative infrequency of requests for waivers greater than 60-days.
4. The potential for a rise in waiver requests if Vermont law enforcement agencies increase efforts to recruit out-of-state applicants.
5. The fact that, as a practical matter, Level I and II officers can't get waivers of basic training requirements.

At the Committee's suggestion, Meenan is going to revise the draft revisions to Rule 18 so that, in addition to incorporating the decisions made at the Committee's July 8, 2021 meeting, it:

1. Permits the Waiver Committee to issue annual in-service waivers over 60-days.
2. Permits the Council's Executive Director to issue annual in-service waivers of under 60-days and all other training waivers.
3. Does not expressly provide for appeals of waiver decisions to the full Council.



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4. Permits the Waiver Committee or Executive Director to refer a waiver request to the full Council for its review.
5. Does not expressly provide for hearings on waiver requests.
6. Attempts to avoid the use of pronouns to the maximum degree possible, or at a minimum uses gender neutral pronouns.
7. States that waiver requests must be on forms prescribed by the Council rather than including in the rule what information must be submitted with a waiver request.
8. Include in subsection (b)(iii) both fair and impartial policing and de-escalation techniques.

Presentation from Humbert on what, by statute, the Council's rules are required to cover:

There was insufficient time to get to this agenda item before the meeting ended. It was agreed to take this up at the next meeting.

Discussion/review of the overall structure and content of the Council's rules:

There was insufficient time to get to this agenda item before the meeting ended. It was agreed to take this up at the next meeting.

Agenda for July 22 Meeting:

Presentation from Humbert on what, by statute, the Council's rules are required to cover.
Discussion/review of the overall structure and content of the Council's rules.

Potential Future Agenda Items:

Presentation from Academy staff on Rule 13 with a specific focus on what is going well and what, if anything, could use some alterations and/or improvements.
Presentation from Humbert on the current professional regulation process.

Motion to Adjourn:

Sorrell moved to adjourn the meeting. Burdyshaw seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.