



# Vermont Criminal Justice Council

## RULES COMMITTEE: Minutes

July 29, 2021

July 29, 2021  
9:00 AM  
Teams Meeting

**Members in Attendance:**

Sheriff Mark Anderson  
Cassandra Burdyslaw  
Evan Meenan  
Brian Searles  
Bill Sorrell

**Members Absent:**

None

**Other Attendees:**

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

**Call to order:**

Meenan called the meeting to order at 9:00AM

**Motion to Approve the Minutes:**

Sorrell suggested some grammatical changes to the minutes, which were adopted.  
Anderson noted a typo, which was corrected.  
Humbert suggested noting that the Council may, but is not required to adopt rules related to professional misconduct. Humbert noted that this topic could also be addressed through a policy, procedure, or guidelines. A note to this effect was added to the minutes.  
Sorrell moved to approve the minutes as amended. Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Searles abstained from the vote because he was not present.

**Updates from Executive Director Simon on Council Staff's Priorities for Rule Updates:**

Simons said professional regulation, Rule 13 regarding in-service training, and Rules 7a through 9 regarding basic training standards are staff priorities.

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

Meenan said that he had comments about specific rules that are better to address when we get to those rules. Meenan suggested the "adopted" section could be the first rule.  
Sorrell suggested organizing the rules into chapters, such as General, Training, Council Operations, and Professional Regulation to make them more organized and accessible.



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Burdyslaw suggested keeping in mind who will be accessing these rules when deciding how to reorganize them. Burdyslaw suggested that Rule 3 seemed like it was in the wrong place.

The Committee members agreed that in general the Rules should set forth minimum standards and principles, but should grant the Council flexibility to address issues further through policies, procedures, guidelines, and curriculum. Humbert noted that approach is consistent with the last update to Rule 9 regarding basic training standards for Level III law enforcement officers.

Sorrell mentioned stating in the rules that readers may need to refer to other policies, procedures, and guidelines.

Searles suggested ensuring that the public can also understand the rules, especially when it comes to professional regulation.

Meenan suggested splitting the draft of Rule 18 into two so the general waiver provisions are the General or Council Operations chapter and the training waiver provisions are in the Training chapter. Meenan will redraft Rule 18 once additional rules are reviewed and the new organizational framework is established.

### **Agenda for August 5 meeting:**

Presentation from Humbert on the current professional regulation process, including an update on the work of the professional regulation subcommittee.

### **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 Academy staff on the existing basic training requirements.

### **Motion to Adjourn:**

Sorrell moved to adjourn the meeting. Searles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.