



## Vermont Criminal Justice Council Council Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2021  
10:00 AM  
Zoom Meeting

### Members in Attendance:

William Sorrell, Chair – Governor Appointed  
Sheriff Mark Anderson, Vice-Chair – VT Sheriff's Association  
Xusana Davis, Vice-Chair – E.D. Racial Equity  
Chief Christopher Brickell – Vermont Chiefs' Association  
Christopher Louras – Governor Appointed  
Shawn Pratt – Governor Appointed  
Glen Boyde – Proxy for James Baker, Dept of Corrections  
Sadie Donovan – Proxy for Carol Brochu, Center for Crime Victim Services  
Evan Meenan – Proxy for John Campbell, States Attorney & Sheriff's  
Erin Hodges - Vermont Troopers Association  
Maria Tungatarova – Governor Appointed  
Trevor Whipple – Vermont Leagues of Cities and Towns  
Col. Jason Batchelder - Proxy for Commissioner Louis Porter, VT Fish & Wildlife  
Michael Schirling – Commissioner of Public Safety  
Brian Searles – Governor Appointed  
Karen Tronsgard-Scott – Executive Director, VT Network Domestic Violence/Sexual Violence

### Other Attendees:

Heather Simons – Executive Director Vermont Police Academy  
Lindsay Thivierge – Vermont Police Academy  
Major Justin Stedman - Proxy for Commissioner Louis Porter, VT Fish & Wildlife  
Cindy Taylor-Patch – Vermont Police Academy  
Gail Williams – Vermont Police Academy  
Steven Coote – Vermont State Police  
Barb Kessler – Vermont State Police  
Jacob Humbert – Assistant Attorney General  
Keith Baranow - Guest  
Kevin Lane – Vermont State Police  
Jennifer Firpo – Vermont Police Academy  
Julio Thompson – Attorney General's Office  
Ann Schroeder – Guest  
Linda Lambert, Linda, Weinberg, Andrew Keegan, Matt Miller, Elizabeth Ramirez, Rose Webber, Human Rights Commission, Owner, Lia Earnest, Daoudi, Doug Hoffer, Michael's primary phone, Enrique Balcazar, Madelin, Will Lambek



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**Call to Order:** VCJC Chair Bill Sorrell 10:02

No additions or deletions to the agenda

**Review of prior minutes:** Revision to September 15th draft minutes under Committees, Professional Regulation Subcommittee. Minutes should have read Karen Tronsgard-Scott accepted, not excepted, the request to join this subcommittee.

**Approval of prior minutes:** Chris Louras made a motion to accept the minutes with the revision from September 15th. Second by Trevor Whipple. All in favor. Motion passed.

**State Auditor Update:** State Auditor Doug Hoffer introduced Linda Lambert, who will be doing a records audit with her colleagues Andrew Keegan and Matt Miller. Linda gave an overview of the process. The first objective is to determine the Council ensures newly hired officers or applicants meet the requirements of the State. The second objective will be to assess and validate the Council Rule 13 accuracy by looking at calendar years 2018, 2019, and 2020. The process will utilize planning, fieldwork, and reporting. There will likely be random audits of agency training records. Upon completion of the audit, there will be recommendations and suggestions for improvements.

**Body Worn Camera (BWC) Model Policy:** Colonel Jason Batchelder went over the BWC policy written by the Law Enforcement Advisory Board (LEAB). Batchelder asked the Council to have an action item on the next meeting agenda for members to vote on approval of this policy or create its own policy which will need to be ready and put in place by Jan 1, 2022. All agencies with BWC must adopt the approved policy. Batchelder suggested looking at the policy in one year to see how the policy is working for everyone.

**Fair and Impartial Policing (FIP) Committee update:** Jennifer Firpo gave an update on the 2021 mandatory FIP training to inform the Council the contract process has been completed and a robust training schedule is being planned, however with the training coming out so late she has asked the Council for an action item at the next meeting to approve extending the deadline until August 2022.

Julio Thompson was introduced and went over the five (5) points in the policy that Migrant Justice has concerns about. He talked about their revision recommendations and identified issues those revisions would present.

Chief Chris Brickell gave a brief background on the policy, the stakeholders who have worked on the policy, and how the policy got to be what it is today.

Major Justin Stedman spoke on behalf of the FIP Committee and informed the Council that the FIP committee took up the suggestions from Julio. On the first point, the committee voted 5-1 to accept Migrant Justice's recommendation regarding access to the holding area. The second point



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regarding investigations was a split vote of 3-3. For the third point regarding adding suggested language from Migrant Justice, four voted for, one abstained, and one voted against. Chair Sorrell would like to hear more from Migrant Justice or the ACLU on these points. There was a discussion on the need for more time. The deadline is of lower importance than getting it right yet at the same time there is a sense of urgency and seriousness for getting this done.

Executive Director Heather Simons will roll the remaining agenda items to the next meeting as time had run out at this meeting

**Motion to adjourn:** Sheriff Mark Anderson moved, second by Major Stedman. All in favor.

**Meeting adjourned:** 12:09

DRAFT