Meeting Minutes

Commission on Statewide Law Enforcement Standards of Conduct and Discipline

Date: August 13, 2025

Time: 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Call to Order, Roll Call

Attendees

Members in attendance: Tarron Anderson, Sheriff Angela Brandenburg, Phil Castle, Chief George Burke, Anil Karia, Kelsie McDaniel, Steven Schuback, Michael Slauson, Kristen Winemiller

Staff in attendance: Lauri Stewart, Toni Kemple

Members not in attendance: Dave Henslee, Michael Lopez, Benny Williams, Sen Floyd

Prozanski, Rep Jeff Helfrich

SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS:

The meeting was recorded in full and is available online at the Commission on Statewide Law Enforcement Standards of Conduct and Discipline website: LESC - Oregon Department of Justice

MOTION

Executive Director Lauri Stewart asked for corrections or changes to the July 3, 2025, minutes as presented. Hearing no objections, Executive Director Stewart declared the minutes for July 3, 2025, approved by general consent. (see video time stamp 0:01:48)

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Executive Directors Report – Presented by Lauri Stewart Video time stamp 0:02:18

The Executive Director provided a brief update on current work including the following:

- New website has been launched
- Survey has gone out to over 230 different organizations
- Completing the draft of the annual report
- Mandatory training for the Commissioners

2. Discussion Item – Annual Report <u>Video time stamp 0:05:55</u>

Review of the Annual Report due to the Legislature on September 1, 2025.

- This is a report of the work done in the last year based on the statutory requirements.
- Survey results will be added to the report before submitting to the Legislature.

Since the report will be filed before the next commission meeting, Chair Slauson opened up the meeting for a motion to approve the report with the addition of survey results and any non-substantive changes.

Commissioner Karia requested that the final version be distributed to the commissioners.

MOTION

A motion to file the report as discussed, notwithstanding the staff's ability to add the survey results and make non-substantive changes, was made by Commissioner Brandenburg and seconded by Commissioner Burke. The motion carried with 9 in favor by roll call vote. Three voting members were not in attendance. (see <u>video time stamp 0:08:55)</u>

Voting members	Yes	No	Abstain
Tarron Anderson	✓		
Sheriff Angela Brandenburg	✓		
Chief George Burke	✓		
Phil Castle	✓		
Dave Henslee			
Anil Karia	✓		
Michael Lopez			
Kelsie Davis McDaniel	✓		
Steven Schuback	✓		
Michael Slauson	✓		
Benny Williams			
Kristen Winemiller	✓		
	9	0	0

3. Discussion Item – Changes to existing rules (see video time stamp 0:10:49)

The statute requires the Commission to go over existing rules every two years and determine whether any changes need to be made. In its review earlier this year, the Commission identified the following items for review:

- Sexual Assault
- Use of Deadly Force and Physical Force
- Moral Character
- Assault

Previous meetings had robust discussions on the changes. Videos of those meetings may be viewed online. <u>LESC - Oregon Department of Justice</u> Going forward, sub-committees of commission members will be created to address these changes and take a deeper dive into the categories. The sub-committees will come back to the Commission to make recommendations.

Regular meetings may change to allow time for the sub-committee review. The next regular meeting may be in October.

For the October meeting, Chair Slauson spoke about establishing a work plan for the next year to identify the areas the commissioners would like to add.

Discussion

Discussion regarding the proposed changes to deadly force and whether or not the Commission is ready to consider a vote. (see video time stamp 0:15:49)

Commissioner Winemiller asked about the statutory definition and the wording in the proposed rule. (see <u>video time stamp 0:17:38)</u> Commissioner Winemiller suggested changing "means" to "requires" may be a solution.

Commissioner Karia agreed with Commissioner Winemiller's suggestion. Commission Karia shared his concerns regarding taking out the resulting injury. Commissioner Karia also suggested that the entire body of the physical force rules go into the sub-committee rather than voting on it now. (see <u>video time stamp 0:20:14)</u>

Commissioner Burke suggest that the word "deadly" be added so that it would read "intentional us of deadly physical force. (see video time stamp 0:21:29)

Commissioner Schuback concurred with all three prior commissioners regarding the definition part. Commissioner Schuback commented that the first tier is deadly force, presumptive termination. The second tier being contemplated is not deadly force, and the contemplated sanction is termination, and he stated that it "appears to be too strict to me." There may be many uses of force that are outside of policy and result in minor injuries. (see <u>video time stamp</u> 0:22:38)

Commissioner Brandenburg concurred with Commissioner Karia that the entire body of physical force go to sub-committee. The Commission agreed to table it to the sub-committee. (see <u>video</u> <u>time stamp 0:24:38)</u>

Commissioners will be asked to respond to an LESC email regarding their interest in serving on sub-committees.

Discussion regarding the "assault" materials. Commission Schuback asked for clarification about removing the sanctions under number 1. Commissioner Schuback also like the idea of non-disciplinary corrective actions and asks that the word "counseling" be included in the definition. (see video time stamp 0:29:30)

Commissioner Schuback commented that in the last year the Commission raised some new areas to talk about and asked if the Commission was receiving feedback from the public in areas that they want the Commission to consider. Executive Director Stewart indicated that there have been requests. Commissioner Schuback asked for a list of those requests. Chair Slauson suggested this would be a great topic for the October meeting. (see <u>video time stamp</u> 0:31:22)

Discussion regarding the sub-committee. It is anticipated that there will be three people on each sub-committee. It is a public meeting. Deadly physical force and physical force will be one sub-committee. Commissioner Winemiller asked if assault was separated out because it is supposed to address non-workplace conduct. Chair Slauson indicated that it is separate in the categories described by the Legislature. (see video time stamp 0:33:03)

<u>Public Comment</u> (see <u>video time stamp 0:36:23</u>)

Comments by Charlie Michelle-Westley.

DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO:

The following documents were discussed at the meeting and are available on request by emailing ORLawEnfCommission@doj.state.or.us or visiting the website at:

https://justice.oregon.gov/lesc/

- Proposed Rule Text
- Executive Summary Draft 2025 LESC Annual Report
- Draft 2025 Annual Report
- Non-Discipline Rules

Next Meeting:

Date: October 2, 2025
Time: 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Location: Via ZoomGov