



North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Private Protective Services

January 2026 N.C. Private Protective Services Board Meeting Hot Sheet

This summary highlights key points from the January meeting of the Board and its committees. Full meeting minutes and detailed committee reports will be available after Board approval at the next meeting on March 19, 2026.

The Board welcomes new members Deirdre Hatcher and Don Miller, who were recently appointed to the Board by Governor Stein. Ms. Hatcher is a retired N.C. SBI agent and currently works as a contract investigator for the N.C. DPS Office of Special Investigations. Mr. Miller retired from the U.S. Marine Corps and later worked for 18 years in law enforcement in eastern N.C. He is a licensed private investigator with a close personal protection endorsement. Their appointments expire July 1, 2028. All Board member bios and appointment information can be found [here](#).

Grievance Committee: 11 cases heard.

- Two cease-and-desist orders issued to unlicensed or unregistered persons.
- One letter of reprimand and civil penalty assessed for failure to submit continuing education course rosters.
- One license and one trainer certification revoked for falsifying training records.
- Six cases settled with a consent agreement for registration violations.
- One complaint for injunctive relief ordered against an unlicensed security company (Nova Nine Protection, LLC)
- **Compliance tip:** Many registration violations involve improper use or documentation of probationary unarmed security guards. To help:
 - Refer to Page 2 of the updated [Report of Probationary Unarmed Guard document](#) for an example employment timeline.
 - Refer to [guidance and requirements for the use of probationary or out-of-state guards](#).
 - Review Pages 9-10 of the [Registration Procedures Manual](#) for proper guidelines on probationary employee use.

Screening Committee: Reviewed 83 license applications (the most ever for one Screening Committee meeting), comprised of: 25 PI, 21 Security Guard and Patrol, 19 Close Personal Protection, 3 PI Associate, 3 Courier, 3 Digital Forensics Examination, 5 Proprietary Security Organization, 2 Electronic Countermeasures, and 2 Armored Car.

- 81 licenses approved; 1 license denied; 1 application deferred to March 2026
- The Committee also approved one licensee to serve as the qualifying agent for more than one company.

Compliance tip: A company may operate for only 90 days without a licensed Qualifying Agent. The license application process can take more than 90 days. It is recommended that companies have more than one license holder on staff to facilitate a quick and smooth transition to a new Qualifying Agent if needed.

Law & Rules Committee:

- Reviewed public comments received in response to the Board's plan to ask applicants about expunged criminal history. The comments stated that the Board does not have the authority to access expunged criminal history record information. However, the Board was given authority in [Session Law 2025-51, Senate Bill 710](#), which went into effect Oct. 1, 2025.
- The Board adopted a policy to accept the standard ACORD 25 form as evidence of commercial liability insurance, rather than the Board's custom form. Doing so brings the Board's policy in line with insurance industry standards.
- The Board's Special Committee on Polygraph Licensing continues to work with the N.C. Polygraph Association to refine and formalize the testing process for new polygraph license applicants.
- A special committee has been formed to evaluate the [Board's rule](#) regarding security guard uniforms. Board members Andy Renfrow, Candace Ratliff and Bill MacRae, in addition to at least three other industry members, will be on the special committee.

Training & Education Committee:

- The Unarmed Security Guard training curriculum will be updated to include introductory information about counterterrorism and human trafficking. The Board also plans to develop in-depth courses on these topics, which may be delivered as electives to the required 16-hour unarmed guard training curriculum.
- The Board approved the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners for standing CE approval. Meaning, all education offered by the ACFE is approved for CE.
- The 2026 schedule for unarmed and firearms trainer certification courses is available [here](#).
- Compliance tip: Certified trainers are encouraged to ensure pre- and post-delivery training reports are being submitted to the Board, as required by Rules [.0907](#) and [.0908](#). Trainers should not assume the company they work for is submitting the reports on their behalf. Failure to submit these reports may result in disciplinary action.

Other Board Discussion Points, Industry References & Reminders:

- Board policies and informational memorandums are available [HERE](#).
- Board meeting minutes and Hot Sheets are available [HERE](#).
- The newly established [N.C. Security Association](#) is recruiting members.
- The [Security Systems Licensing Board](#) is now accepting applications for its new Limited Monitoring license. This license is required of security guard and patrol companies that remotely monitor security cameras or systems. See page three of [Session Law 2025-51, Senate Bill 710](#) for more information.
- In accordance with N.C.G.S. 74C-13(d2), licensed proprietary security organizations (PSO) shall renew their license every two years. Renewals will begin in 2026. Board staff will contact PSOs with additional information. The fee to renew is \$150.

Upcoming Events:

- March 19, [PPSB meeting](#), Raleigh, NC (2 hours CE, online or in person)
- March 19, PPSB Industry Training, Raleigh, NC (4 hours CE, in person only)
- April 21-22, [N.C. Association of Private Investigators](#) annual conference, Carolina Beach, NC (CE approved)
- May 13-15, [S.C. Association of Legal Investigators](#) annual conference, Myrtle Beach, SC (CE approved)
- May 21, [PPSB meeting](#), Raleigh, NC (2 hours CE, online or in person)
- June 2-4, [Techno Digital Forensics Conference](#), Myrtle Beach, SC (CE approved)