July 2025 N.C. Private Protective Services Board Meeting Hot Sheet

This summary highlights key points from the July 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 September 18, 2025.

Grievance Committee: 20 cases heard.

- Five cease-and-desist orders issued to unlicensed or unregistered persons.
- Six warnings issued for failure to report criminal charges, unlicensed activity, registration violations, and failure to carry a weapon owned or leased by an employer.
- One civil penalty assessed for working while armed without an armed security guard registration.
- Two trainer certifications revoked for falsifying training and training records.
- Six cases settled with a consent agreement for registration violations and unlicensed activity.
- The Committee proposed, and the Board later approved, an amendment to Board policy that allows the Board to use increased monetary amounts for registration violation consent agreements. For example, a proposed consent agreement for one unarmed security guard registration violation can now be between \$122 and \$1,122, depending on the company's recent compliance history. See the updated Registration Violation Consent Agreement Policy for more information.
- 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-ofstate guards.
 - Review Pages 9-10 of the <u>Registration Procedures Manual</u> for proper guidelines on probationary employee use.

<u>Screening Committee</u>: Reviewed 67 license applications (comprised of: 20 PI, 12 Security Guard and Patrol, 11 Close Personal Protection, 11 PI Associate, 3 Courier, 2 Digital Forensics Examination, 1 Digital Forensics Examiner Trainee, 3 Armored Car, 4 proprietary).

• 64 licenses approved; 3 licenses denied.

Law & Rules Committee:

• Several amendments to the Board's governing statute, N.C.G.S. 74C, were passed by the General Assembly and signed by Governor Stein on July 2. Notably, the amendments update the definitions of the security guard and patrol profession and the guard dog profession, add four more "commission" offenses, allows an HR-218/LEOSA credential to be accepted in lieu of a concealed handgun permit, and allows the Board to charge a

- fee of up to \$100 to evaluate applications for continuing education courses. See <u>Session Law 2025-51</u>, <u>Senate Bill 710</u>, <u>pages 11-17</u> for a complete text of the amendments. The amendments go into effect October 1, 2025.
- Proposed amendments to Rules 14B NCAC 16 .0701, .0801, .1301, .1307, .1401, .0707, .1307, .1203, .1501, and .1502 were reviewed on June 16 by the N.C. Rules Review Commission. See the N.C. Register, pages 82-88 for a complete text of the amendments. The Commission requested technical changes to many of the rules and will review the rules again on August 28. As a result, the proposed June 1 effective date for these rule amendments has been delayed.
- The Board gave final approval to the adoption of new rules .0116 and .0117, which address advertising requirements and a procedure for declaratory rulings. The Board also approved amendments to rules .0103, .0105, .0501, .0502, and .0503 to gender-neutralize rule language and update several polygraph examiner-related rules. See the N.C. Register, pages 14-19 for a complete text of the new and amended rules. The proposed effective date of these rules, if approved by the Rules Review Commission, is September 1, 2025.
- The Committee recommended, and the Board approved, a policy to clarify the definition of a "standard firearm," found in Rule .0809. Specifically, the policy states that custombuilt weapons comprised of OEM parts may be used. See PPSB Rule .0809 Standard Firearm Interpretation for more information.

Training & Education Committee:

- The Unarmed Security Guard Instructor Manual and Unarmed Security Guard Student Manual have been translated into Spanish and will be posted to the <u>Board's website soon</u>. The Firearms Instructor Manual and Firearms Student Manual are being translated, as well, and will be available soon.
- The firearms trainer and unarmed guard trainer manuals are available for download <u>here</u>. Printed copies may also be purchased from the N.C. Justice Academy bookstore.
- The Committee recommended, and the Board approved, adding the N.C. Human Trafficking Commission to the list of <u>pre-approved continuing education providers</u>.
- With the passing of <u>Senate Bill 710</u>, the Board will as early as October 1 begin charging a fee of up to \$100 to evaluate applications for continuing education courses. In addition, the application process will transition from email- and paper-based to Permitium. More information will be released as the project progresses.
- The 2025-2026 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 <u>.0907</u> and <u>.0908</u>. 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:

- The results of the Board's annual leadership elections are:
 - o Board chair: Tamara Rabenold

- o Board vice-chair: Steve Johnson
- o Grievance Committee chair: Ron Burris
- Screening Committee chair: Debra Duncan
- o Law and Rule Committee chair: Steve Johnson
- o Training and Education Committee chair: Candace Ratliff
- o Finance Committee chair: Bill MacRae
- o Emerging Technology Committee chair: Suzanne Creech
- o Board Ethics Liaison: Debra Duncan
- The Board welcomed new members William "Bill" MacRae and Paul Schroll, who were appointed to the Board by the General Assembly in <u>Session Law 2025-29</u>, <u>Senate Bill 770</u>. They are replacing former Members David Stephens and Jerry Pitman, whose terms expired.
- The Board approved its 2026 meeting schedule, which will be posted to the <u>Board's</u> website soon.
- Feedback from Board members who attended the recent <u>Techno Security & Digital Forensics Conference</u> indicates that artificial intelligence technology is rapidly changing the private security landscape. Private security and investigations professionals are encouraged to seek out training and other resources regarding the proper use and implications of artificial intelligence. The topic of artificial intelligence remains an interest of the Board's Emerging Technology Committee. Anyone with ideas about possible topics for discussion for the Committee are encouraged to contact <u>Director Sherwin</u>.
- The Alarm Systems Licensing Board recently <u>amended its law</u>, effective October 1, 2025, to create a special monitoring-only license for qualified PPSB security guard and patrol companies. More information will be made available as details emerge.
- Board policies and informational memorandums are available HERE.
- Board meeting minutes and Hot Sheets are available HERE.

Upcoming Events:

- July 30-31, <u>2025 Human Trafficking in the Carolinas Conference</u>, Columbia, S.C. (CE approved)
- September 17, NCAPI Badges and Beverages reception, 6-9 p.m., Hampton Inn and Suites Raleigh/Crabtree Valley hotel
- September 18, PPSB Meeting, Raleigh (2 hours CE)
- September 18, PPSB Industry Training, Raleigh (4 hours CE)
- Oct. 8-10, <u>International Association of Security and Investigative Regulators Conference</u>, Kansas City, MO (CE approved). Board members Andy Renfrow and Bill MacRae attending.
- Oct. 21-22, <u>N.C. Association of Private Investigators Conference</u>, Atlantic Beach (CE approved)
- Dec. 3-5, IPSB Close Protection Conference, Charlotte (CE approved)