North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Private Protective Services Board

Josh Stein, Governor
Jeffrey Smythe, Secretary

Steve Johnson, Vice Chair
Paul Sherwin, Director

Meeting Minutes
July 23, 2026, 11:00 a.m.
Hampton Inn and Suites – Raleigh/Crabtree Valley

Board Members Present

Ron Burris*
Don Miller
Paul Schroll
Stacy Buff
Steve Johnson
David Poston*
Debra Duncan
Suzanne Creech
Deirdre Hatcher
Andy Renfrow
Richard Epley
William "Bill" MacRae

*virtual

Staff Present

Paul Sherwin
Ray Bullard
Kim Odom
Garcia Graham
Jeff Gray

Board Members Absent

Candace Ratliff
Assata Buffaloe

Call to Order

Vice Chair Steve Johnson called the July 23, 2026, meeting of the North Carolina Private Protective Services Board to order at 11:00 a.m.

State Ethics Law

Attorney Jeff Gray read the following statement:

"In accordance with the State Ethics Law, it is the duty of every Board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict. If any member has any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matter coming before this Board today, please identify the conflict or appearance of conflict and refrain from deliberation and voting in that matter."

Board Elections

Attorney Gray conducted the elections for Board officers and Committee chairs.

Board Chair

Motion: Stacy Buff motioned to nominate Steve Johnson for Board chair. Don Miller seconded.

No additional nominations were made.

Motion: Debra Duncan motioned to close nominations and elect Steve Johnson as Board chair by acclamation. Paul Schroll seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Steve Johnson was elected Board chair.

Board Vice chair

Motion: Debra Duncan motioned to nominate Andy Renfrow for Board vice chair. Steve Johnson seconded.

No additional nominations were made.

Motion: Bill MacRae motioned to close nominations and elect Andy Renfrow as Board vice chair by acclamation. Steve Johnson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Andy Renfrow was elected Board vice chair.

Grievance Committee Chair

Motion: Steve Johnson motioned to nominate Ron Burris as Grievance Committee chair. Paul Schroll seconded.

No additional nominations were made.

Motion: Steve Johnson motioned to close nominations and elect Ron Burris as Grievance Committee chair by acclamation. Paul Schroll seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Ron Burris was elected Grievance Committee chair.

Screening Committee Chair

Motion: Debra Duncan motioned to nominate Stacy Buff as Screening Committee chair. Bill MacRae seconded.

No additional nominations were made.

Motion: Bill MacRae motioned to close nominations and elect Stacy Buff as Screening Committee chair by acclamation. Steve Johnson seconded. The motion carried unanimously

Stacy Buff was elected Screening Committee chair.

Law and Rules Committee Chair

Motion: Stacy Buff motioned to nominate Steve Johnson as Law and Rules Committee chair. Deirdre Hatcher seconded.

No additional nominations were made.

Motion: Bill MacRae motioned to close nominations and elect Steve Johnson as Law and Rules Committee chair by acclamation. Don Miller seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Steve Johnson was elected Law and Rules Committee chair.

Training and Education Committee Chair

Motion: Richard Epley motioned to nominate Bill MacRae as Training and Education Committee chair. Steve Johnson seconded.

No additional nominations were made.

Motion: Stacy Buff motioned to close nominations and elect Bill MacRae as Training and Education Committee chair by acclamation. Don Miller seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Bill MacRae was elected Training and Education Committee chair.

Finance Committee Chair

Motion: Steve Johnson motioned to nominate Bill MacRae as Finance Committee chair. Suzanne Creech seconded.

No additional nominations were made.

Motion: Debra Duncan motioned to close nominations and elect Bill MacRae as Finance Committee chair by acclamation. Richard Epley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Bill MacRae was elected Finance Committee chair.

Emerging Technology Committee Chair

Motion: Steve Johnson motioned to nominate Suzanne Creech as Emerging Technology Committee chair. Stacy Buff seconded.

Motion: Suzanne Creech motioned to nominate Candace Ratliff as Emerging Technology Committee Chair. The motion failed for lack of a second.

No additional nominations were made.

Motion: Bill MacRae motioned to close nominations and elect Suzanne Creech as Emerging Technology Committee chair by acclamation. Richard Epley seconded.

Suzanne Creech was elected Emerging Technology Committee chair.

Ethics Liaison

Motion: Debra Duncan motioned to nominate Deidre Hatcher as the Board's liaison to the N.C. Ethics Commission. Stacy Buff seconded.

No additional nominations were made.

Motion: Steve Johnson motioned to close nominations and elect Deidre Hatcher as the Board's liaison to the N.C. Ethics Commission by acclamation. Andy Renfrow seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Deidre Hatcher was elected as the Board's liaison to the N.C. Ethics Commission.

Approval of the January 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Stacy Buff motioned to approve the May 21, 2026, Board meeting minutes with the correction that his name be removed from the list of attendees, as he was absent from the meeting. Don Miller seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Final Agency Decision(s)

Thomas Morton Colthart: Mr. Colthart was not present. The matter was deferred to the September 2026 Board meeting.

Attorney Gray delivered the Final Agency Decision in the matter of Joseph M. LaSorsa and LaSorsa and Associates, 26 DOJ 00349. The case was heard by Administrative Law Judge William W. Peaslee on March 24, 2026. The case involved a letter Reprimand that was issued to Mr. LaSorsa and the assessment of a $1,000.00 civil penalty for failure to submit continuing education course attendee rosters. Mr. LaSorsa was notified of Final Agency Decision, but he was not in attendance.

Motion: Stacy Buff motioned to reject Judge Peaslee's Proposal for Decision and uphold the Board's decision to issue a letter of reprimand and a $1,000.00 civil penalty assessment. Debra Duncan seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Steve Johnson, Andy Renfrow, Paul Schroll and Suzanne Creech recused from the vote.

Attorney Gray delivered the Final Agency Decision in the matter of George Thomas Porter, 26 DOJ 01551. The case was heard by Administrative Law Judge Michael C. Byrne on May 26, 2026. The case involved whether Mr. Porter should be denied a Security Guard & Patrol License for lack of verifiable experience. Mr. Porter was present.

Motion: Stacy Buff motioned to accept Judge Byrne's Proposal for Decision to deny Mr. Porter's application for a Security Guard & Patrol license. Suzanne Creech seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Don Miller, Stacy Buff and Richard Epley recused from the vote.

Committee Reports

Grievance Committee: Grievance Committee members Ron Burris, Suzanne Creech, Paul Schroll, Andy Renfrow, Deirdre Hatcher, and Steve Johnson met on July 22, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:25 p.m. The Committee heard 20 cases. Andy Renfrow presented the Grievance Committee report.

Motion: Don Miller motioned to accept the Grievance Committee's recommendations. Suzanne Creech seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

See the attachment for the full Grievance Committee report.

Screening Committee: Screening Committee members Debra Duncan, Don Miller, Stacy Buff, Bill MacRae and Richard Epley met on July 22, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:12 p.m. to review 74 new license applications, two QA for Two Companies applications, two registration denial appeals, one license reinstatement application, and one license denial reconsideration. Debra Duncan presented the Screening Committee report.

Motion: Paul Schroll motioned to accept all the Committee's recommendations, except for Michael Tucker's license applications. Suzanne Creech seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Paul Schroll motioned to accept the Committee's recommendation for Michael Tucker's license applications. Richard Epley seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Andy Renfrow recused from the vote.

See the attachment for the full Screening Committee report.

Training and Education Committee: Training and Education Committee members Andy Renfrow, Steve Johnson, Stacy Buff, Don Miller, Richard Epley, Paul Schroll, and William MacRae met on July 23, 2026, from 9:30 a.m. to 9:51 a.m. Steve Johnson presented the Training and Education Committee report, which included updates about completed and planned train-the-trainer courses, the results of recent compliance audits of certified trainers, and weapon discharges.

Mr. Johnson reported that the Committee reviewed eight applications for new continuing education courses and 12 applications for renewal of existing continuing education courses. He stated that the Committee recommended approving all the courses, on the condition that staff closely review the lesson plan for "NC PPS Rules, Portal Navigation & Compliance," offered by Catherine Flowers.

Motion: Bill MacRae motioned to approve the Training and Education Committee report. Richard Epley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

See the attachment for the full Training and Education Committee report.

Special Committee on Continuing Education: No report.

Law and Rules Committee: Law and Rules Committee members Steve Johnson, Deidre Hatcher, Bill MacRae, Suzanne Creech, Paul Schroll, Andy Renfrow and Debra Duncan met on July 23, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Committee Chair Steve Johnson presented the Law & Rules Committee report.

Mr. Johnson reported that Attorney Gray provided an update on several pending rules amendments. He said Attorney Gray also reviewed pending legislation with the committee and will provide further discussion and details in his Attorney's Report.

Mr. Johnson stated that Bill MacRae had raised concerns about whether registration applicants are truthfully answering the question about criminal history on the registration application, and whether the question is redundant. The committee asked staff to review both the applicable rules and policies and bring the matter back before the committee for further consideration.

Motion: Suzanne Creech motioned to approve the Law and Rules Committee report. Bill MacRae seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Special Committee on Polygraph Licensing: Special Committee Chair David Poston reported that the proposed Memorandum of Agreement with the NC Polygraph Association to formalize the roles and responsibilities of the Board and the NCPA during the testing process for new Polygraph license applicants had been reviewed and was ready for signature.

Motion: Bill MacRae motioned to accept the Memorandum of Agreement as presented with the NC Polygraph Association and the PPS Board. Suzanne Creech seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Finance Committee: No report.

Emerging Technology Committee: No report.

Special Committee on Unlicensed Activity: Suzanne Creech reported that she is meeting soon with the Pitt County District Attorney and plans to discuss unlicensed activity. She encouraged everyone to contact their respective county district attorneys to discuss any concerns related to unlicensed activities.

SSLB/PPSB Joint Special Committee: No report.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Director Paul Sherwin announced that the International Association of Security and Investigative Regulators (IASIR), is holding its annual conference October 21-23, in San Diego, CA. The Board appointed Paul Schroll, Andy Renfrow, Suzanne Creech, and Bill MacRae to attend the conference.

Director Sherwin presented the proposed Board meeting schedule for 2027.

Motion: Paul Schroll motioned to approve the 2027 meeting schedule. Bill MacRae seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Director's Report

Director Paul Sherwin presented his Director's Report. The report included information about Board staff changes, the status of the Board's active licensees and registrants, and an update on Board finances.

Motion: Andy Renfrow motioned to approve the Director's Report. Bill MacRae seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

See the attachment for the full Director's Report.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Jeff Gray presented his Attorney's Report, which included updates about the status of consent agreements, pending administrative rule changes, litigation, and legislative updates.

Motion: Suzanne Creech motioned to appoint Ron Burris to represent the Board at the Mediated Settlement Conference in the matter of Michelle Seiz and American Security Associates v. Private Protective Services Board, 26 DOJ 1902. Bill MacRae seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Don Miller motioned to approve the Attorney's Report. Diedre Hatcher seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

See the attachment for the full Attorney's Report.

Good of the Order

None.

Public Comment

David Roebuck, with the N.C. Association of Private Investigators, updated meeting attendees on the Association's recent activities and membership.

Closed Session - Attorney Retainer Agreement

Chair Steve Johnson reported that the PPS Board's attorney retainer agreement is due for renewal and requested that the Board consider approval of Attorney Gray's proposed retainer offer.

Motion: Bill MacRae motioned to go into closed session to discuss Attorney Gray's proposed Retainer Agreement. Andy Renfrow seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Closed session start: 12:40 p.m.

Motion: Bill MacRae motioned to return to open session. Don Miller seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Closed session end: 12:46 p.m.

Motion: Stacy Buff motioned to approve Attorney Gray's 2-year Retainer Agreement. Paul Schroll seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Motion: Bill MacRae motioned to adjourn the meeting. Stacy Buff seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:50 p.m.

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Paul Sherwin, Director

_____
Garcia Graham, Board Secretary

Board Meeting Guests

Scott Siano	Dean Wiley*	Nathan Harris	Michael Bineham
Michael Mills	Dionne Porter	Donald Redl	George Porter
Patrick Vincent	Scott Bilsky	Curtis Ivins	Michael Easterday
Warren Hall	Jeffrey Spaulding	David Roebuck	Thomas Younts
Patrick Mitchell	Darrell Taylor*	Jean Joseph*	Paul Latorre*
Scott Rodriguez*	Roanthony Pratt*	Martin Herman*	Roberto Santana*
William Melton*	Michael Metcalf*	Ross Parmenter*	Sandra Epley*
Ronald Reich*	Watasha Willis*	Aaron Williamson*	George Brooks*
Stacey Honeycutt*	Tanja Cromb*	Robert A. Rhodes*	Winfield Brians*
Richard Mack*	Anthony Trevino*	Ben Knauss*	Bill Smith*
Brandon Hazelgrove*	Christina Suppa*	Christopher Brame*	Christopher Oxendine*
David Long*	David Poston*	Michael Bineham*	Felicia Sheares*
Heath Younts*	Jamie Mitchell*	John Honeycutt*	Joshua Ruiz*
Joy McDaniel*	Julie Kuepferle*	Jean Marc Joseph*	Nicole Jackson-Mitchell*

*Virtual

Permit

PPSB Grievance After Report for July 23, 2026 9:00 am

	Case Number	Complaint Against	Allegation(s)	Grievance Committee Recommendation	Board Action
1.	2025-PPS-081	Colonel Elder Sentinel Group Six, LLC 500 S. Main Street Suite 500 Room 118 Mooresville, NC 28144	NCGS 74C-12(a)(1) 14B NCAC 16 .911(a)(2) 14B NCAC 16 .911(a)(3)	November 20, 2025, Board finding: Find a violation of NCGS 74C-12(a)(1), 14B NCAC 16 .0911(a)(2) and 14B NCAC 16 .0911(a)(3). Issue a disciplinary Letter of Reprimand to Colonel Elder for submitting inaccurate documentation in connection with an application to renew his unarmed guard trainer certification. Mr. Elder is to attend the PPSB Unarmed Guard Trainer Workshop no later than February 28, 2026. July 22, 2026, Grievance Committee recommendation: Mr. Elder failed to attend the Workshop as directed. Defer this matter to the September 2026 Grievance Committee meeting for further consideration and disposition.	Accepted
2.	2025-PPS-096	Jermarion Pegues Blindside Protection Agency LLC 81 Delta place Smithfield, NC 27577	NCGS 74C-11 14B NCAC 16 .0108(b)	March 19, 2026, Board finding: Find a violation of NCGS 74C-11. Enter into a consent agreement with Jermarion Pegues and Blindside Protection Agency LLC in the amount of $5,385.60 for 44 unarmed security guard registration violations. The consent agreement may be paid in three installments. Staff is to conduct a follow-up registration compliance audit of Q4 2026 and Q1 2027. Mr. Pegues is to attend Registration Procedures training following the March or September 2026 Board meeting. July 22, 2026, Grievance Committee recommendation: Mr. Pegues failed to comply with the terms of the consent agreement. Defer this matter to the September 2026 Grievance Committee	Accepted

	Case Number	Complaint Against	Allegation(s)	Grievance Committee Recommendation	Board Action
				meeting for further consideration and disposition.	
3.	2025-PPS-102	Lars Daniel Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc. 5900 Harris Technology Blvd Ste P Charlotte, NC 282690000	NCGS 74C-2	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-2. Continue the cease and desist order previously issued to Lawrence Daniel and Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc. Refer this matter to the Screening Committee should Mr. Daniel or Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc. apply for a license.	Accepted
4.	2025-PPS-106	John Callicutt Walton Investigations, Inc. P.O. Box 8246 Greensboro, NC 27419	14B NCAC 16 .0108(b)	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-11. Enter into a consent agreement with John Callicutt and Walton Investigations, Inc., in the amount of $2,815.20 for 23 unarmed security guard registration violations. Staff is to conduct a follow-up registration compliance audit of Q2 and Q3 of 2027.	Accepted
5.	2025-PPS-122	Shmuel Juchtman ACTS Airport Services, Inc. Charlotte Douglas International Airport 5501 Josh Birmingham Pkwy, Box 38 Charlotte, NC 28208	14B NCAC 16 .0108(b)	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-11. Enter into a consent agreement with Shmuel Juchtman and ACTS Airport Services, Inc., in the amount of $979.20 for eight unarmed security guard registration violations. No follow-up registration compliance audit is recommended.	Accepted
6.	2025-PPS-124	Robin Leckey WTSA Security, LLC 1812 Davie Avenue Statesville, NC 28677	14B NCAC 16 .0108(b)	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-11 and NCGS 74C-13. Enter into a consent agreement with Robin Leckey and WTSA Security, LLC in the amount of $18,237.60 for 73 unarmed security guard registration violations and one armed security guard registration violation. Board staff is to conduct a	Accepted

	Case Number	Complaint Against	Allegation(s)	Grievance Committee Recommendation	Board Action
				follow-up registration compliance audit of Q2 and Q3 2027.	
7.	2025-PPS-127	Briana Smith Piedmont Protective Services 8430 Medical Plaza Drive Suite 100 Charlotte, NC 28262	NCGS 74C-12(a)(1) 14B NCAC 16 .0707 14B NCAC 16 .0911	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-12(a)(1) and 14B NCAC 16 .0707. Indefinitely suspend Briana Smith's Unarmed Guard Trainer certification. The certification may be reinstated once Smith completes the 40-hour Unarmed Guard Trainer Course. As an additional condition, in order to maintain the reinstatement of her certification, she must attend three Unarmed Guard Trainer Workshops within one year and deliver remarks on the importance of complying with the Board's laws and rules.	Accepted
8.	2025-PPS-132	Colleen Williams Marksman Security, LLC 3730 Glen Lake Dr. Suite 375 Charlotte, NC 28208	NCGS 74C-11 14B NCAC 16 .0108(b)	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-11 and NCGS 74C-13. Enter into a consent agreement with Colleen Williams and Marksman Security, LLC, in the amount of $23,439.60 for 184 unarmed security guard registration violations and five armed security guard registration violations. Board staff is to conduct a follow-up registration compliance audit of Q2 and Q3 2027. Ms. Williams is to attend Registration Procedures training following the September 2026 Board meeting.	Accepted
9.	2026-PPS-003	Gary Mitchell Griffin 483 Water Street Grifton, NC 28530	NCGS 74C-2 NCGS 74C-13	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-2. Continue the cease and desist order previously issued to Gary Mitchell Griffin. Refer this matter to the Screening Committee should Mr. Griffin apply for a license.	Accepted
10.	2026-PPS-004	John Callicutt Walton Investigations, Inc. P.O. Box 8246	NCGS 74C-12(a)(10)	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-12(a)(10), 74C-12(a)(31), 74C-12(a)(29) and 74C-12(a)(25). Revoke all of Mr. Callicutt's licenses and trainer certifications.	Accepted

	Case Number	Complaint Against	Allegation(s)	Grievance Committee Recommendation	Board Action
		Greensboro, NC 27419			
11.	2026-PPS-005	Seth Daniel Leto Inner Parish Security Corporation 43222 Pecan Ridge Drive Hammond, LA 70403	14B NCAC 16 .0108(b)	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-13. Enter into a consent agreement with Seth Daniel Leto and Inner Parish Security Corporation in the amount of $8,445.60 for 23 armed security guard registration violations. Board staff is to conduct a follow-up registration compliance audit of Q2 and Q3 2027.	Accepted
12.	2026-PPS-006	David Grimes Sentry Security Services, Inc. PO Box 432 Goldsboro, NC 27530	14B NCAC 16 .0108(b)	No violation of NCGS 74C-11. David Grimes failed to attend Registration Procedures training as part of the consent agreement in case 2024-PPS-088. Refer this matter to the Screening Committee should Mr. Grimes apply for a license.	Accepted
13.	2026-PPS-007	Terry Walser Tri Metro Security Services, LLC 3658 Coach Lantern Ave Wake Forest, NC 27587	14B NCAC 16 .0108(b)	No violation.	Accepted
14.	2026-PPS-011	Joshua Brown Saf3 International 1221 North Wendover Road Suite 1 Charlotte, NC 28211	NCGS 74C-2	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-2. Continue the cease and desist order previously issued to Joshua Brown and Saf3 International. Issue a cease and desist order to Birgit Munz. Refer this matter to the Screening Committee should Mr. Brown or Ms. Munz apply for a license or registration.	Accepted

	Case Number	Complaint Against	Allegation(s)	Grievance Committee Recommendation	Board Action
15.	2026-PPS-012	Michael Toman Tardigrade Technology, LLC 101 S. Scientific Street High Point, NC 27260	NCGS 74C-2	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-2. Continue the cease and desist order previously issued to Michael Toman and Tardigrade Technology, LLC. Refer this matter to the Screening Committee should Mr. Toman apply for a license.	Accepted
16.	2026-PPS-014	Eugene Baity Urgent Security LLC 72 Timberwood Lane Sanford, NC 27332	NCGS 74C-2	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-2. Continue the cease and desist order previously issued to Eugene Baity and Urgent Security LLC. Refer this matter to the Screening Committee should Mr. Baity apply for a license.	Accepted
17.	2026-PPS-015	Robert Freeman #1 Fishing Hole 2620 South Saunders St. Raleigh, NC 27603	NCGS 74C-13 (b)	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-13(b). Continue the cease and desist order previously issued to Robert Freeman and #1 Fishing Hole. Refer this matter to the Screening Committee should Mr. Freeman apply for a license.	Accepted
18.	2026-PPS-016	Anna Zhu Happy Arcade 2620 South Saunders St Raleigh, NC 27603	NCGS 74C013(b)	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-13(b). Continue the cease and desist order previously issued to Anna Zhu and Happy Arcade. Refer this matter to the Screening Committee should Ms. Zhu apply for a license.	Accepted
19.	2026-PPS-018	Samuel Harrison, Jr. STB Security, LLC 1470 Bethany Dr Summerfield , NC 27358	NCGS 74C-10(e)	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-10(e). Issue a disciplinary Letter of Reprimand to Samuel Harrison for a lapse in liability insurance. Assess a $1,000.00 civil penalty against Mr. Harrison.	Accepted

	Case Number	Complaint Against	Allegation(s)	Grievance Committee Recommendation	Board Action
20.	2026-PPS-020	John Anthony Hunt Affordable Security 365, LLC 368 Graham Bridge Rd Rockingham, NC 28379	NCGS 74C-10(e)	Find a violation of NCGS 74C-10(e). Issue a disciplinary Letter of Reprimand to John Hunt for a lapse in liability insurance. Assess a $1,000.00 civil penalty against Mr. Hunt.	Accepted

Board Meeting Report

Board Date: 07/23/2026

	Name Company Address	License	Committee Recommendation	Board Action
1.	Darren Vincent Abbacchi Abbacchi Investigations 278 CHARACTER DR ROLESVILLE, NC 27571-9384	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
2.	William Trent Basinger Bradshaw's Private Investigation Services 203 W. Kerr St Salisbury, NC 28144	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
3.	Colby Beatty Command Investigations LLC 1540 International Parkway, Suite 3070 Lake Mary, FL 32746	Private Investigator Associate	Approve Level 2 with 1,000 hours	Accepted
4.	Scott Bilsky GSM Investigative Group, LLC 506 Ramseur Street Durham, NC 27701	New Branch Office	Approve	Accepted
5.	Scott Bilsky GSM Investigative Group, LLC 506 Ramseur Street Durham, NC 27701	New Branch Office	Approve	Accepted

	Name Company Address	License	Committee Recommendation	Board Action
6.	Scott Bode The North Carolina Protection Group 740 Greenville BLVD Greenville, NC 27858	Private Investigator Associate	Approve Level 2 with 1,600 hours	Accepted
7.	James Alexander Bottom Security Engineers, Inc 1617 3rd Avenue North Birmingham, AL 35203	Security Guard And Patrol	Approve	Accepted
8.	George Parker Brooks Sherlock & Walker, LLC 310 Arlington Ave. Charlotte, NC 28203	Private Investigator	Approve with Condition Receipt of favorable fingerprint-based criminal history record check.	Accepted
9.	Kari Dawn Bumbleburg Wolf Solutions 180 Town Square Circle Mooresville, NC 28117	Polygraph Examiner	Approve with Condition Successful completion of testing required by Rule .0501.	Accepted
10.	Michael Scott Carlyle Fire and Explosion Consultants, llc PO BOX 24409 Dayton, OH 45424	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
11.	Kihyara G Cherubin KGC Guardian Protection LLC 1000 Annapolis Way Woodbridge, VA 22191	Security Guard And Patrol	Approve	Accepted
12.	Wendy June Clark The North Carolina	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted

	Name Company Address	License	Committee Recommendation	Board Action
	Protection Group 113 A Fire Tower Rd Winterville, NC 28590			
13.	TANJA JOANN CROMB Blackman Detective and PI Services, Inc. PO Box 25455 Raleigh, NC 27611	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
14.	Michael Lee Crowley CoventBridge (USA) Inc 9485 Regency Square Blvd Jacksonville, FL 32225	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
15.	Lawrence E Daniel Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc. 5900 Harris Technology Blvd Charlotte , NC 28269	Digital Forensics Examiner	Approve with Condition Lawrence Daniel and Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc. enter into and pay a consent agreement of $1,020.00 for 12 months of unlicensed activity.	Accepted
16.	James Ray Dotson ACADEMI LLC 850 Puddin Ridge Rd Moyock, NC 27958	Proprietary	Approve With additional 30-day QA extension	Accepted
17.	Christopher Dozier Foundation of Shalom Park 5007 Providence Rd Charlotte, NC 28226	Proprietary	Approve	Accepted
18.	Shannon Michelle Emerick Viking Private Investigations 209 Creekstone Dr Benson, NC 27504	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
19.	Brian Gennis Gennis Investigations	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted

	Name Company Address	License	Committee Recommendation	Board Action
	155 Longboat Road Mooresville, NC 28117			
20.	Kenston Gillespie The North Carolina Protection Group 740 Southeast Greenville Blvd Greenville , NC 27858	Private Investigator Associate	Approve Level 1 with 400 hours	Accepted
21.	Tomasz Janusz Glazowski Elite Crisis Solutions, LLC 6006 Red Oak Court Kernersville , NC 27284	Close Personal Protection	Approve	Accepted
22.	Ryan Matthew Griffin Ryan Griffin 211 S East Ave Kannapolis, NC 28083	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
23.	Janaye Hall Marshall Investigative Group 401 Devon Ave Park Ridge, IL 60068	Private Investigator Associate	Approve Level 1 with zero hours	Accepted
24.	Katelyn Hawkins Allied Universal Compliance and Investigations 910 Paverstone Drive Raleigh, NC 27615	Private Investigator Associate	Approve Level 1 with zero hours	Accepted

	Name Company Address	License	Committee Recommendation	Board Action
25.	Chance Daniel Hayes Foresight Solutions Group Inc 13113 Bold Run Hill Rd Wake Forest, NC 27587	Close Personal Protection	Approve	Accepted
26.	Edward Douglas Henry EH Investigation Services 3864 Union Ridge Rd Burlington, NC 27217	Private Investigator	Deny Falsification of application and unfavorable work history	Accepted
27.	Ryan Hickey AARDWolf International, LLC 1135 Kildaire Farm Road Suite 200 Cary, NC 27511	Close Personal Protection	Approve	Accepted
28.	Robert Lee Hubbs Flock Safety 1170 Howell Mill Rd Atlanta, GA 30318	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
29.	Patrick Alton Huffman 753 Executive Protection Inc. 344 Bellows Lane rocky point, NC 28457	Close Personal Protection	Approve	Accepted
30.	Ayoub Ibrahim Prime Shield Security Services LLC 6917 Cub Champion LN Mint Hill, NC 28227	Security Guard And Patrol	Approve	Accepted
31.	David Lee Idol jr Ranger Protective	Security Guard And Patrol	Approve	Accepted

	Name Company Address	License	Committee Recommendation	Board Action
	Services llc 5121 Beulah Ln kernersville, NC 27284			
32.	Eugene Jarka E&S Jarka Inc. 3699 Battery Lane Southport, NC 28461	Close Personal Protection	Approve	Accepted
33.	Madison Jennings Digistream Investigations 105 Kilmayne Drive Cary, NC 27511	Private Investigator Associate	Approve Level 1 with 800 hours	Accepted
34.	Jeffrey Allen Kantner Jr Digistream Carolinas 300 Fayetteville Street Raleigh, NC 27602	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
35.	Cory Matthew Kluttz Bradshaw's Private Investigation Services 203 W Kerr St Salisbury, NC 28144	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
36.	Benjamin Owen Knauss RacterLabs 101 Rainbow Dr Livingston, TX 77399	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
37.	Kathy Lail Rowe Investigative Monitoring 5002 Deer Run Drive CROUSE, NC 28033-7743	Private Investigator Associate	Approve Level 1 with zero hours	Accepted
38.	Dominick Henry Locascio III DLO Investigative	Close Personal Protection	Approve	Accepted

	Name Company Address	License	Committee Recommendation	Board Action
	Group & Protective Services 475 Jake Alexander Blvd W Salisbury, NC 28147			
39.	Jeffrey Eugene Mackvick Mackvick Investigations & Consulting 94 War AdmIral Drive Clayton, NC 27520	Security Guard And Patrol	Approve	Accepted
40.	Robert Calhoun Marohn Verum Investigations 113 Camille Circle Youngsville, NC 27596	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
41.	Douglas John Maslar NexusPoint Advisory, LLC 1111 Simfield Valley Ct Matthews, NC 28105	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
42.	Eric Glenn McClary McClary Investigations 4907 Ardenwoods drive charlotte, NC 28215	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
43.	Charles junior Mcmillan AEGIS TACTICAL SERVICES, LLC 3011 Town Center Drive Fayetteville, NC 28306	Security Guard And Patrol	Deny Falsification of application	Accepted

	Name Company Address	License	Committee Recommendation	Board Action
44.	Robert Daniel Medina Robert Medina 900 east brooklyn village ave Charlotte, NC 28204	Close Personal Protection	Approve	Accepted
45.	Gabriel Scott Meily Opertus Risk Consulting LLC 5540 Centerview Dr. Raleigh, NC 27607	Close Personal Protection	Approve	Accepted
46.	Edwin Pantoja Kings Park International Church 723 Mountain Pine Drive Cary, NC 27519	Proprietary	Approve	Accepted
47.	Ross Wilson Parmenter Capstone Protective Services Group 3620 Spanish Peak Dr High Point, NC 27265	Close Personal Protection	Approve	Accepted
48.	Cynthia Dawn Pye-Labod TEPI 201 BILLY SMITH RD LEXINGTON, NC 27292	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
49.	Cody Daniel Ray Command Investigations, LLC 1540 International Parkway Lake Mary, FL 32746	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
50.	Donald Paul Redl Jr Apex Intelligence Group LLC	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted

	Name Company Address	License	Committee Recommendation	Board Action
	1441 E Broad St. Ste. 229 Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526			
51.	Tiffany Renee Riley Foresight Solutions Group INC 13113 Bold Run Hill Rd Wake Forest, NC 27587	Close Personal Protection	Approve	Accepted
52.	Dontiera Ashley Roach-Cunningham Optimum Protection Group LLC 18611 Independence Rd Accokeek, MD 20607	Security Guard And Patrol	Approve	Accepted
53.	Bradley Rowe Rowe Investigative Monitoring 5002 Deer Run Drive, Crouse, N CROUSE, NC 28033-7743	Private Investigator Associate	Approve Level 1 with 400 hours	Accepted
54.	Joshua Garcia Ruiz Blue Life Security, LLC 136 Caryonah Rd Crossville, TN 38571	Security Guard And Patrol	Approve	Accepted
55.	James Daniel Russell James Russell 6006 Leeds Ct Monroe, NC 28110	Close Personal Protection	Approve	Accepted

	Name Company Address	License	Committee Recommendation	Board Action
56.	Justin William Sanford Concentric Protection Group, LLC 2560 Archer Dr Newton, NC 28658	Close Personal Protection	Approve	Accepted
57.	Wayne Edward Sankey III Zion Defense Group, LLC 4205 Stoney Brook Rd Clemmons, NC 27012	Electronic Countermeasures	Approve	Accepted
58.	Jordan Fox Schroader Magen David Shachor Network Corporation 4080 Cedar Creek Rd Fayetteville NC, NC 28312	Security Guard And Patrol	Approve	Accepted
59.	Donna Sears Chameleon Confidential Investigations 9913 River Rd Trl 18 Wilmington , NC 28412	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
60.	Samuel Brooke Sechrist SEEK Investigative Services 175 Lakefront Dr Salisbury, NC 28146	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
61.	Erica Nicole Spence Spence Investigations 301 Village Dr. Jacksonville, NC 28546	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted

	Name Company Address	License	Committee Recommendation	Board Action
62.	Zane Stetler Stetler Investigations 1035 E. 24th St. Newton, NC 28658	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
63.	Cedric Anastasio Stewart Jr. Made Men Security Specialist LLC. 500 Stony Point Rd. Kings Mountain, NC 28086	Security Guard And Patrol	Approve	Accepted
64.	Jason Sumner Ring Protect Inc. 11004 NW 101st Street Yukon, OK 73099	Security Guard And Patrol	Approve	Accepted
65.	Ryan Avery Sutton TNG Security-North Carolina Inc. 1050 Corporate Office Dr Milford, MI 48381	Security Guard And Patrol	Approve	Accepted
66.	John Henry Templeton Foresight Solutions Group Inc. 13113 Bold Run Hill RD Wake Forest, NC 27587	Close Personal Protection	Approve	Accepted
67.	Aidan Thomas Allied Universal Compliance and Investigations, Inc. 910 Paverstone Drive Raleigh, NC 27615	Private Investigator Associate	Approve Level 1 with zero hours	Accepted
68.	Michael Damian Tucker	Close Personal Protection	Deny Lack of verifiable experience	Accepted

	Name Company Address	License	Committee Recommendation	Board Action
	1115 TAMWORTH HILL LN Cary, NC 27519			
69.	Thomas Eloy Walsh Investigative Services 305 Onyx Court Jacksonville, NC 28546	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
70.	Marshall Weber Weber Investigations 109 Brookside Avenue Black Mountain, NC 28711	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
71.	Michael Gabriel Weldon CoventBridge Group (USA) Inc 9485 Regency Square Blvd. JACKSONVILLE, FL 32225	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
72.	Dustin Michael Wilhoit Metrolina Investigations, LLC 6012 Bayfield Pkwy Concord, NC 28027	Courier Service	Approve	Accepted
73.	Jeffrey Allen Woolard Long Leaf Pine Investigations PO Box 159 Autryville, NC 28318	Private Investigator	Approve	Accepted
74.	James Antonio Wright Jr Occam Security Services	Security Guard And Patrol	Approve	Accepted

Name Company Address	License	Committee Recommendation	Board Action
810 Tyvola Rd Charlotte, NC 28217			

North Carolina Private Protective Services Board
Training and Education Committee
Agenda

July 23, 2026

The upcoming PPS Trainer courses are scheduled:

Course: **Unarmed Guard Trainer and Workshop**
***Location*:** **Wake Tech Public Safety Education Campus**
321 Chapanoke Road, Raleigh

- **September 14-18, 2026**
- **November 16-20, 2026**
- **February 8-12, 2027**
- **May 17-21, 2027**
- **July 19-23, 2027**
- **September 13-17, 2027**
- **November 15-19, 2027**

***Course*:** **Firearms Trainer Recertification/Prequalification 1-day course**
Location: **Samarcand Training Academy, Jackson Springs**

- **September 23, 2026**
- **September 30, 2026**
- **October 28, 2026 (Recertification for both HG and LG trainers)**
- **March 3, 2027**
- **March 11, 2027 (Recertification for both HG and LG trainers)**
- **April 7, 2027**
- **September 28, 2027**
- **October 6, 2027**
- **October 12, 2027 (Recertification for both HG and LG trainers)**

Course: **New Firearms Trainer Course and Workshop (4 days)**
Location: **NCJA, Salemburg**

- **October 20-23, 2026**

Course: **Long Gun Trainer Course and Workshop (3 days)**
Location: **NCJA, Salemburg**

- **Date TBD once minimum number of applications are submitted.**

Completed Training

Course: **Unarmed Guard Trainer and Workshop**
***Location*: Wake Tech Public Safety Education Campus**
321 Chapanoke Road, Raleigh

- **July 13-17, 2026**

Course: **Firearms Trainer Recertification/Prequalification 1-day course**
Location: **Samarcand Training Academy, Jackson Springs**

- **N/A Classes resume Fall 2026**

Firearms Trainer Observations

Andre Edmonds
Date*: Tuesday, June 9, 2026 @ 12:45pm*
Location*: 141 N. Business Court, Rocky Mount (Eastern Indoor Shooting Center)*
No violations observed. Edmonds called the course of fire correctly and all required equipment was utilized to include lighting, barricades, stopwatch, etc..) No safety hazards noted.

James Dudley & Brian Apple
Date: *Thursday, June 11, 2026 @ 1:30pm*
Location*: 3921 Old Holly Springs Rd., Apex (Wake County Firearms Education & Training Center)*

No violations observed. Dudley and Apple called the rifle course of fire correctly. No safety hazards noted.

Weapon Discharges

***Name**: Demetrius Elliott*
***Company:** Allied Universal Security Services*
***Date of Incident**: May 19, 2026 @ 6:30pm*
***Location of Incident**: Harnett Correctional Institution, 1210 E. McNeill St., Lillington NC*
***Weapon Involved**: M&P 9mm 2.0*
***Registration Status when Incident Occurred:** Active armed guard*

On May 19, 2026, at 6:30 pm, Demetrius Elliott was working armed security for Allied Universal Security (AUSS) at the Harnett Correctional Institution in Lillington NC. At the time of the discharge, Elliott was seated in his patrol car. He unholstered his weapon to record the serial number for a report he was writing. No property damage or injuries were reported. AUSS terminated Elliott for safety violations as a result of this incident.

***Name**: Demetri Goss*
***Company:** Allied Universal Security Services*
***Date of Incident**: June 23, 2026 @ 11:00am*
***Location of Incident**: NC Correctional Institution for Women, 1034 Bragg St., Raleigh NC*
***Weapon Involved**: M&P 9mm 2.0*
***Registration Status when Incident Occurred:** Active armed guard*

On June 23, 2026, at 11:00am, Demetri Goss was working armed security for Allied Universal Security (AUSS) at the NC Correctional Institute for Women in Raleigh, NC. At the time of the discharge, Goss was working in his assigned tower. He unholstered his weapon and shot himself in the leg. Goss was transported to a local hospital with serious injuries. He is currently on a leave of absence recovering from his injuries.

***Name**: Nicholas Bennett*
***Company:** Allied Universal Security Services*
***Date of Incident**: June 30, 2026 @ 5:45am*
***Location of Incident**: Southern Correctional Institution, 272 Glen Rd., Troy NC*
***Weapon Involved**: M&P 9mm 2.0*
***Registration Status when Incident Occurred:** Active armed guard*

On June 30, 2026, at 5:45am, Nicholas Bennett was working armed security for Allied Universal Security (AUSS) at the Southern Correctional Institution (SCI) in Troy, NC. During shift change, Bennett reported to his duty station outside near Tower 1. Bennett conducted a weapons check and a round of ammunition discharged into the grass. Bennett did not conduct the weapons check at a

clearing barrel as required. No injuries were reported. Bennett was removed from his assignment at SCI as a result of this incident. He will be given the opportunity to work as an unarmed guard only.

End of Report

Prepared by Karen Battle, PPSB Training Officer

NORTH CAROLINA PRIVATE PROTECTIVE SERVICES BOARD

July 23, 2026

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Paul Sherwin, Director

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I. **PPS information and updates, page 3**
II. **Licensing, registration and certification summary, page 5**
III. **Budget summary, page 6**
IV. **Budget graphics, page 7**

PPS INFORMATION AND UPDATES

PERSONNEL

Private Protective Services is fully staffed.

OPERATIONS

Registration Unit

- Registration applications received YTD 2026: 17,141
    - Same period 2025: 16,213
    - Same period 2024: 15,362
    - Same period 2023: 13,763
    - Same period 2022: 12,618
    - Same period 2021: 12,046
    - Same period 2020: 11,987
    - Same period 2019: 13,136

Licensing Unit

- License applications received YTD 2026: 731
    - Same period 2025: 621
    - Same period 2024: 689
    - Same period 2023: 638
    - Same period 2022: 707
    - Same period 2021: 465
    - Same period 2020: 691
    - Same period 2019: 476

Investigations Unit

- License applicant background investigations completed YTD 2026: 290
    - Same period 2025: 208
    - Same period 2024: 256
    - Same period 2023: 255
    - Same period 2022: 172
    - Same period 2021: 181
    - Same period 2020: 197
    - Same period 2019: 198

- Complaint investigations completed YTD 2026: 61
    - Same period 2025: 56
    - Same period 2024: 79
    - Same period 2023: 64
    - Same period 2022: 56

- Same period 2021: 38
- Same period 2020: 27
- Same period 2019: 55

Training Unit

- Trainer applications received YTD 2026: 200
  - Same period 2025: 227
  - Same period 2024: 176
  - Same period 2023: 201
  - Same period 2022: 136
  - Same period 2021: 180
  - Same period 2020: 116
  - Same period 2019: 112

OTHER

Director Sherwin on June 17 delivered a presentation about close personal protection licensing throughout the United States at the Board of Executive Protection Professionals' 2026 Executive Security Operations Conference in Orlando, Florida. The presentation covered topics such as the varying and complex state of close protection licensing nationally and best practices in compliance.

Director Sherwin was recently selected to serve as a member of the ASIS Private Security Officer Selection and Training Standard technical committee. The Technical Committee is composed of industry experts, legal professionals, and security practitioners whose mission is to create guidelines that align with legal and regulatory requirements for hiring and training security guards.

Investigator Bill Raften was recently selected to serve as a subject-matter expert to help develop the Certified Regulatory Investigator/Inspector (CRII) Program offered by the Council on Licensure, Enforcement, and Regulation (CLEAR). The CRII Program is a new credential for regulatory investigators being offered by CLEAR.

LICENSING, REGISTRATION, AND CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

Total active in Permitium: 14,567 (-14% from May 2026 meeting)

Registration		
	Armed	2407
	Armed Armored Car	178
	Armed Licensee	47
	Armed Licensee Associate	4
	Unarmed	8460
	Unarmed Armored Car	13
Registration Total		**11109**
License		
	Armored Car Profession	47
	Close Personal Protection	365
	Courier Service Profession	63
	Digital Forensics Examiner	28
	Digital Forensics Examiner Trainee	2
	Electronic Counter Measures Profession	37
	Electronic Counter Measures Trainee	5
	Guard Dog Service Profession	13
	Polygraph Examiner	28
	Polygraph Trainee Permit	0
	Private Investigator	1416
	Private Investigator Associate	109
	Proprietary	83
	Psychological Stress Evaluator	6
	Security Guard and Patrol	531
	Special Limited Guard and Patrol	1
License Total		**2824**
Certification		
	Firearms Trainer	249
	Unarmed Guard Trainer	385
Certification Total		**634**

*The Registration counts are suspiciously low for the second month in a row and may not be accurate. Permitium officials are continuing to investigate.

Private Protective Services Board Financial Report
Fiscal Year 2025-2026
July 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026

PPSB Operating Fund Revenue and Expenditures

FYTD26 revenue	$	1,824,231.25
FYTD26 expenditures	$	(1,662,601.28)
FYTD26 FUND BALANCE INCREASE/(DECREASE)	**$**	**161,629.97**

PPSB Operating Fund Cash Flow

Beginning Cash Balance (July 1, 2025)	$	2,001,674.05
FYTD26 revenue	$	1,824,231.25
FYTD26 expenditures	$	(1,662,601.28)
FYTD26 ENDING FUND BALANCE	**$**	**2,163,304.02**
Months of Average Operating Expenses in Reserve		**13.2**

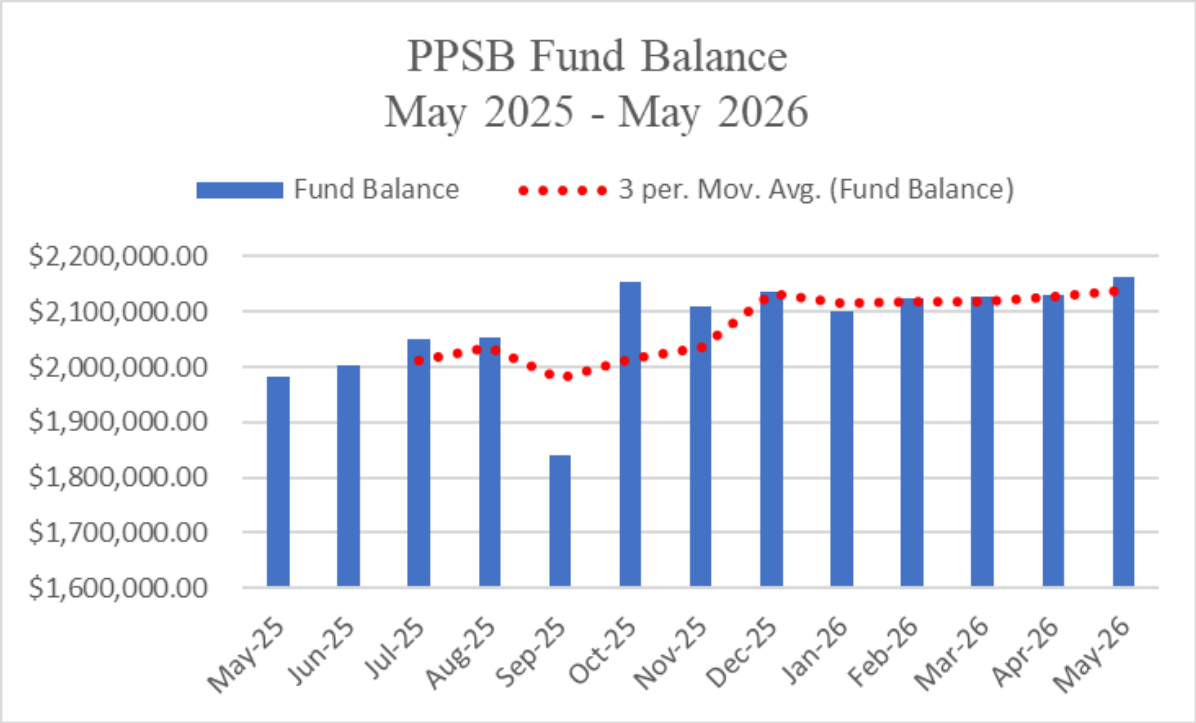
PPSB Education Fund Revenue and Expenditures

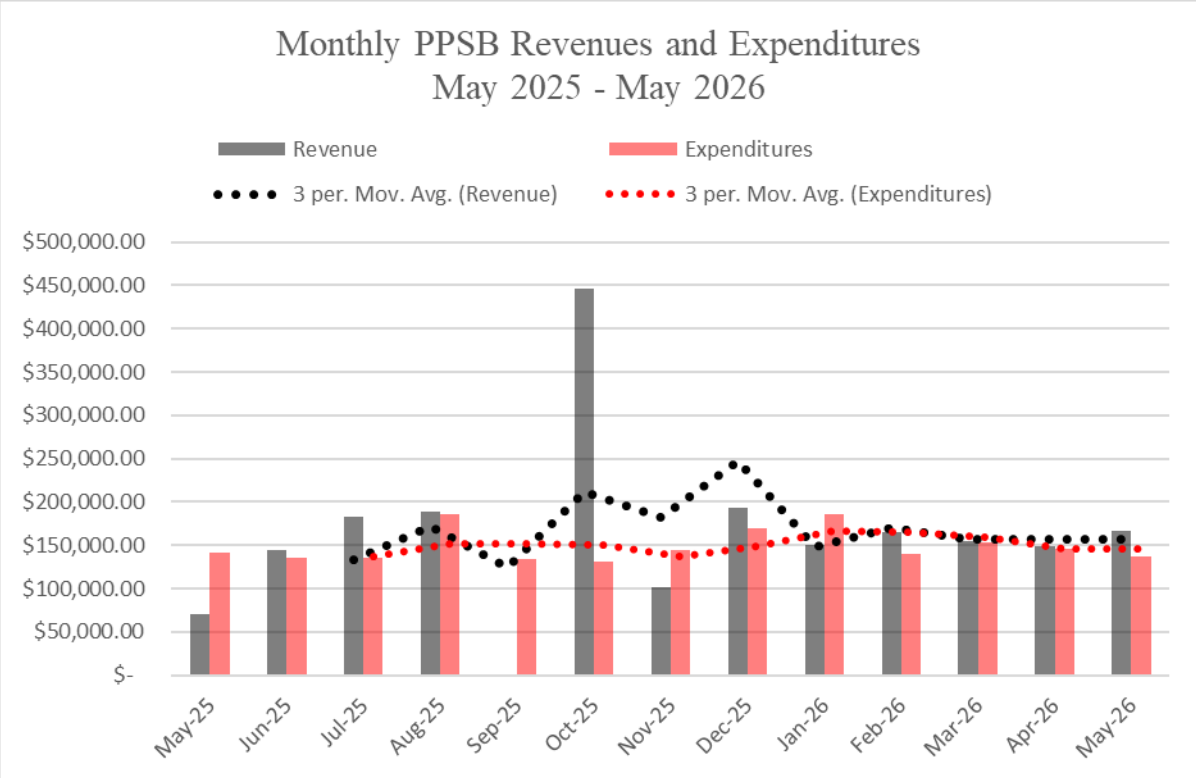
FYTD26 revenue	$	13,800.00
FYTD26 expenditures	$	-
FYTD26 EDUCATION FUND BALANCE INCREASE/(DECREASE)	**$**	**13,800.00**

PPSB Education Fund Cash Flow

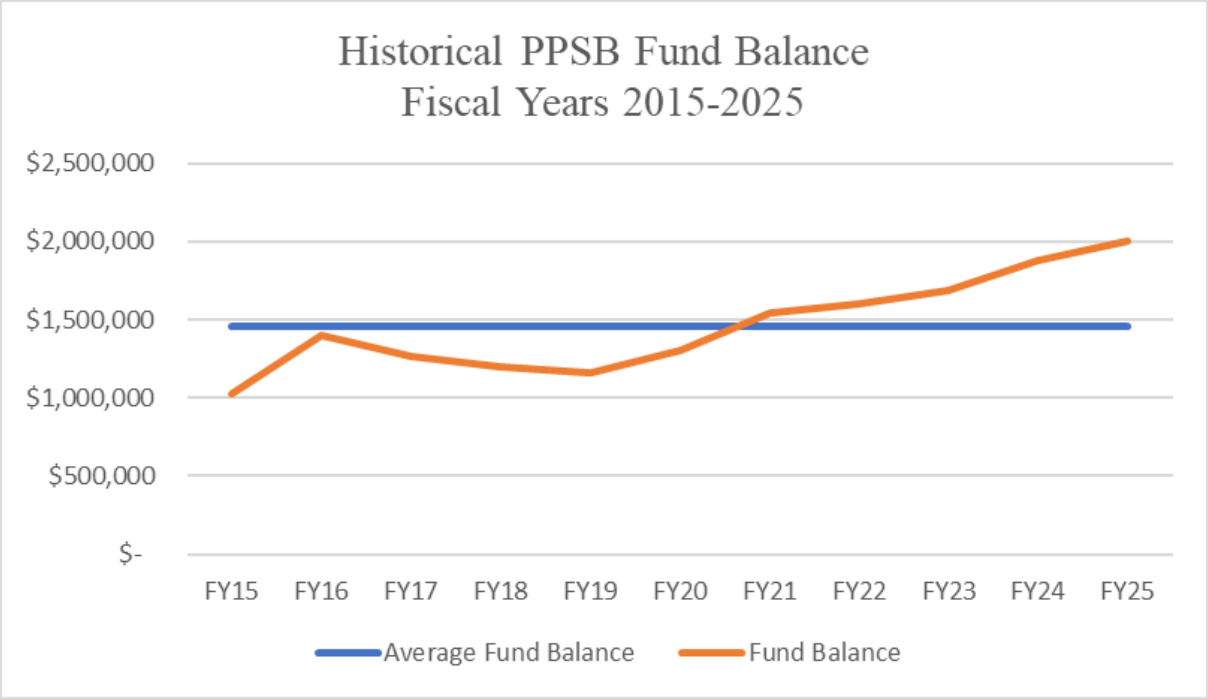
Beginning Cash Balance (July 1, 2025)	$	139,260.38
FYTD26 revenue	$	13,800.00
FYTD26 expenditures	$	-
FYTD26 ENDING FUND BALANCE	**$**	**153,060.38**

BUDGET GRAPHICS





*September 2025 revenue of ~$217,546.45 was credited to October 2025. Revenue in October 2025 was ~$193,509.00.


Historical PPSB Fund Balance
Fiscal Years 2015-2025
$2,500,000
$2,000,000
$1,500,000
$1,000,000
$500,000
$-
FY15
FY16
FY17
FY18
FY19
FY20
FY21
FY22
FY23
FY24
FY25
Average Fund Balance
Fund Balance

2027 SSLB & PPSB Meeting Dates

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	**12**	**13**	**14**	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	**16**	**17**	**18**	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	**18**	**19**	**20**	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	**20**	**21**	**22**	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	**14**	**15**	**16**	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	**16**	**17**	**18**	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SSLB PPSB

PRIVATE PROTECTIVE SERVICES BOARD
Raleigh, North Carolina
July 23, 2026

ATTORNEY'S REPORT



PRIVATE PROTECTIVE SERVICES BOARD
Raleigh, North Carolina
May 21, 2026

I. CONSENT AGREEMENT, SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS & CIVIL PENALTIES

1. On January 15, 2026, Joseph LaSorsa/LaSorsa & Associates was assessed a civil penalty in the amount of $1,000.00 for for failure to submit continuing education rosters. Payment has not been received.

2. On March 19, 2026, Jermarion Pegues/Blindside Protection Agency LLC., entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board in the amount of $5,385.60 for 44 unarmed security guard registration violations. The Consent Agreement was signed by QA Jermarion Pegues on April15, 2026. To be paid in three monthly installments. Payment has not been received.

3. On May 21, 2026, Kevin Donald Kollar/Security Engineers, Inc., entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board in the amount of $2,019.60 for 15 unarmed security guard registration violations and one (1) armed security guard registration violation. The Consent Agreement was signed by QA Michael Nessler on June 5, 2026. Paid In Full.

4. On May 21, 2026, Andrew Seward/Tailormade Protective Services, LLC, entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board in the amount of $3,610.80 for 16 unarmed security guard registration violations and nine (9) armed security guard registration violations. The Consent Agreement was signed by QA Andrew Seward on June 8, 2026. Paid In Full.

5. On May 21, 2026, Roger Ladd/N.C. Detective Agency, Inc., entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board in the amount of $367.20 for three (3) unarmed security guard registration violations. The Consent Agreement was signed by QA Roger Ladd on June 6, 2026). Paid In Full.

6. On May 21, 2026, Marco Norman/Occam Security, entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board in the amount of $13,406.40 for 36 unarmed security guard registration violations and nine (9) months of operating a NC branch office with no in-state Qualifying Agent. The Consent Agreement was signed by QA Marco Norman on June 8, 2026. To be paid in three monthly installments. Received the first payment.

7. On May 21, 2026, Charles Reedy/Black Bag Crew Holding Company, LLC, entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board in the amount of $1,867.20 for three (3) unarmed security guard registration violations. The Consent Agreement was signed by QA Charles Reedy on June 5, 2026. Paid In Full.

8. On May 21, 2026, Michael Allan Matthews/Capitol Special Patrol, entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board in the amount of $367.20 for two (2) armed security guard registration violations. The Consent Agreement was signed by QA Michael Allan Matthews on June 5, 2026). Paid In Full.

9. On May 21, 2026, Candace Ratliff /Professional Security Services, entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board in the amount of $1,346.40 for 11 unarmed security guard registration violations. The Consent Agreement was signed by QA Candace Ratliff on June 8, 2026). Paid In Full.

10. On May 21, 2026, Felipe Cruz Jr./Envista Forensics (Screening), entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board in the amount of $2,720.00 for 32 months of unlicensed activity. The Consent Agreement was signed by QA Felipe Cruz Jr., on June 8, 2026. Paid In Full.

11. On May 21, 2026, James Staunton/Securitas Critical Infrastructure Services, Inc., (Screening) entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board in the amount of $85.00 for one (1) month of unlicensed activity. The Consent Agreement was signed by QA James Staunton on June 5, 2026. Paid In Full.

II. OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

See, Hearings List (Attachment 1).

III. ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

At your May meeting, the Law & Rules Committee recommended four amendments to the Board's administrative rules: An amendment to 14B NCAC 16 .0904 to state that a firearms trainer must meet the requirements of Rule .0901(a)(3) and successfully quality with a firearm only once in two attempts; amend 14B NCAC 16 .0707 to cap at 35 the number of students attending an unarmed security guard training course, regardless of the courses delivery format; and amend 14B NCAC 16 .0705 and .1305 to state that an on-line criminal background check is required to transfer the registration of an unarmed security guard or unarmed armored car guard.

The Board approved these rules as amended at its May Board meeting.

The Notice of Text for .0707 and .0904 was filed on June 1, 2026. The Public Hearing is Tuesday, July 31st at 2:00 p.m. at the Board's office, and the Public Comment Period expires August 31, 2026. The Board will vote to approve these rule amendments at its November meeting.

The Notice of Text for .0705 and .1305 was filed on July 8, 2026. The Public Hearing is Tuesday, August 25th at 2:00 p.m. at the Board's office, and the Public Comment Period expires October 2, 2026. The Board will also vote to approve these rule amendments at its November meeting.

IV. LITIGATION

a. At its September 2025 meeting, the Board instructed me to seek an injunction against Kejuan Shackleford d/b/a/ Big Dawg Security for unlicensed security guard and patrol activity. Mr. Shackleford had hired both armed and unarmed security in Wayne County and surrounding areas.

A Complaint for Injunctive Relief was filed on October 3, 2025, but service was unsuccessful, including an attempt while he was in jail in Lenoir County. An Alias & Pluries

Summons was obtained and sent to the Wayne County Sheriff's Office on December 19th for service at the address on the Lenoir County arrest warrant but was returned unserved by Wayne County. Training Officer/Investigator Karen Battle served the Defendant at his court appearance in Lenoir County on January 16th. He failed to answer or otherwise plead and I filed a Motion for Default Judgment on February 20th. Entry of Default was obtained on March 6th. I am awaiting the signed Default Judgment.

b. At its November 2025 meeting, the Board instructed me to seek an injunction against Clifton Tinnen, Catherine G. Malinowski, and United Risk & Safety Consulting Group for unlicensed security guard and patrol activity.

In February 2019, Mr. Tinnen entered into a Consent Agreement as owner and QA of a different company, Integrity Protection Services, in the amount of $19,461.60. He failed to sign or pay, and the license was revoked in June 2019. He ultimately signed the Consent Agreement and the Grievance Committee agreed to accept it late and reinstate his license. He never paid.

It was discovered last year that he was contracting with apartment complexes for security guard and patrol services in the name of a new entity.

A Complaint for Injunctive Relief was filed on December 9, 2025, and service was achieved on Defendant Malinowski and Defendant United Risk & Safety Consulting Group by the Orange County Sheriff's Office. Although I was contacted by an attorney who claimed to represent all three Defendants, neither Defendant Malinowski nor Defendant United Risk & Safety Consulting Group answered or otherwise pled. Both have been defaulted and Entry of Default was obtained on February 25, 2026, and the Default Judgment was signed on May 26, 2026.

Defendant Tinnen avoided service by Sheriff's Offices in two counties, and by three attempts by a private process server until he was finally served on March 9, 2026. He failed to answer or otherwise plead. Entry of Default was made on April 21, 2026, and I filed a Motion for Default Judgment on May 1, 2026. Mr. Tinnen failed to respond. Default Judgment was attempted, but denied stating a hearing is required.

c. At its January 2026 meeting, the Board instructed me to seek an injunction against Zozer El and Nova Nine Protection, LLC for unlicensed security guard and patrol activity. Mr. El had been contracting unarmed guards to a manufacturing company in Catawba County.

The Civil Summons and Complaint for Injunctive Relief was filed on January 30, 2026, and mailed via certified mail to the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office on February 3rd. I tracked it online through USPS Tracking and for over a month it was "moving within the USPS network..." then was ultimately returned. I then located a possible alternate address for Mr. El and attempted service by Sheriff. The Civil Summons and Complaint was returned "unable to serve; business closed." Possible additional addresses were found, and an Alias & Pluries Summons was obtained. The Complaint was again sent to the Sheriff of Mecklenburg County for service and it too was returned "unable to serve." A third attempt was unsuccessful, as well.

V. LEGISLATION

a. Senate Bill 451, Occupational Professional Licensing Relief, would have required 26

enumerated boards to cut their required continuing education hours in half (i.e. "by fifty percent (50%)") or double the amount of time the licensee has to comply (i.e. if 12 months, then 24).

It was referred to the Senate Committee on Regulatory Reform on April 7, 2025, and was debated in committee without a vote on April 16th of last year. Then, suddenly, it was revived this Session just long enough to be stripped of its contents in a process called a "committee substitute" and is now, "An Act to Require Certain Licensing Boards to Offer Universal Licensure for Out of State Licensees." The PPSB is one of the covered boards.

This bill would amend the law created by House Bill 763, "Neighbor State License Recognition Act," which was effective October 1, 2025. However, one important provision would be stricken from that new law if enacted: that the applicant demonstrate competence "through methods determined by the board." It would also add a provision that prohibits a board from requiring that the state of licensure's licensing requirements be the substantial equivalent of North Carolina.

Instead of the four states contiguous to NC, and West Virginia, the bill applies to all 50 states, the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.

b. House Bill 949, School Protection Act, would allow a person hired as an armed security guard to possess a firearm on nonpublic educational property so long as the armed security guard is also a sworn law enforcement officer. Currently, a civilian licensed by the North Carolina Private Protective Services Board as an armed security guard may not possess a firearm on either pubic or nonpublic educational property (unless employed as a security guard for a hospital or health care facility located on educational property).

This bill was first referred to the House Education, K-12 Committee, then re-referred to the House Judiciary 2 Committee on April 17, 2025.

c. Senate Bill 280, Private School Security Act, would have allowed **employees or volunteers** of private schools to carry firearms or stun guns on educational property owned, used, or operated by the private school if: (1) the employee or volunteer has written authorization from the school board of trustees or school director to possess and carry the firearm or stun gun; (2) the employee or volunteer has a valid concealed handgun permit; (3) the employee or volunteer completes a minimum of eight hours of specific training in addition to the safety course required for the concealed handgun permit; and (4) the private school adopts and maintains minimum written standard operating procedures regarding possession and carrying of firearms and stun guns.

The bill would have also allowed a person in a place of religious worship that is located on educational property owned, used, or operated by the membership of the place of religious worship to possess weapons while attending worship services, as detailed in the bill.

This bill passed the Senate on May 8, 2025, and was referred to the House Committee on Rules.

In the same process mentioned above (i.e., a "committee substitute"), this bill was stripped of its contents on June 17th renamed the "Dominque Moody Act," and would now require the

Division of Social Services of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services to create child welfare escalation teams which would conduct escalation assessments of juveniles that have a history of child protective services attention due to a combination of safety and risk factors.

This new bill passed the House on June 17th and was referred to the Senate Committee on Rules.

d. Senate Bill 50, Freedom to Carry NC, would allow any person who is a citizen and 18 years of age or older to carry a concealed handgun in the State without a concealed handgun permit unless they are disqualified under various terms detailed in the bill, which are generally the same disqualifiers to obtaining a concealed handgun permit (e.g. being a fugitive from justice, a convicted felon, an unlawful user of an illegal controlled substance, etc.).

It passed the General Assembly on June 12th but was vetoed by the Governor. A veto override passed in the Senate on July 29, 2025, and after having been placed on the House calendar for an override vote 13 times since July 29th of last year, and was last on the House calendar for April 16, 2026.

e. Senate Bill 355, Support Department of Adult Correction, Section 2.2(a), would have extended the sunset date for use of contract security guards at State prisons to June 30, 2027. However, in a committee substitute passed on June 9, 2026, this provision was stricken.

This bill passed the House on July 1st, the Senate on July 2nd, and was signed by the Governor on July 7th.

f. House Bill 1033, Dental Board Reform, introduced on April 23, 2026, is a wide-ranging bill in which the majority of its contents were a House Bill, that failed to pass, introduced in 2017 to address a United States Supreme Court case, *Federal Trade Commission v. North Carolina Dental Board* from 2015. Although there are numerous provisions regarding complaints, unlicensed activity, written notification to be included in what the Board calls a "cease & desist" letter, injunctive actions, and venue for injunctive actions, many of these items were included in the Board's bill (S.B. 710; S.L. 2025-51) effective October 1, 2025. However, I will still be tracking it.

This bill passed the House Committee on Judiciary 2 on May 12, 2026 and was re-referred to the House Committee on Health.

VI. FINAL AGENCY DECISIONS

a. Thomas Morton Colthart v. PPSB (*See*, attachment 2.)
b. Joseph M. LaSorsa v. PPSB (*See*, attachment 3.)
c. George Thomas Porter v. PPSB (*See*, attachment 4.)

ATTACHMENT 2

ATTACHMENT 3

ATTACHMENT 4

1.

PPSB
MASTER HEARINGS LIST
as of June 26, 2026

OAH HEARING DATE	PETITIONER	TYPE OF APPLICATION	FAD STATUS OR HEARING DATE
August 26, 2025	Hector Alexander Falu; and The Falu Corp. 25 DOJ 02815	Revocation of Security Guard and Patrol License	Final Agency Decision served January 22, 2026.
October 29, 2025	Natasha Williams (I) 25 DOJ 02576	Appeal of Consent Agreement	Order of Dismissal filed October 30, 2025.
December 16, 2025	Thomas M. Colhart V 25 DOJ 03750	Denial of Private Investigator License	July 23, 2026.
December 16, 2025	Noah Adam Goldman 25 DOJ 03969	Summary Suspension of Armed Guard Registration	Order Upholding Summary Suspension filed December 30, 2025.
March 24, 2026	Joseph M. LaSorsa; and LaSorsa & Associates	Letter of Reprimand & Assessment of Civil Penalty	July 23, 2026.
April 21, 2026	Tony Reno Chambers, Jr. 25 DOJ 04482	Denial of Security Guard and Patrol License	Proposed Proposal for Decision filed May 12, 2026.
May 26, 2026	George Thomas Porter 26 DOJ 01551	Denial of Security Guard and Patrol License	July 23, 2026.
Week of June 3 & 24, 2026	Natasha Williams (II) 26 DOJ 00365	30-day Suspension of Security Guard and Patrol License	
June 23, 2026	Carl Dangerfield 25 DOJ 03965	Appeal of One-year Suspension of Private Investigator License	Consent Agreement signed; appeal dismissed June 5, 2026.
September 21, 2026	Michelle Seiz; & American Security Associates 26 DOJ 01902	Revocation of Security Guard and Patrol License	

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2.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF WAKE

IN THE OFFICE OF
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
25 DOJ 03750

Thomas Morton Colthart V Petitioner, v. NC Private Protective Services Board Respondent.	**ORDER** **AMENDING DECISION**

For the purpose of correcting a clerical error, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the above-captioned Decision, issued from this Office on April 22, 2026 is amended as follows:

The caption of the decision should read: Proposal for Decision, not Final Decision.

SO ORDERED, the 28th day of April, 2026.

Lawrence R. Duke
Administrative Law Judge

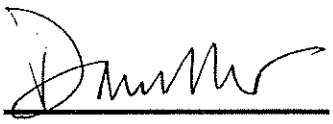
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that, on the date shown below, the Office of Administrative Hearings sent the foregoing document to the persons named below at the addresses shown below, by electronic service as defined in 26 NCAC 03 .0501(4), or by placing a copy thereof, enclosed in a wrapper addressed to the person to be served, into the custody of the North Carolina Mail Service Center who subsequently will place the foregoing document into an official depository of the United States Postal Service:

Joel Hart Miles
Cheshire Parker Schneider & Abrams, PLLC
hart.miles@cheshirepark.com
Attorney For Petitioner

Jeffrey P Gray
Bailey & Dixon, LLP
jgray@bdixon.com
Attorney For Respondent

This the 28th day of April, 2026.



Daniel Chunko
Law Clerk
N. C. Office of Administrative Hearings
1711 New Hope Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27609-6285
Phone: 984-236-1850

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF WAKE

IN THE OFFICE OF
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
25 DOJ 03750

Thomas Morton Colthart V Petitioner, v. NC Private Protective Services Board Respondent.	**FINAL DECISION**

This case came on for hearing on December 16, 2025, before Lawrence R. Duke, Administrative Law Judge, at the Office of Administrative Hearings in Raleigh, N.C. This case was heard after Petitioner requested, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 150B-40(e), designation of an Administrative Law Judge to preside at the hearing of a contested case under Article 3A of Chapter 150B of the North Carolina General Statutes.

APPEARANCES

Petitioner: Joel Hart Miles, Jr.
Counsel for Petitioner
Cheshire Parker Schneider & Abrams, PLLC
PO Box 1029
Raleigh, NC 27602

Respondent: Jeffrey P. Gray
Counsel for Respondent
Bailey & Dixon, LLP
P.O. Box 1351
Raleigh, NC 27602

ISSUE

Whether Petitioner possesses the requisite experience such that he should be allowed to complete the application process for a Private Investigator license?

RULES AND STATUTES and ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AT ISSUE

N.C.G.S. § 74C-3(a)(8); § 74C-8(d)(4)
14B NCAC 16.0103(10); 14B NCAC 16.0201(e); 14B NCAC 16.0204(d); 14B NCAC 16.0401(a), (c), (d)

WITNESSES

For Petitioner:
Thomas Morton Colthart, V
Bret Roth
Anthony Garcia

For Respondent:
Paul Sherwin
Darla Cole

EXHIBITS

For Petitioner:
Petitioner's Exhibit 2

For Respondent:
Respondent's Exhibits 1-4

BASED UPON careful consideration of the sworn testimony of the witnesses presented at the hearing, the documents and exhibits received and admitted into evidence, and the entire record in this proceeding, the Tribunal makes the following Findings of Fact:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Thomas Morton Colthart, V ("Petitioner") received by mail the denial of his application for a Private Investigator license in a September 23, 2025 letter (Res. Ex. 1) from the Private Protective Services Board. Petitioner requested an administrative hearing and Respondent filed a Notice of Hearing and notified Petitioner (Res. Ex. 3) that the hearing would take place on December 16, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.

2. The reason provided for the denial of application was "Failure to complete the application process and lack of verifiable experience." (Res. Ex. 1)

3. Respondent has the authority under Chapter 74C of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 14B, Chapter 16 of the North Carolina Administrative Code to grant Private Investigator licenses.

4. Petitioner was initially granted a probationary license in 2025 for the period of April 14-June 13 and worked at Blue Falcons Investigations where he was supervised by Bret Roth, a North Carolina licensed private investigator.

5. Petitioner was previously enlisted in the United States Army from 2005-2018 and was in Special Forces.

6. Both Anthony Garcia, Petitioner's supervising officer in the Army, and Petitioner testified credibly that Petitioner was deployed on multiple missions that involved surveillance and other investigative work in foreign countries that totaled over 3000 hours.

7. Anthony Garcia was not interviewed by Darla Cole as part of Petitioner's application process.

8. Both Garcia and Petitioner had Top Secret clearances on said missions and documentation regarding Petitioner's experience is classified.

9. Respondent, in limited circumstances, accepts evidence of experience in other forms when documentation is not available.

10. Petitioner performed his investigative work at a high level while working under his probationary license. (Pet. Ex. 2)

11. The only remaining requirement in the application process for Petitioner is an interview with Darla Cole, Board investigator. Such an interview typically takes 1-1.5 hours.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The parties are properly before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge and jurisdiction and venue are proper.

2. The Office of Administrative Hearings has personal and subject matter jurisdiction over this contested case. The parties received proper notice of the hearing in this matter. To the extent that the findings of Facts contain Conclusions of Law, or that the Conclusions or Law are Findings of Fact, they should be so considered without regard to the given labels.

3. The party with the burden of proof in a contested case must establish the facts required by N.C.G.S. § 150B-23(a) by a preponderance of the evidence. N.C.G.S.§ 150B-29(a).

4. The administrative law judge shall decide the case based upon the preponderance of the evidence. N.C.G.S. § 150B-34(a).

5. Petitioner established by a preponderance of the evidence that his 13 years of military investigative experience in Special Forces qualifies under N.C.G.S § 74C-3(8)(a) as performing "investigations…concerning a. Crimes or wrongs done or threatened against the United States or any state or territory of the United States."

6. Petitioner further established by a preponderance of the evidence that said military investigative experience in Special Forces qualifies for consideration under 14B NCAC 16.1106, "Consideration of Experience."

7. Finally, Petitioner established by a preponderance of the evidence that said military investigative experience in Special Forces exceeded 3000 hours under 14B NCAC 16.0204, thereby making him eligible to receive a North Carolina Private Investigator license once he completes his interview with Darla Cole.

8. Allowing Petitioner to finish the application process serves the ends of justice.

PROPOSAL FOR DECISION

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is proposed that Petitioner has the requisite investigative experience to become a North Carolina licensed private investigator and Petitioner is authorized to finish the application process by participating in the requisite interview.

NOTICE

The agency making the final decision in this contested case is required to give each party an opportunity to file exceptions to this Proposal for Decision, to submit proposed Findings of Fact and to present oral and written arguments to the agency. N.C.G.S. § 150B-40(e).

The agency that will make the final decision in this contested case is the North Carolina Private Protective Services Board.

A copy of the final agency decision or order shall be served upon each party personally or by certified mail addressed to the party at the latest address given by the party to the agency and a copy shall be furnished to any attorney of record. N.C.G.S. §150B-42(a).

SO ORDERED, the 22nd day of April, 2026.

Lawrence R. Duke
Senior Administrative Law Judge

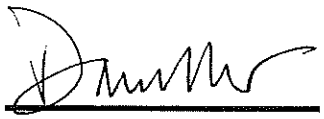
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that, on the date shown below, the Office of Administrative Hearings sent the foregoing document to the persons named below at the addresses shown below, by electronic service as defined in 26 N.C. Admin. Code 03 .0501(4), or by placing a copy thereof, enclosed in a wrapper addressed to the person to be served, into the custody of the North Carolina Mail Service Center which will subsequently place the foregoing document into an official depository of the United States Postal Service.

Joel Hart Miles
Cheshire Parker Schneider & Abrams, PLLC
hart.miles@cheshirepark.com
Attorney For Petitioner

Jeffrey P Gray
Bailey & Dixon, LLP
jgray@bdixon.com
Attorney For Respondent

This the 22nd day of April, 2026.



Daniel Chunko
Law Clerk
N. C. Office of Administrative Hearings
1711 New Hope Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27609-6285
Phone: 984-236-1850

3.

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF WAKE

IN THE OFFICE OF
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
26 DOJ 00349

Joseph M. Lasorsa; and Lasorsa & Associates Petitioner, v. NC Private Protective Services Board Respondent.	**PROPOSAL FOR DECISION**

This contested case was heard by the undersigned Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), William W. Peaslee, on March 24, 2026, at the Office of Administrative Hearings, Raleigh, North Carolina.

APPEARANCES

For Petitioner: Joseph M. Lasorsa, *pro se*

For Respondent: Jeffrey P. Gray
Bailey & Dixon, LLP
P.O. Box 1351
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

ISSUES

Whether Petitioner violated 14B NCAC 16 .1205(a) by failing to timely submit a course attendee roster, and if so, what penalty is appropriate.

APPLICABLE STATUTES AND ADMINISTRATIVE CODES

Statutes: N.C. Gen. Stat. § 74C-12; § 74C-17; § 74C-22; § 150B-25.1

Codes: 14B NCAC 16 .1205(a)

EXHIBITS

Petitioner's Exhibits ("P. Exs.") None

Respondent's Exhibits ("R. Exs.") 1-3 and 5-9.

WITNESSES

Petitioner: Joseph M. Lasorsa

Respondent: Paul Sherwin, Board Director.

BASED UPON careful consideration of the pleadings and other materials in the file, sworn witness testimony presented at the hearing, the documents and other exhibits received and admitted into evidence, and other competent and admissible evidence, or lack thereof, the Undersigned makes the following proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law. In making the Findings of Fact, the Undersigned has weighed all the evidence and for each witness has assessed that witness' credibility, including but not limited to his/her demeanor, any interests, bias, or prejudice he/she may have, the opportunity he/she had to see, hear, know or remember the facts or occurrences about which he/she testified, whether his/her testimony is reasonable, and whether his/her testimony is consistent with all other believable evidence in the case.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Board is established pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 74C-1, *et seq.,* and is charged with the duty of licensing, registering, permitting, and certifying individuals engaged in the private protective services profession, including continuing education instructors. Accordingly, it is an occupational licensing agency pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-2(4b).

2. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 74C-22, Respondent has the authority to approve continuing education courses, approve instructors, and establish criteria and curriculum. The Board has approximately 300 approved courses.

3. Petitioner Joseph M. LaSorsa (hereinafter "J.M. LaSorsa") is the owner of LaSorsa & Associates and a licensee of Respondent pursuant to Chapter 74C of the North Carolina General Statutes.

4. J.M LaSorsa is an approved continuing education instructor for Board-approved continuing education courses since October 2011 and is subject to the Board's law and administrative rules. J.M. LaSorsa was assigned the instructor number "86-CEP" by Respondent.

5. Joseph A. LaSorsa (hereinafter "J.A. LaSorsa") is the father of Petitioner Joseph M. LaSorsa and is also licensed by Respondent, although the record does not establish the category for which he is licensed. His license expired on May 31, 2025.

6. On or about April 4, 2025, LaSorsa and Associates offered an instructional course at which both J.M. and J.A. LaSorsa provided instruction.

7. Continuing education credit is given to instructors at Board-approved continuing education courses pursuant to 14B NCAC 16 .1203(d).

8. On or about April 30, 2025, J.A. LaSorsa filed a Course Attendance Certification with Respondent claiming the April 4, 2025 course was the Board's pre-approved Technical Surveillance Countermeasures PPSB-19-004. The certificate identified the instructor as "Joseph LaSorsa 86-CEP." The certificate was electronically signed J.M. LaSorsa. There has been no averment or suggestion that the signature was fraudulent or unauthorized.

9. Respondent occasionally verifies Course Attendance Certifications by comparing the certificate with the roster of attendees required pursuant to Rule .1205.

10. When Respondent tried to verify J.A. LaSorsa's attendance at the April 4, 2025 course, Respondent found that there was no roster of attendance on file for that course or any course for the past two years taught by Petitioner.

11. The absence of filing a course attendee roster was brought to Petitioner's notice in an email dated June 9, 2025.

12. Petitioner submitted an internal roster to the Respondent via Board investigator Martinez; however, it was rejected by the Board's staff as it was not on the form the Board requires.[1] The internal roster did not include J.A. LaSorsa's name as an attendee. Accordingly, to the extent a roster was submitted, it was overdue.

13. Respondent's Grievance Committee conducted an informal review and recommended finding a violation of 14B NCAC 16 .1205(a), the issuance of a Letter of Reprimand, and the assessment of a $1,000 civil penalty for Petitioner's failure to submit the required continuing education roster. This recommendation was adopted by Respondent on January 15, 2026 and Petitioner was notified by letter dated January 16, 2026.

14. Petitioner J.M. LaSorsa requested a hearing before Respondent by email on January 21, 2026.

15. Respondent initiated this matter by filing a Notice of Hearing on January 30, 2026 "RE: Letter of Reprimand and Assessment of Civil Penalty. The disciplinary action was for the following reason(s): Failure to submit continuing education roster."

16. Paul Sherwin is the director of the Respondent. At hearing, Mr. Sherwin testified that the filing of course rosters is required only if the course is marketed as being eligible for continuing education credit with Respondent. The undersigned found this testimony credible notwithstanding Respondent's averment that any course which Petitioner might conduct requires a filing of the roster.

[1] The Board's rules do not require that rosters be submitted on any particular form, nor do they prescribe the substantive content of the filing. See N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-2(8a). Accordingly, the rejection of Petitioner's internal roster on form grounds does not affect the analysis; the roster was untimely regardless of its format.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Office of Administrative Hearings has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this contested case. N.C. Gen. Stat. Chapter 150B (2025), Article 3A; N.C. Gen. Stat. § 74C-5(6) (2025).

2. All parties have been correctly designated, and there is no question of misjoinder or nonjoinder.

3. All parties received Notice of Hearing in accordance with N.C.G.S. § 150B-23(b) (2025).

4. To the extent the Findings of Fact contain Conclusions of Law, and vice versa, they should be considered without regard to their given labels. *Charlotte v. Heath*, 226 N.C. 750, 755, 40 S.E.2d 600, 604 (1946). The Tribunal need not make findings as to every fact that arises from the evidence and need only find those facts which are material to the settlement of the dispute. *Flanders v. Gabriel*, 110 N.C. App. 438, 440, 429 S.E.2d 611, 612, aff'd, 335 N.C. 234, 436 S.E.2d 588 (1993).

5. Respondent has the authority to approve continuing education courses, approve instructors, and establish criteria and curriculum. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 74C-22

6. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 74C-5, Respondent has the authority to adopt rules to carry out the provisions of Chapter 74C of the North Carolina General Statutes, "including the authority to require the submission of reports and information by licensees under this Chapter."

7. The Board adopted 14B NCAC 16 .1205 which requires, *inter alia* that "course instructors" of **continuing education courses for credit** maintain a roster of course attendees and that the roster be delivered to the Board within two weeks of the completion date of the course. 14B NCAC 16 .1205(a)[2]

8. Continuing education refers to any educational activity approved by the Board. 14B NCAC 16 .1201

9. Contrary to Respondent's position that Petitioner must file a roster of students for every course taught, Respondent does not have authority to regulate courses which are not offered for continuing education credit notwithstanding the similarity to a course approved by the Respondent. Rule .1205 only applies to courses approved by the Board pursuant to 14B NCAC 16 .1203 for which qualifying continuing education credit would be received.

10. Here, the Petitioner conducted a course which both he and J.A. LaSorsa considered eligible for continuing education credit as evidenced by their signatures on the Course Attendance Certification. Accordingly, Petitioner was required to provide the Board with a roster of students within two weeks of completion of the course. 14B NCAC 16 .1205(a)

[2] Rule .1205(a) appears within a subsection captioned "licensees" but by its terms applies to course instructors submitting rosters for continuing education credit courses.

11. Petitioner failed to file the roster of students within the prescribed time.

12. Respondent may, after compliance with Chapter 150B of the General Statutes, suspend or revoke a license or permit for violating any rule adopted by the Board. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 74C-12(a)(3); 14B NCAC 16 .0106

13. Additionally, the Board is authorized to issue a written reprimand to any holder of a license, trainee permit, registration identification card, or firearms trainer certificate upon a determination that: (1) the holder violated a provision of N.C. Gen. Stat. Chapter 74C or the applicable rules; (2) the violation did not result in physical injury to any person or property loss; and (3) the holder has expressed an intention to correct, or has already corrected, the improper activity. 14B NCAC 16 .0106

14. Here, Petitioner violated rule 14B NCAC 16 .1205, but the violation did not result in physical injury or property loss. Petitioner submitted a roster to correct his failure to timely supply one. Thus, a reprimand is appropriate as recommended by the probable cause committee.

15. The Board possesses statutory authority, **in lieu of revoking or suspending a license** or permit pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 74C-12, to assess a civil penalty not to exceed two thousand dollars ($2,000) per violation against any person or business entity found to have violated any provision of Chapter 74C or any rule promulgated by the Board thereunder. In determining the appropriate penalty amount, the Board is required to consider the degree and extent of harm caused by the violation. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 74C-17(c). Here, there is no evidence that the Board considered Petitioner's failure to file the roster of course attendees as a license revoking or suspending offense. Accordingly, the Board cannot issue a fine, as the fine is not in lieu of the revocation or suspension of Petitioner's license.

16. In any event, in determining the appropriate civil penalty amount, the Board must consider the degree and extent of harm caused by the violation. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 74C-17(c)

17. Assuming *arguendo* that Petitioner's action was a license revoking or suspending offense and a fine was appropriate, a $200 fine would align more closely with the severity and scope of the offense. The record reflects only one violation. Moreover, only one individual sought continuing education credit as a result of the course, and that credit could have been denied administratively upon discovery that no roster had been filed.

FINAL DECISION

The undersigned proposes that Respondent affirm its Letter of Reprimand against Petitioner Joseph M. LaSorsa for violation of 14B NCAC 16 .1205(a) and not assess a civil penalty, because the Board did not treat Petitioner's failure to submit the course roster as a license-revoking or license-suspending offense, and the civil penalty authority under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 74C-17(c) applies only in lieu of such action. In the alternative, if the Board determines that a civil penalty is authorized, a fine of $200 would be proportionate to the degree and extent of harm caused by the single violation at issue.

NOTICE

The agency making the final decision in this contested case is required to give each party an opportunity to file exceptions to this Proposal for Decision, to submit proposed Findings of Fact and to present oral and written arguments to the agency. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-40(e).

The agency that will make the final decision in this contested case is the North Carolina Private Protective Services Board.

A copy of the final agency decision or order shall be served upon each party personally or by certified mail addressed to the party at the latest address given by the party to the agency and a copy shall be furnished to any attorney of record. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-42(a).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

This the 27th day of May, 2026.

William W Peaslee
Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that, on the date shown below, the Office of Administrative Hearings sent the foregoing document to the persons named below at the addresses shown below, by electronic service as defined in 26 N.C. Admin. Code 03 .0501(4), or by placing a copy thereof, enclosed in a wrapper addressed to the person to be served, into the custody of the North Carolina Mail Service Center which will subsequently place the foregoing document into an official depository of the United States Postal Service.

Joseph M Lasorsa
Lasorsa & Associates
322 Silver Creek Landing Rd
Cape Carteret NC 28584
Petitioner

Jeffrey P Gray
Bailey & Dixon, LLP
jgray@bdixon.com
Attorney For Respondent

This the 27th day of May, 2026.



Ntombizodwa Mukondiwa
Paralegal
N. C. Office of Administrative Hearings
1711 New Hope Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27609-6285
Phone: 984-236-1850

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4.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF JOHNSTON

IN THE OFFICE OF
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
26 DOJ 01551

George Thomas Porter Petitioner, v. NC Private Protective Services Board Respondent.	**PROPOSAL FOR DECISION**

On May 26, 2026, Administrative Law Judge Michael C. Byrne called this case for hearing in Raleigh, North Carolina.

APPEARANCES

Petitioner appeared *pro se*.

Respondent was represented by attorney Jeffrey P. Gray, Bailey & Dixon, LLP, P.O. Box 1351, Raleigh, North Carolina 27602.

ISSUE

Whether Petitioner should be denied a Security Guard Patrol Business License based on Petitioner's lack of verifiable experience.

APPLICABLE STATUTES AND RULES

Official notice is taken of the following statutes and rules applicable to this case:
N.C.G.S. 74C-2; 74C-5(5); 74C-8; 74C-9; 14B NCAC 16 .0201; 14B NCAC 16 .0301

Based on the filings and all evidence of record, the Tribunal makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Board is established pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §74C-1, *et seq.*, and is charged with the duty of licensing and registering individuals engaged in the armed and unarmed security guard and patrol business.

2. Petitioner applied to Respondent for a Security Guard and Patrol Business License.

3. Respondent denied the Security Guard and Patrol Business License due to Petitioner's lack of verifiable experience.

4. Petitioner requested a hearing on Respondent's denial of the license.

5. By Notice of Hearing dated April 29, 2026, and mailed via certified mail, Respondent advised Petitioner that a hearing on the denial of his application would be held at the Office of Administrative Hearings, 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609 on May 26, 2026. Petitioner appeared at the hearing.

6. Paul Sherwin, Director of Respondent, testified to receipt of Petitioner's application for a Security Guard and Patrol Business License on December 1, 2025. (Respondent's Exhibit 1).

7. Petitioner holds a Private Investigator License and a Close Personal Protection License issued by Respondent.

8. To be issued a Security Guard and Patrol Business License, an applicant must have three (3) years, which equates to three thousand (3,000) hours, of supervisory experience in specified areas of security or law enforcement.

9. Andrew Martin, an investigator for Respondent, performed Petitioner's background investigation, which includes evaluating an applicant's experience.

10. Petitioner had 15 years' experience with the Raleigh Police Department, 14 of those years as a sworn patrol officer. While Petitioner had a good record of service, he never worked in a supervisory capacity. Petitioner attempted to use his time as the team leader and performing as volunteer security at his church and submitted an affidavit from the church manager attesting to his volunteer hours.

11. Respondent does not count volunteer hours since the administrative rule (14B NCAC 16 .0301(a)(2)) states "employed." This question has been previously addressed by the Office of Administrative Hearings in Kenneth Plummer v. N.C. Private Protective Services Board, 23 DOJ 03153, and Respondent's interpretation of its rule was upheld. Specifically, Administrative Law Judge Melissa Owens Lassiter found a church is not one of the categories where security guard and patrol experience is recognized in Rule .0301(a). Further, a person cannot obtain experience as an employee if they are a volunteer, in that an employee must be paid a wage or salary.

12. Plummer is not dispositive or binding on the Tribunal. Also, the Tribunal does not defer to an administrative agency's statutory or rule interpretations, but "will consider and respect [the agency's] reasoning." Savage v. N.C. Dep't of Transp., 388 N.C. 196, 202, 919 S.E.2d 144 (2025).

13. Petitioner testified on his own behalf and stated he had also been a Field Training Officer ("FTO") while at Raleigh P.D.

14. On rebuttal, Director Sherwin, himself a former law enforcement officer, testified that an FTO is not a supervisor; only a trainer for practical experience. Further, he explained that "supervisor" is not defined in Respondent's administrative rules because staff uses the common accepted definition of the word.

15. Even if an FTO were a supervisor, those hours would not be sufficient to meet the rule requirement of 3,000 hours.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The parties properly are before the Office of Administrative Hearings.

2. Under N.C.G.S. 74C-2(a), any person, firm, association, or corporation must have a license to engage in security guard and patrol business.

3. Pursuant to 14B NCAC 16 .0201, three (3) years of experience equates to 3,000 hours.

4. Pursuant to 14B NCAC 16 .0301(a)(2), an applicant for a Security Guard and Patrol Business License must establish three years of experience as a manager, supervisor, or administrator in security with any federal, state, county, or municipal law enforcement agency performing guard and patrol functions.

5. Respondent presented evidence that Petitioner did not have the requisite three (3) years or 3,000 hours of supervisory experience.

6. Petitioner presented insufficient evidence to prove he has the requisite three years or 3,000 hours of supervisory experience.

7. The Tribunal does not find Respondent's interpretation of its "supervisory experience" rule to be in violation of the Administrative Procedure Act.

8. The Tribunal proposes that Respondent revisit its experience requirements, including its definitions of terms, to provide greater clarity for applicants.

Based on the foregoing, the Tribunal makes the following:

PROPOSED FINAL DECISION

The Tribunal proposes that Petitioner be denied a Security Guard and Patrol Business License.

NOTICE AND ORDER

The North Carolina Private Protective Services Board will make the Final Agency Decision in this contested case. As the Final Decision maker, that agency is required to give each party an opportunity to file exceptions to this proposal for decision, to submit proposed findings of fact, and to present oral and written arguments to the agency pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-40(e).

The Tribunal orders that agency serve a copy of its Final Decision in this case on the Office of Administrative Hearings, 6714 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-6714.

SO ORDERED.

This the 22nd day of June, 2026.

Michael C. Byrne
Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that, on the date shown below, the Office of Administrative Hearings sent the foregoing document to the persons named below at the addresses shown below, by electronic service as defined in 26 N.C. Admin. Code 03 .0501(4), or by placing a copy thereof, enclosed in a wrapper addressed to the person to be served, into the custody of the North Carolina Mail Service Center which will subsequently place the foregoing document into an official depository of the United States Postal Service.

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This the 22nd day of June, 2026.

V Tsuprenko

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