

Dennis Dowling,
Chair
Justice Court
Yavapai County

Matt Giordano, Vice
Chair
AZPOST

Christine Shipley,
Secretary
Multihousing
Association

Valerie Beckett
County Administrator
Maricopa County



STATE OF ARIZONA

CONSTABLE ETHICS, STANDARDS AND TRAINING BOARD

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Scott Blake,
Constable
Maricopa County

Michael Hoggard
Constable
Mohave County

Melissa Buckley
Public Member

Minutes of Public Meeting – August 18, 2022

A public meeting of the Constables Ethics, Standards and Training Board (CESTB) was convened on August 18, 2022 at 9:02 a.m. at the offices of Capitol Consulting 818 N. 1st St, Phoenix, AZ 85004. CESTB Board members attending in person: Vice Chair Matt Giordano. CESTB Board members attending via teleconference: Constable Scott Blake, Melissa Buckley and Constable Michael Hoggard. Members absent: Chairman Dennis Dowling, Secretary Christine Shipley and Valerie Beckett. The following staff was present – Tracy Unmacht. Members of the public attending in person – Caitlin Rieker, Constable Deborah Martinez and Steve Jacobs. Members of the public attending via teleconference: Patrice Goodman, Jeff Whitbeck, Constable William Lake-Wright, Constable Mahogany Kennedy, Pilar Ruiz, Constable Michael Stevenson, Constable Glenn Morrison, Constable John Ferguson and Scott Davis.

A quorum was reached, and the following matters were discussed and decided at the meeting:

Announcements:

None

Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Corrections: None

Constable Hoggard made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the July 14, 2022, CESTB meeting, and Constable Blake seconded. The motion passed 3-0 with Vice Chairman Giordano abstaining.

Financial Report: Staff reviewed the June financial report received from Central Services Bureau. Constable Blake made a motion to accept the June financial report, and Constable Hoggard seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

Call to the Public:

Constable William Lake-Wright commented on a complaint against him.

Constable Deborah Martinez commented on a complaint against her.

Pilar Ruiz commented on Constable Deborah Martinez's job performance.

Constable Complaints:

CNA294-2022 Martinez – The complaint made by Pima County and Constable Martinez's response were provided to the Board prior to the meeting for review.

Constable Hoggard made a motion to table the CESTB investigation of this complaint and refer to another agency such as the Pima County Sheriff's office, the Pima County Attorney or the Attorney General's office for investigation into possible criminal charges. Constable Blake seconded and the motion passed 4-0.

CNA295-2022 Martinez - The complaint made by Pilar Ruiz and Constable Martinez's response were provided to the Board prior to the meeting for review. Constable Hoggard made a motion to send a letter of warning to Constable Martinez reminding her in the future to refrain from wearing official constable attire when conducting personal business. Vice Chair Matt Giordano seconded.

Discussion – Giordano stated the constable disputed the claims of the complainant and absent any corroborating evidence or witnesses confirming the claims, he would recommend dismissing.

Constable Hoggard amended his motion to dismiss the complaint. Melissa Buckley seconded with a caution to the constable about wearing official constable attire when conducting personal business. The amended motion passed 4-0.

Initial Screening of new Constable Complaints:

Complaint received 07-10-22 Christopher Toth v Pima County Constable Deborah Martinez – A copy of the complaint was provided to the Board prior to the meeting for review. Constable Blake made a motion table the CESTB investigation of this complaint and refer to another agency such as the Pima County Sheriff's office, the Pima County Attorney or the Attorney General's office for investigation into possible criminal charges. A second is not required when taking any action other than dismissal of an initial screening, therefore the motion passed.

Complaint received 07-18-22 William Rucker v Maricopa County Constable Carolyn Lane – A copy of the complaint was provided to the Board prior to the meeting for review. Constable Blake commented that it is not uncommon for law enforcement to request back up or assistance and made a motion to dismiss the complaint. Constable Hoggard seconded. Melissa Buckley and Vice Chair Giordano agreed and the motion to dismiss passed.

Complaint received 07-20-22 Joyce Brazie v Pima County Constable William Lake-Wright – A copy of the complaint was provided to the Board prior to the meeting for review. Constable Blake made a motion to dismiss the complaint and Melissa Buckley seconded. Constable Hoggard and Vice Chair Giordano agreed and the motion to dismiss passed.

Administrative Update:

The process to secure an investigator has been initiated with Knowledge Services.

Staff reported six public records requests have been received.

Staff continues to work on compiling writ information from all the justice courts.

BUDDIES and AZIPS submissions to the Governor's office are nearly complete. Waiting on final count of writs issued as well as a clarification on some figures provided by CSB and the Budget Office.

Future Agenda and Action Items:

None

Adjournment: Constable Hoggard made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Melissa Buckley seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

Dated this 8 day of September, 2022
Constable Ethics, Standards and Training Board

By Dennis Dowling



CESTB Chairman