



## **Criminal Justice Services Board (CJSB) Executive Committee**

*February 14, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.*

*The meeting took place at DCJS, 1100 Bank Street, Richmond, Virginia  
in the 12th floor Conference Room*

### **Members Present**

Chief Craig Branch, Chair  
Sheriff C. O. Balderson  
Chief Maggie DeBoard  
Ms. Maria Jankowski  
Mr. Jagdish Katyal, Jr.  
LTC Kirk Marlowe, Proxy for COL Gary Settle  
Chief Ryan Zuidema

### **Members Absent**

The Hon. Bryan Porter, Vice-Chair

### **I. Call to Order**

Chairman Craig Branch called the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Criminal Justice Services Board (CJSB) to order at 10:12 a.m. A quorum was present.

### **II. Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Maria Jankowski made the motion, seconded by Sheriff C. O. Balderson to accept the minutes of the January 16-17, 2025, meetings of the Executive Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

### **III. Byrne/JAG Application**

Mr. Jagdish Katyal made the motion, seconded by Sheriff C. O. Balderson to approve the Byrne/JAG Application. The motion passed unanimously.

### **IV. Old Business**

There was no old business to be discussed.

### **V. New Business**

#### **Decertification Appeals**

It was noted at the beginning of these meetings that the purpose of these meetings is for the Executive Committee to hear law enforcement officer decertification appeals. The Executive Committee is now authorized to hold the appeal sessions in a duly convened closed meeting. Following each appeal, the Committee will reconvene in open meeting to take a vote and announce its decision.

**Decertification – Mr. Michael Nyantakyi, formerly with the Richmond City Police Department**

***Closed Session to discuss the decertification***

Mr. Katyal made a motion, seconded by Chief Ryan Zuidema, that the Executive Committee meet in closed session pursuant to *Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)55* for the purpose of discussing the decertification of Mr. Nyantakyi. The motion passed unanimously.

***Out of Closed Session***

Once the Executive Committee had concluded its closed session, Mr. Katyal made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jankowski, that the Executive Committee re-open the meeting to the public. The motion passed unanimously. All members of the Executive Committee certified that only public business was discussed during the closed session.

***Closed Session to meet with Legal Counsel***

Mr. Katyal made a motion, seconded by LTC Kirk Marlowe, that the Executive Committee meet in closed session pursuant to *Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)8* for the purpose of discussing the decertification of Mr. Nyantakyi with legal counsel. The motion passed unanimously.

***Out of Closed Session***

Once the Executive Committee had concluded its closed session, Mr. Katyal made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jankowski, that the Executive Committee re-open the meeting to the public. The motion passed unanimously. All members of the Executive Committee certified that only matters involving legal advice from counsel were discussed during the closed session.

***Motion***

Mr. Katyal made the motion, seconded by Sheriff Balderson, that the Executive Committee sustain Mr. Nyantakyi's decertification as a law enforcement officer. The motion passed.

**Decertification – Mr. Christian Rivas, formerly with the Henrico County Sheriff's Office**

***Closed Session to discuss the decertification***

Mr. Katyal made a motion, seconded by Chief Zuidema, that the Executive Committee meet in closed session pursuant to *Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)55* for the purpose of discussing the decertification of Mr. Rivas. The motion passed unanimously.

***Out of Closed Session***

Once the Executive Committee had concluded its closed session, Mr. Katyal made a motion, seconded by Chief Zuidema, that the Executive Committee re-open the meeting to the public. The motion passed unanimously. All members of the Executive Committee certified that only public business was discussed during the closed session.

***Closed Session to meet with Legal Counsel***

Mr. Katyal made a motion, seconded by LTC Marlowe, that the Executive Committee meet in closed session pursuant to *Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)8* for the purpose of discussing the decertification of Mr. Rivas with legal counsel. The motion passed unanimously.

***Out of Closed Session***

Once the Executive Committee had concluded its closed session, Mr. Katyal made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jankowski, that the Executive Committee re-open the meeting to the public. The motion passed unanimously. All members of the Executive Committee certified that only matters involving legal advice from counsel were discussed during the closed session.

***Motion***

Mr. Katyal made the motion, seconded by Ms. Jankowski, that the Executive Committee reinstate Mr. Rivas' certification as a law enforcement officer. The motion passed unanimously.

**Decertification – Mr. Moses Blakey, formerly with the Virginia State Police**

Mr. Blakey and his legal counsel requested that his hearing be continued to a later date.

**Meeting Minutes Correction**

Chief Zuidema requested that the January 16, 2025, meeting minutes regarding the Anderson outcome wording be corrected to “sustain his decertification as a law enforcement officer”.

***Closed Session to meet with Legal Counsel***

Mr. Katyal made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jankowski, that the Executive Committee meet in closed session pursuant to *Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)8* for the purpose of discussing a settlement matter regarding the former Higazi case with legal counsel. The motion passed unanimously.

***Out of Closed Session***

Once the Executive Committee had concluded its closed session, Mr. Katyal made a motion, seconded by LTC Marlowe, that the Executive Committee re-open the meeting to the public. The motion passed unanimously. All members of the Executive Committee certified that only matters involving legal advice from counsel were discussed during the closed session.

**VI. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**VII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m. The next meeting will take place on May 15-16, 2025.