



Criminal Justice Services Board (CJSB) Executive Committee

May 15, 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
Ms. Maria Jankowski
Mr. Jagdish Katyal, Jr.
LTC Kirk Marlowe, Proxy for COL Matt Hanley
The Hon. Bryan Porter, Vice-Chair
Chief Ryan Zuidema

Members Absent

Chief Maggie DeBoard

I. Call to Order

Chairman Craig Branch called the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Criminal Justice Services Board (CJSB) to order at 10:06 a.m. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of Minutes

Sheriff C. O. Balderson made the motion, seconded by Chief Ryan Zuidema to accept the minutes of the February 14, 2025, meeting of the Executive Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Old Business

There was no old business to be discussed.

IV. 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. Derek Pearcy, formerly with the Gate City Police Department

Closed Session to discuss the decertification

Mr. Bryan Porter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Maria Jankowski, 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. Pearcy. The motion passed unanimously.

Out of Closed Session

Once the Executive Committee had concluded its closed session, Mr. Porter 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. Porter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jagdish Katyal, 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. Pearcy with legal counsel. The motion passed unanimously.

Out of Closed Session

Once the Executive Committee had concluded its closed session, Mr. Porter made a motion, seconded by Sheriff Balderson, 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. Porter made the motion, seconded by Sheriff Balderson, that the Executive Committee sustain Mr. Pearcy's decertification as a law enforcement officer. The motion passed. *Nays: Chief Branch, Mr. Katyal, LTC Kirk Marlowe.*

Decertification – Mr. Charlie Oates, formerly with the Fauquier County Sheriff's Office

Closed Session to discuss the decertification

Mr. Porter 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. Oates. The motion passed unanimously.

Out of Closed Session

Once the Executive Committee had concluded its closed session, Mr. Porter made a motion, seconded by LTC Kirk 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 public business was discussed during the closed session.

Closed Session to meet with Legal Counsel

Mr. Porter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Maria Jankowski, 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. Oates with legal counsel. The motion passed unanimously.

Out of Closed Session

Once the Executive Committee had concluded its closed session, Mr. Porter made a motion, seconded by Sheriff Balderson, 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. Porter made the motion, seconded by Ms. Jankowski, that the Executive Committee reinstate Mr. Oates' certification as a law enforcement officer. The motion passed unanimously.

Decertification – Mr. Le'Angelo Brooks, formerly with the Alexandria Sheriff's Office

Mr. Porter recused himself from this hearing as he is a friend of the Sheriff of Alexandria and works closely with the sheriff.

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. Brooks. 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 Sheriff Balderson, 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. Brooks 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 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 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. Brooks' decertification as a law enforcement officer. The motion passed unanimously.

Decertification – Ms. Amy Collins, formerly with the Louisa County Sheriff’s Office

Closed Session to discuss the decertification

Mr. Porter 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 Ms. Collins. The motion passed unanimously.

Out of Closed Session

Once the Executive Committee had concluded its closed session, Mr. Porter 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. Porter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Katyal, 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 Ms. Collins with legal counsel. The motion passed unanimously.

Out of Closed Session

Once the Executive Committee had concluded its closed session, Mr. Porter 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 matters involving legal advice from counsel were discussed during the closed session.

Motion

Mr. Porter made the motion, seconded by Sheriff Balderson, that the Executive Committee sustain Ms. Collins’ decertification as a law enforcement officer. The motion passed unanimously.

Decertification – Mr. Matthew Gowin, formerly with the Hanover County Sheriff’s Office

Closed Session to discuss the decertification

Mr. Porter 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. Gowin. 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 Chief Zuidema, 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. Gowin 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 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 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. Gowin's decertification as a law enforcement officer. The motion passed unanimously.

NOTE: Mr. Gowin's legal counsel stated that there were cameras at Mr. Gowin's home and that footage would have been provided if they had known that body camera footage was going to be introduced.

V. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:09 p.m. The next meeting will take place on May 16, 2025.