



# SOAR Meeting Minutes

State of Ohio Accreditation Resource

June 19, 2009, 10:00 am  
Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy  
740 East 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43211

**President Craig Stone** called the meeting to order. Present were 31 attendees, representing 24 law enforcement departments/agencies.

**1. Approval of Minutes.** The members reviewed the minutes. Rick Bens (Lebanon PD) made a motion to approve the minutes, with Susan Kusan (Ohio Department of Taxation) seconded the motion.

## **2. Recognition of New Members/Visitors.**

1. Agent Stacey McDevitt, Ohio Department of Taxation
2. Alex Raynor, Assistant Accreditation Manager, Ohio State University Police Department
3. Kevin Fennig, Accreditation Intern, BCI&I

## **3. Reports from Officers:**

### **1. President Craig Stone – Present.**

- Executive Director Ron Ferrell will provide training on the updates to OPOTA's curriculum.
- Howard Niemeier, Newport PD completed his training at the FBI National Academy and will provide a summary at the August meeting.
- President Stone will be participating in an on-site assessment of the Scottsdale, AZ. Police Department in August and will be absent for the August SOAR meeting.
- Made a request for the By-Laws Committee to review memberships for retirees that maintain as assessors for CALEA.
- Copies of CALEA On-Site Assessment handout is available and would benefit new accreditation managers.

### **2. Vice President Jeff McDaniel – Present.**

- By-laws committee is considering a proposal for adding an Associate Membership to the SOAR By-Laws. A report on the review and proposals will be ready by the December meeting.

### **3. Treasurer Howard Niemeier – Not present.**

### **4. Secretary Deborah Gearhiser – Present.**

- Passed around a current member roster for review; corrections and additions. Will post to the internet.
- Will coordinate with Treasurer Niemeier to ensure we have received everyone's dues and that information is reflected on the roster.

## **4. Old Business**

### **1. Recent On-sites**

- a. Parkersburg, WV – This was the initial on-site for PPD. Capt. Roberts was pleased with the on-site. They experienced a few file maintenance items, and during the on-site had to make adjustments to their evidence room.
- b. Ohio Investigative Unit – Paul Rapp reported on the OIU's initial accreditation on-site. They were assigned only two assessors to complete their on-site. To expedite the on-site, nearly two thirds of the agency files were mailed off in advance of the on-site. They had a few administrative communication issues, but all in all the on-site went well.

- c. Cincinnati Police Department – Eric Vogelpohl and Amy Stevens reported that CPD had a great on-site. Number of assessors or length of on-site was not an issue.
- d. Mason Police Department- Paul Lindenschmidt reported that MPD's on-site was a success. They had only 2 file maintenance notations, and one applied discretion.

## 5. New Business

1. Experience Columbus Bid to host the July 17-22, 2012 CALEA Conference
  - In support of their bid, President Stone put a vote to the members requesting to forward a letter of support to Experience Columbus and CALEA, stating that SOAR would host a hospitality night on Wednesday, July 18, 2012 if Columbus wins the bid. All members present were in favor.
  - President Stone updated the members on the July 2011 CALEA Conference, in which the original host city might lose the bid and that CALEA, may award the bid to Cincinnati. President Stone informed the By-Laws Committee to add language for review that SOAR would support any member agency who is awarded a CALEA Conference by hosting a hospitality night.
2. Request for Volunteers attending Friday, July 31 meetings at the CALEA Conference in Hampton, VA
  - Standards Review & Interpretation – Christina Shaw, Xenia PD
  - Outreach Committee – Colleen Ritchie, Shaker Heights PD
3. Upcoming On-Sites/Mock Assessments
  - a. **Bevercreek PD** – Mock scheduled for August 12, 2009.
  - b. **Highland Heights** – Mock scheduled for August 4, 2009.
  - c. **Tiffin PD** – Looking for volunteers to conduct a mock.
  - d. **Grove City PD** – Planning for a mini-mock
  - e. **Vandalia – On-site scheduled for August 15 - 18**
  - f. **Montgomery County Communications – Initial on-site scheduled for August 29.**
  - g. **Harrison Police – On-site scheduled for August 29.**
  - h. **Greenville PD – On-site scheduled for August 29 – September 2.**

## 6. Open Discussion

1. CALEA Training at OACP conference – OACP is looking at having their conference in the Fall, and is typically 1 ½ days. Please contact Rick Bens, Lebanon PD, with any suggestions for training.
  - Possible topics for training were 1) CACE and 2) CALEA overview
2. Vandalia PD (Mary Showers) is looking for a policy on “personal appearance.”

## Future Meeting Dates and Locations:

### August 21 – Ohio Department of Taxation

October 16 – Columbus Division of Police Training Academy

December 11 – Columbus Division of Police Training Academy

## Officers:

### President:

Lieutenant Craig Stone  
Staff Inspections Section  
Columbus Div of Police  
120 Marconi Blvd.  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
614-645-4603  
[cstone@columbuspolice.org](mailto:cstone@columbuspolice.org)

### Vice-President:

Sergeant Jeff McDaniel  
Evendale Police Dept  
10500 Reading Road  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45241  
513-563-2249

### Secretary:

Deborah Gearhiser,  
Deputy Director  
OH Bureau of Criminal  
Ident & Inv  
1560 State Route 56, SW  
London, Ohio 43140  
740-845-2110  
[Deborah.Gearhiser@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](mailto:Deborah.Gearhiser@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov)

### Treasurer:

Capt. Howard Niemeier  
Newport Police Dept  
998 Monmouth Street  
Newport, Kentucky 41071-  
2184  
859-655-2003  
[hniemeier@police.newportky.gov](mailto:hniemeier@police.newportky.gov)

### Immediate Past

**President:**  
Ret. Lt. Ric Ideker  
City of Alpharetta, GA  
Dept. of Public Safety  
678-297-6352  
[rideker@alpharetta.ga.us](mailto:rideker@alpharetta.ga.us)