

**Vermont Secretary of State  
Office of Professional Regulation  
BOARD OF PRIVATE INVESTIGATIVE & SECURITY SERVICES**

**Unapproved Minutes  
September 18, 2015**

Board Members Present: James Eckhardt, Chair; Anita Bobee, Vice-Chair; Robert Wernecke, Secretary; Richard Murphy; and Franklin Davis.

Staff Present: Gabriel Gilman, General Counsel; Carla Preston, Case Manager; and Kara Shangraw, Licensing Board Specialist.

Others Present: Tawnya Bessette.

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:20 a.m. by the Board Chair, James Eckhardt.
2. The Board reviewed the Minutes of the July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Wernecke made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bobee, to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2015 meeting as submitted. Mr. Davis asked to amend the minutes to reflect more of the discussion that took place. There were some minor changes made. Mr. Davis, Made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bobee to accept the minutes as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

**3. Case Manager Report/Concluded Investigations -**

The Board reviewed the request for removal of conditions from U.S. Security Associates, Inc. Based on the information submitted, Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Murphy, to remove the conditions from U.S. Security Associates, Inc. Motion passed 4-0. Mr. Wernecke, Investigative Team member abstained from the vote.

2014-785 - The Board reviewed the report of concluded investigation. Mr. Eckhardt, made a motion, seconded by Mr. Murphy, to accept the Investigative Team's recommendation and concluded the case without formal prosecution. Motion passed 4-0. Ms. Bobee, Investigative Team member abstained from the vote.

2015-78 and 2015-79 - The Board reviewed the report of concluded investigation. Mr. Wernecke, made a motion, seconded by Mr. Murphy, to accept the Investigative Team's recommendation and concluded the case without formal prosecution. Motion passed 4-0. Ms. Bobee, Investigative Team member abstained from the vote.

Ms. Preston gave her Case Manager's Report, there are currently 6 pending cases.

**4. Hearings/Reports/Stipulations -**

The Board heard Tawnya Bessette's appeal challenging a preliminary determination to deny her application for licensure. Ms. Bessette was present for the hearing. Attorney Gilman, was the presiding officer for the Board. Based on the information provided, Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wernecke, to go into deliberative session at 10:30 a.m. and out at 10:54 a.m.

**4. Hearings/Reports/Stipulations – Continued:**

Mr. Murphy made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis to affirm the preliminary decision to deny Ms. Bessettes' application with Security Services of Connecticut. Motion passed 4-0. A written decision will be sent to Ms. Bessette. Ms. Bobee, Investigative Team member abstained from the hearing and vote.

**5. Reports/Guests/Legislative Updates**

**6. Applications/Programs/Requests to review -**

The Board reviewed the Qualifying Agent application for Brian P. Mayhew. Based on the information submitted, Mr. Eckhardt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wernecke, to approve Mr. Mayhew's Qualifying Agents application pending receipt of a favorable FBI check. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed the Qualifying Agent and Agency Application for Henry W. Stormer and The Vertex Companies Inc. Mr. Wernecke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, to approve Mr. Stormer and Vertex Companies Inc. applications. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed the request for waiver of the 40 Hours of training for Christina DeGraff. Based on the information submitted, Mr. Wernecke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, to grant the waiver of training. Motion passed 4-0. Mr. Murphy abstained from the vote.

**7. Follow Ups**

**8. Correspondence**

**9. Other Business -**

Election of Officers - Mr. Murphy made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wernecke, to leave the officers as slated: Chair - Mr. Eckhardt, Vice-Chair - Ms. Bobee, Secretary - Mr. Wernecke. Motion passed unanimously.

**10. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:29 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kara Shangraw  
Licensing Board Specialist