

Office of Professional Regulation
BOARD OF PRIVATE INVESTIGATIVE & SECURITY SERVICES
MINUTES
MEETING OF June 20th, 2008

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members present: James Eckhardt, Acting Chair; Elizabeth Gilligan, Public member; Emma Pudvah and Danny Coane, Ad Hoc members.

Absent: Robert Edwards, Stacey Nelson and Michael Jennings

OPR Staff present: Patty Skinner, Administrative Assistant and Carla Preston, Unit Administrator.

Others present: Gary Sweeney with Valor Security; Corey Lacoss, registrant; Al Hayford, Guy Laplant and Joe Arwady with U.S. Security Associates and John Cutro, applicant.

2. The Minutes from the May 16, 2008 meeting were reviewed and approved by the Board.

3. **Hearings/Stipulations – N/A**

4. **Complaints/Follow-up cases**

- a. Report of Concluded Investigation regarding PD14-0208 was reviewed by the Board. Mr. Coane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pudvah, to accept the decision of the Investigative Committee. Mr. Eckhardt recused from voting.

5. **Legislation/Rulemaking – N/A**

6. **Applications Reviewed/Discussed**

- a. Corey Lacoss – Unarmed Security Guard with Garda CL New England. Based on the information provided, Mr. Coane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pudvah, to table Mr. Lacoss's application pending a personal appearance before the Board. The motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Russell Aaronson – as qualifying agent for Global Options, Inc. would like to have the examination waived. Based on the information provided, the Board was unable to grant a waiver for Mr. Aaronson based on Board Rule 2.4, which states: "The qualifying agent, as defined in 26 V.S.A. ' 3151(5), shall pass the Vermont examination(s) required by 26 V.S.A. ' 3175 within the six (6) months before a license is issued. The Board may waive the examination(s) for a person who is currently licensed as the qualifying agent for another agency in Vermont in the same license category.

The examination(s) is/are designed to test an applicant's professional competence and knowledge of the Vermont laws. The examination(s) will ask

questions relevant to the type of license applied for and the laws and rules that regulate the profession. The Board will give the examination(s) after the completed application has been submitted. A person who fails an examination(s) may be reexamined; however, a person may not take an examination(s) more than twice during a twelve (12) month period for the same license category. Information about scheduling an examination(s) may be obtained from the Office.”

- c. Gary H. Small – Request from J. Cronan & Associates to waive part of the training. Based on the information provided Mr. Coane made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eckhardt, to grant the waiver with the exceptions of:

- The Role of a Private Investigator
- HIPAA, DPPA and FCRA
- Title 3 and Title 26 of Vermont Laws

The motion passed unanimously.

- d. Gary E. Sweeney – Resume to be an instructor for Valor Security’s 40 hour basic training class. Based on the information provided, Mr. Coane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gilligan, to approve Mr. Sweeney as an instructor. Motion passed unanimously.
- e. John Cutro, Private Investigator – with Mr. Cutro as the qualifying agent. Based on the information provided, Mr. Coane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pudvah, to approve Mr. Cutro’s application as a sole proprietor of a private investigative agency. Motion passed unanimously.
- f. Guy Laplant – Resume to be an instructor for U.S. Security Associates, Inc.’s Basic 40 hour training program. Based on the information provided, Mr. Coane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gilligan, to approve Mr. Laplant as an instructor for U. S. Security Associates training program. Motion passed unanimously.
- g. Gerald Capone – Resume to be an instructor for U.S. Security Associates, Inc.’s Basic 40 hour training program. Based on the information provided, Mr. Coane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pudvah, to approve Mr. Capone as an instructor. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Follow Ups – N/A

8. Correspondence

- a. The Board reviewed the email from Kristin Mihailovich and answered her questions.
- b. The Board reviewed the letter from Mr. Arwady, who was present at the meeting and discussed his company’s training program. Mr. Arwady will be attending the July meeting to demonstrate his company’s web based training program.

9. Budget Review

10. Other Business

11. Public Comments

12. Number of Open Cases

a. There are currently eleven open cases

13. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned 11:13 a.m.