

Reply to:
Special Prosecutions and
Law Enforcement Section
(919) 716-6725

MEMORANDUM

TO: N.C. Sheriffs' Education and Training
Standards Commission Members and Staff

FROM: Ian Courts
Assistant Attorney General
Counsels to the Commission

DATE: February 16, 2026

RE: **FINAL AGENCY DECISIONS**

Ernest Brown
Jalynn Murphy
Eric Robert Lowe
Willie Murray
Scottie C. Dial
Michael Hoffman
Leonard Alexander

These matters are scheduled to be heard before the Commission at its March 12, 2026, meeting. At that time, you will be called upon to render your Final Agency Decision in these matters after reviewing all pertinent documents and hearing oral arguments. Please review the enclosed documents prior to the Commission meeting and bring them with you to the meeting.

The official records and transcripts from these hearings will be available at the meeting for your review. If additional submissions by the parties come to my attention before the Commission meeting, I will forward them to you immediately.

ERNEST BROWN

An administrative hearing was held on May 19, 2025, before Administrative Law Judge William Peaslee regarding whether Petitioner's detention officer certification should be denied for

the commission of two felony offenses. On October 7, 2025, Judge Peaslee filed his Proposal for Decision and recommended that Petitioner's certification be permanently denied for the commission of the felony offense of second-degree sexual offense. Counsel for the Commission has submitted **Exceptions to the Proposal for Decision** and a **Proposed Final Agency Decision** for your review. This case was continued from the last meeting as Mr. Brown's attorney had withdrawn, and we were not able to personally serve Mr. Brown in time for the FAD to be heard.

JALYNN MURPHY

An administrative hearing was held on September 18, 2025, before Administrative Law Judge Karlene Turrentine regarding whether Petitioner's justice officer certification should be denied for five years due to a positive drug test for marijuana during her DAC (CJ Commission) hiring/certification process. On December 30, 2025, Judge Turrentine filed her Proposal for Decision and recommending that the Commission grant Petitioner's certification and impose a 1-year probation period due to extenuating circumstances. Counsel for the Commission has submitted **Exceptions to the Proposal for Decision** and a **Proposed Final Agency Decision** for your review.

ERIC ROBERT LOWE

An administrative hearing was held on October 7, 2025, before Administrative Law Judge Samuel K. Morris regarding whether Petitioner's justice officer certification application should be denied for the material misrepresentation due to his failure to list his previous drug use on two prior applications. On December 30, 2025, Judge Morris issued his Proposal for Decision and recommended that Petitioner's certification be granted but a two-year probation period be issued. Counsel for the Commission has submitted **Exceptions to the Proposal for Decision** and a **Proposed Final Agency Decision** for your review.

WILLIE MURRAY

An administrative hearing was held on October 8, 2025, before Administrative Law Judge Samuel K. Morris regarding whether Petitioner's justice officer certification application should be denied for the Commission of a felony offense of weapons on educational property for him having a hunting rifle in his truck on his high school campus after having hunted a few days before. On January 23, 2026, Judge Morris issued his Proposal for Decision and recommended that no action be taken against Petitioner's certification. Counsel for the Commission has submitted **Exceptions to the Proposal for Decision** and a **Proposed Final Agency Decision** for your review.

SCOTTIE CLIFTON DIAL

An administrative hearing was held on October 6, 2025, before Administrative Law Judge Karlene S. Turrentine regarding whether Petitioner's justice officer certification should be revoked for the commission of 4+ combination of class A/Class B misdemeanors for his writing of a worthless check and unemployment fraud x4, all from 20+ years ago. On January 16, 2026, Judge Turrentine issued her Proposal for Decision and recommended that Petitioner's certification be

granted with a 2-year probation period imposed. Counsel for the Commission has submitted **Exceptions to the Proposal for Decision** and a **Proposed Final Agency Decision** for your review.

MICHAEL HOFFMAN

An administrative hearing was held on November 19, 2025, before Administrative Law Judge Jonathan S. Dills regarding whether Petitioner's justice officer certification application should be denied for the commission of a felony, first degree sexual abuse for the alleged sexual fondling of an ex-romantic partner. On February 6, 2026, Judge Dills issued his Proposal for Decision and recommended that Petitioner's certification be granted due to insufficient evidence of the felony commission. Counsel for the Commission has submitted **Exceptions to the Proposal for Decision** and a **Proposed Final Agency Decision** for your review.

LEONARD ALEXANDER

An administrative hearing was not held before Administrative Law Judge McKensie G. Skeens because Petitioner did not submit a prehearing statement after two requests from Judge Skeens to do so. The hearing would have considered whether Petitioner's justice officer certification should be revoked for a positive drug test for marijuana. On November 25, 2025, Judge Byrne issued her Proposal for Decision and recommended that Petitioner's case be dismissed without prejudice. Counsel for the Commission has submitted **Exceptions to the Proposal for Decision** and a **Proposed Final Agency Decision** for your review.

cc: William Mitchell, Director, Sheriffs' Standards Division
Barry Henline, Attorney for Eric Robert Lowe
Willie Murray
Scottie C. Dial
Ernest Brown
Jalynn Murphy
Michael Hoffman
Leonard Alexander