

# Commission on Improving First Responder Interactions with Persons with Disabilities

*October 14, 2021, 1 P.M. Meeting  
Organizational Meeting Agenda*

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<b>1:00-1:05</b>	Call to Order/Convening by the Attorney General's Office Pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-31-1002(6)	Shalyn Kettering <i>Counsel to the Attorney General</i>
<b>1:05-1:35</b>	Colorado Open Meetings Law & Colorado Open Records Act Training	Jefferey Riester <i>Director of Legislative Affairs</i>
<b>1:35-1:45</b>	Statutory Charge (Attachment B)	Shalyn Kettering <i>Counsel to the Attorney General</i>
<b>1:45-2:15</b>	Organizational Matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introductions</li><li>• Voting Procedure</li><li>• Elect Chair/Vice-Chair</li><li>• Discuss Procedure for Agenda Setting</li><li>• Schedule for Future Meetings</li><li>• Discuss Other Procedural Matters and Rules</li></ul>	Commission Members
<b>2:15-2:30</b>	Preview of Available Resources & Concluding Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Resources for Peace Officers</li><li>• Resources for First Responders</li></ul>	Courtney Schwartz <i>Law Enforcement Accountability Officer, POST</i>

## ATTACHMENT A

### Commission on Improving First Responder Interactions with Persons with Disabilities Membership

The following 12 members have been appointed to the Commission by the relevant appointing authorities as required by Section 24-31-1002, C.R.S.:

- **Daniel Brite** – one of two persons with a disability;
- **Jennifer Roberts** – one of two persons with a disability;
- **Josh Snider** – one of two parents of a child with a disability;
- **Jill Pidcock** – one of two parents of a child with a disability;
- **Debra Antista-Bianchi** – one of two representatives from organizations who advocate for people with disabilities;
- **Atalanta Cozad** – one of two representatives from organizations who advocate for people with disabilities;
- **Erika Liljedahl** – a representative from one of the above categories with no disability community overlap;
- **Christopher Gulli** – a representative from a statewide organization of current or former peace officers;
- **Terrence Gordon** – a representative from a statewide organization of chiefs of police;
- **Chris Smith** – a representative from a statewide organization of county Sheriffs;
- **Shannon Lofland** – a representative from the POST Board
- **Janet Larson** – a representative from the POST Board’s curriculum subject matter expert committee

## ATTACHMENT B

### C.R.S. § 24-31-1002. Definitions

As used in this part 10, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) "Commission" means the commission on improving first responder interactions with persons with disabilities created in section 24-31-1002.
- (2) "First responder" means a peace officer, firefighter, or emergency medical service provider.
- (3) "Person with a disability" has the same meaning set forth in section 18-6.5-102 (11), and includes a person with dementia diseases and related disabilities.
- (4) "P.O.S.T. board" means the peace officers standards and training board created in section 24-31-302.

### C.R.S. § 24-31-1002. Commission – Membership - Duties

- (1) There is created within the department of law and under the control of the office of the attorney general the commission on improving first responder interactions with persons with disabilities.
- (2) The commission consists of twelve members, appointed by the attorney general, as follows:
  - (a) Two persons with a disability;
  - (b) Two parents of a child with a disability;
  - (c) Two representatives from organizations that advocate for persons with disabilities who are recommended by the organization, one of whom also represents the interests of seniors or an aging advocacy organization;
  - (d) A person who meets the qualifications described in subsection (2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c) of this section and who represents a disability community that is not represented by the persons appointed pursuant to subsection (2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c) of this section;
  - (e) A representative of a statewide organization of current and former peace officers;
  - (f) A representative of a statewide organization of chiefs of police;
  - (g) A representative of a statewide organization of county sheriffs;
  - (h) One member of the P.O.S.T. board; and
  - (i) A member of the P.O.S.T. board's curriculum subject matter expert committee.
- (3)
  - (a) The attorney general shall appoint members to the commission no later than September 15, 2021.
  - (b) In making appointments to the commission pursuant to subsection (2) of this section, the attorney general shall ensure, to the greatest extent possible, that the membership of the commission is representative of the ethnic, cultural, age, and

gender diversity of the state and of all geographic areas of the state, including rural areas.

- (4) Members of the commission serve without compensation but the department of law shall reimburse members for all actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.
- (5) The attorney general's office shall provide a staff member to coordinate and support the commission and help implement the commission's recommendations.
- (6)
  - (a) The attorney general's office shall convene the first meeting of the commission no later than October 15, 2021. At the first meeting, commission members shall select from among the membership a person to serve as chair of the commission.
  - (b) The commission shall meet upon the call of the chair as necessary to complete its duties specified in this part 10, but must meet at least once per quarter.

**C.R.S. § 24-31-1003. Study of training concerning interactions with persons with disabilities - report**

- (1) The commission shall, in collaboration with the P.O.S.T. board, evaluate existing training for peace officers concerning interactions with persons with disabilities. The commission shall examine:
  - (a) Whether the training is included as a part of basic training or any other training program approved by the P.O.S.T. board and provided by a law enforcement training academy
  - (b)
    - I. If the training is required, the number of hours of training required; or
    - II. If the training is optional, the number of hours of training offered; and
  - (c) The qualifications and experience required of instructors who provide the training.
- (2) The commission shall review existing training curricula concerning first responder interactions with persons with disabilities offered by organizations in Colorado and other states. The commission's review must include identifying existing curricula offered by governmental agencies and nongovernmental organizations, evaluating whether any identified existing and available curricula is adequate to train peace officers in Colorado, and whether any existing curricula could be modified to properly train peace officers in Colorado.

**C.R.S. § 24-31-1004. Recommend training curriculum for peace officers**

- (1)
  - (a) On or before February 28, 2022, and after completing the study described in section 24-31-1003, the commission shall recommend to the P.O.S.T. board the curriculum for peace officer training concerning interactions with persons with disabilities to be used in basic training and other training programs approved by

the P.O.S.T. board and that may be offered to first responders that are not required to take P.O.S.T. board approved training.

- (b) The recommended curriculum must include an initial training curriculum that can be offered as part of basic law enforcement training and an annual in-service training curriculum.
- (2) In recommending a curriculum pursuant to this section, the commission must:
- (a) Recommend a curriculum that meets or exceeds the standards of the existing curriculum offered to first responders identified by the committee in its study of the existing curriculum;
  - (b) Consider existing basic training and annual in-service training requirements for peace officers to ensure that the recommended curriculum can be implemented effectively and with the least possible duplication of existing training requirements and administrative and financial burden on peace officers, law enforcement agencies, and law enforcement training academies;
  - (c) Study the existing training requirement concerning abuse and exploitation of at-risk adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities described in section 24-31-313.5 and consider recommending a curriculum that may satisfy the existing requirement; and
  - (d) Consider the results of any audit that examined first responder interactions with persons with disabilities in Colorado.
- (3)
- (a) After implementation of the curriculum as described in section 24-31-317, the commission shall examine any challenges faced by the P.O.S.T. board, law enforcement agencies, and law enforcement training academies with implementing the curriculum, including resource availability; periodically assess the effectiveness of the curriculum; and determine whether any changes need to be made to the curriculum.
  - (b) If, after the implementation of the curriculum, the commission determines that the curriculum should be changed, it may recommend changes to the P.O.S.T. board. The P.O.S.T. board may adopt the recommended changes.
- (4) The commission may identify and recommend an existing training curriculum appropriate for first responders who are not peace officers.