

Meeting Minutes

Idaho Law Enforcement, Firefighting and EMS Medal of Honor Commission

Thursday, November 16, 2006
10:30 a.m. (MST)

Idaho Office of the Attorney General
Conference Room
Statehouse, Room 210
700 West Jefferson Street
Boise, Idaho

Present at the meeting location

Mitch Toryanski, Deputy Attorney General

for Bill von Tagen, Deputy Attorney General, *Commission Chairman*

Martin Knoelk, North Ada County Fire & Rescue Chief

for Ron Anderson, Meridian Fire Chief

Mike Becar, P.O.S.T. Council Representative

Doug Borah, President, Idaho Peace Officers Association

Melissa Ward, secretary to Chairman von Tagen (taking minutes)

Present via conference call

Bill Douglas, Kootenai County Prosecuting Attorney, *Commission Secretary*

Joe Rice, Soda Springs Police Chief

Absent

Dia Gainor, Bureau Chief, Emergency Medical Services, Dept. of Health & Welfare

Blair Olsen, Jefferson County Sheriff

[Governor's Representative – Vacant Position]

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### Agenda Items I & II – Call to Order and Prior Meeting's Minutes

Mr. Douglas called the meeting to order at approximately 10:35 a.m. (MST).

The meeting agenda was reviewed; no amendments were made. The prior meeting's minutes were reviewed. The minutes were approved upon a motion by Mr. Borah, a second by Chief Rice, and aye votes from all present.

### Agenda Item III – Commission Funding

It was suggested that any funding include travel for Commissioners and medal recipients, as well as the cost of medals, photo and citation framing, flowers for the

ceremony, and the cost of conference calls for meetings. Chief Rice inquired as to other states' funding. Mr. Douglas stated that he would check with Gary Fox at the State of Washington.

On a separate matter, Mr. Borah stated that he was having difficulty accessing records in relation to recent nominations received about which he was seeking more information than that which was provided by the nomination agency with the nominations. Mr. Douglas commented that a deserving officer may not have the opportunity to be a medal recipient because his or her nomination contained insufficient information, and the Commission is unable to glean further information, as the nominating agency is unwilling to release it, due to its the confidential nature and concerns regarding inappropriate or possibly unlawful release of such records. Mr. Toryanski questioned whether legislation might be necessary. Mr. Douglas stated that it shouldn't be, as "immunity provisions" are already in place. He stated that he would coordinate with Chairman von Tagen in looking into this issue under Idaho's public records laws.

#### Agenda Item IV – "Call for Nominations" Mailing

Chairman von Tagen's office plans to mail "call for nominations" letters to appropriate agencies and organizations on or about December 1, 2006. Mr. Douglas stated that he would like to get firefighters more involved this year. It was suggested that, in addition to mailings to law enforcement, firefighting, and EMS agencies, that letters also be mailed to corresponding unions and associations.

#### Agenda Item V – Next Meeting

A date for the next Commission meeting will be suggested and settled upon via e-mail at a later date.

#### Agenda Items VI - Adjourn

The Commission having concluded all of its business, the meeting adjourned by a motion from Mr. Toryanski, a second by Mr. Becar, and aye votes from all present.