

**AJ Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, December 6, 2012**  
**Humboldt Sheriff's Office Training Room**

**Attendance:**

Sheriff Mike Downey, Chair  
Ron Waters, CR AJ Director  
Bill Damiano, Chief Probation Officer  
Kent Bradshaw, HROP  
Ed Wilkinson, Captain, HCCO  
Greg Allen, State Parole/AJ Instructor  
Bret Smith, Chief of Police/Academy Instructor  
Jamie Barney, HCSO

Michael Robinson, Attorney/Academy Instructor  
Nick Nova, AJ Student  
Peter Cress, FTO, Eureka PD  
Tom Chapman, Chief, Arcata PD/AJ Instructor  
Val Wilson, POST Region I Consultant  
Ryan Peterson, Lt., Arcata PD  
Jan Morehouse, HROP  
Mike Fridley, HCSO

Sheriff Downey called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

I. **Status of Accreditation & Reorganization**

**Reorganization:** Ron gave an update on the status of CR's recently announced reorganization. At this point, there doesn't seem to be any impact on the AJ Program as a result of reorganization. Enrollment needs to increase.

**Accreditation:** Accreditation issues and why we are on "show cause" were discussed. Report will come in January from the ACCJC regarding CR's future status.

II **AJ Program**

A. Degree Programs

1. How to increase enrollment/completions

- a. Ron explained that a survey was sent a few years ago to all area law enforcement regarding the AJ program. One of the biggest reasons stated for not taking courses was that the work schedule wouldn't allow it, especially due to the two days/week format. As a result, the schedule was changed about 2 years ago to make all AJ courses being offered one day/week for three hours each to allow on-duty personnel to attend. However, there are very few current law enforcement personnel attending. The following were brought up as issues:
- Awareness – a lot of officers aren't aware of the change
  - Educational Incentives – Some agencies offer incentives for getting degrees, which leads to getting POST Intermediate & Advanced certificates sooner
  - No incentive from agencies – no reason that officers see for investing the time/money for a degree
  - Suggested doing marketing of the program at briefings
  - Provide counseling with a "degree check" where officers could bring in copies of their transcripts and have them evaluated to see what courses they need to complete their degree
  - Course evaluations –credit for courses completed?

- b. **Basic Academy AS degree?**  
Ron reported he had seen that Golden West College offers an AA degree with the Police Academy meeting the core course requirements. After that, the students only need to complete their required courses (English, Math, Science, etc.) and electives to earn their degree. There was a lot of interest in this type of degree. Consensus was that working law enforcement find the current AJ courses to not be of much value since they deal with material they use daily already, but they are good for pre-service people to understand the roles in AJ system.

B. **Advanced Officer Courses**

Talked about the possibility of doing the POST-required Perishable Skills courses and additional Advanced Officer Training to make the required 24 hours every two years as a single three-day course. Everyone seemed to like that idea as being very manageable. Work will continue on this as a goal.

- a. **Dispatchers** – Requested courses:  
CTO Update; Basic CTO; Dispatching in high stress situations; Dispatcher FOS type course; Basic Hostage Negotiations.  
Announced the semester-long dispatch academy beginning in January. Also discussed the need for agencies to help with having their personnel as instructors.
- b. **Corrections** – Discussed the Corrections degree program currently available at Del Norte to see if there was any local interest. There was none. Capt. Wilkinson explained there is no incentive for corrections personnel to get a degree.  
Any chance on pairing up with Corrections Core + other courses for degree?
- c. **AOT Courses**
- Joint searches, warrant services, task force, etc. with multiple agencies (Bill Damiano)
  - Active shooter
  - Interview & Interrogation
  - 11550
  - FTO/FTO Update
  - TC Investigation
  - Executive Development courses? - Assertive Supervision (Marin Consultants)
  - Firearms Instructor courses

Discussed low training manager attendance at LECAH meetings. Suggestion was to make Training Managers quarterly as it seems to be just having a meeting for meeting's sake, with nothing being accomplished.

- d. Feedback to agencies – Discussed issue of what happens if an officer does poorly on an AOT/PSP course. Should agency be notified? Consensus was that for now, phone calls to agency head would be preferred to written record re: problems or lack of interest/participation.  
Val also brought up that POST will be assessing the instructors in our AOT courses to make sure they are covering the material they are supposed to be. They will be having people dropping in unannounced to monitor courses. POST estimates that as many as 80% of the 5700 courses currently certified are not being taught to the outlines that have been approved for those courses.
- C. **Problems/concerns with current AJ program**
- Widening of the area – less overlap – not just basic material
    - Current courses seem to have a lot of overlap information. Would like to see some new courses.
- D. **Suggestions for moving forward**
- Kent (HROP) – need speakers to high schools promoting job tracks in the AJ field/career coach
  - School Based Public Safety Program

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.