MINUTES OF ARKANSAS STATE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
July 9, 2026

The Arkansas State Police Commission met on Thursday, July 9, 2026, at the Arkansas State Police Headquarters, Little Rock, Arkansas.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Jim Hinkle, Chairman
Commissioner Ken Reeves, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Neff Basore, Secretary
Commissioner Mike Akin
Commissioner Steve Edwards
Commissioner Jeff Teague
Commissioner John Allison

STATE POLICE PERSONNEL PRESENT:

Colonel Mike Hagar	Lt. Colonel Jason Aaron
Lt. Colonel Mike Kennedy	Major Stacie Rhoads
Major Roby Rhoads	Major Mike Moyer
Captain Joe Carter	Captain Randall Murphy
Dan Mack	Lieutenant Bobby Brown
Lieutenant Chase Melder	Captain Craig Teague
Captain Jeff Sheeler	Captain Jeff Plouch
Captain Seth Pinner	Captain Rick Neill
Captain Chris Goodman	Sergeant Tyler Nelson
Jesi Feld	Ryan Roach
Eric Wacaster	Tess Bradford
Kerry Tabor	Rindi Snow
Susan Tedford	Cindy Murphy
Karen Perry	Teresa Hardy
Bridget White	Joan Shipley
Philip Warriner	Sergeant Greg Dycus
Jonathan Nettles	Donna Humphries

OTHERS PRESENT:

Luke Woolman, AG's Office	Nathan Treece, KUAR
Austin Coleman, Senator Cotton's Office	Kasey Nelson

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated I will call the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated will you join me in the pledge of allegiance.

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated Donna I see the press has been notified. Donna Humphries answered yes sir.

NOTIFICATION OF MEDIA:

The media was notified of this meeting on May 30, 2026.

MINUTES:

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated minutes of our last regular meeting, June 11, 2026, I have an opportunity here to approve those as amended or as printed. Commissioners Reeves/Teague moved to approve them as written. Commissioner Basore seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Hinkle stated we have a motion and second to approve as printed, all in favor say aye, all those opposed. Thank you for that.

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated next, we have a weapon resolution by Major Roby Rhoads.

WEAPON RESOLUTIONS:

Major Roby Rhoads presented the following resolution for consideration by the ASP Commission.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS: Captain Jeremy Roberts efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of twenty-eight years, two months, and thirty days;

WHEREAS: Captain Jeremy Roberts retired from this department May 31, 2026;

WHEREAS: His departure creates a vacancy that will be most difficult to fill, which is recognized by each and every member of the Arkansas State Police Commission;

WHEREAS: Captain Jeremy Roberts has made formal request that his service weapon be retired with him and remain in his possession;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: The Arkansas State Police Commission, in its regular meeting at Arkansas State Police Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas on Thursday, July 9, 2026, in accordance with Act 547 of 2003 awards him, his Glock Model 19, Serial Number BMSA610, as a token of their esteem and appreciation for service devoted to the Arkansas State Police.

Commissioner Reeves made a motion to approve the above weapon resolution presented to the Commission. Commissioner Akin seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Hinkle stated we have a motion and a second, all in favor say aye, all those opposed, so ordered.

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated Colonel Hagar, you have a promotion certificate to present.

PROMOTION CERTIFICATES:

Colonel Mike Hagar presented a promotion certificate to Sergeant Tyler Nelson promoting him to Sergeant in the Highway Patrol Division, Troop H, Fort Smith.

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated next is division reports, Ms. Perry.

Karen Perry stated good morning, Colonel, Commissioners, we do not have a report for the month of June the system has been down, and we will not be able to get any historical data until Monday. Ms. Perry stated we did close out the Fiscal Year in the positive.

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated next is Major Roby Rhoads.

Major Roby Rhoads stated good morning again, last month we had three military deployments. There are 752 applicants for the 2027 Troop School, and the application window is closed. So, right now we are doing PT testing and written testing and should finish that up in the next couple of weeks.

Last month the Polar Team assisted 42 individuals, we had 20 follow-up visits, and one debrief. Major Roby Rhoads stated this Saturday, Kaci Thessing is doing her first Arkansas Front Line Family Academy for Law Enforcement and that is grant funded something she wrote and has coordinated all of this and that is going to be at ALETA in Northwest Arkansas. It is for spouses, families, friends of Law Enforcement and it is going to help them recognize stress, crisis, peer mental health, finances and personal safety awareness.

Major Roby Rhoads stated for the health plan, our total paid claims were $1.3 million, so another good month for us. Major Roby Rhoads stated our contractual savings was $1.1 million.

Commissioner Reeves stated a couple of questions, did you say 752 applicants for the troop school? Major Roby Rhoads stated yes sir. Commissioner Reeves asked, “is that a normal number or is that high?” Major Roby Rhoads stated that is the highest we have had since 2012 probably. Commissioner Reeves asked how many, what is the maximum you can put through the Troop School this time? Major Roby Rhoads stated 65 is what we are shooting for. Commissioner Edwards asked how many. Major Roby Rhoads stated 65. Commissioner Reeves stated I assume you lose quite a few on the PT testing. Major Roby Rhoads stated

yes sir, we are losing a bunch of them because they will not turn their paperwork in or they will not go get a medical waiver to take the PT test. Commissioner Reeves stated so with all of these 752 applicants we may not have 65 that actually go through the school. Major Roby Rhoads stated we are pretty confident that we will have 65, as we have some good applicants, ones that are actually following through the process. Commissioner Teague asked generally what percentage fall out, that don't complete it? Major Roby Rhoads stated it just varies from year to year. Commissioner Teague asked, do you expect to have 50 out of the 65? Major Roby Rhoads stated to graduate, we are hopeful it will be 50, yes sir. Commission Chairman Hinkle stated I guess a better question might be is there a percentage of fall out that you normally look to see, what would that be? Major Roby Rhoads stated I don't have the exact percentages, it just varies. Lt. Colonel Kennedy stated a good rule of thumb is about 20% for every step of the process. You will lose 20% on the PT test, you will lose 20% on the polygraph, and you will lose 20% on the background. Commission Chairman Hinkle stated so when you get to the 65 hypothetically you could lose 20% of those. Lt. Colonel Kennedy stated you know how many we lose in Troop School about 20%.

Commissioner Allison asked when the troop school will start? Major Roby Rhoads stated January 31, 2027.

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated Crimes Against Children, Lieutenant Colonel Jason Aaron. Commission Chairman Hinkle asked will you Lieutenant Colonel Jason Aaron also give the Highway Patrol Division report while you are up there.

Lieutenant Colonel Jason Aaron stated good morning, Colonel, Chairman and Commissioners in this month's CACD Division report packet you should have a bar graph of the numbers from last month's information. Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated as you can see these numbers are trending down right now, but it is also common this time of year with school being out and that is a lot to do with kids being in less contact with mandatory reporters as far as being in the school system, being around teachers and around school administration officials.

Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated the Hotline received 4,339 contacts, including 2509 phone calls and 1830 online reports for the month of June, that is about 1,344 less than last month. Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated 2,064 of those contacts were accepted, of those 2064, 491 were determined to be severe maltreatment cases and were assigned to our CACD Investigators. Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated for the month of June CACD closed 634 cases with 192 of those being found as true, and this is a substantiation rate of 30%, which falls right in the middle of the national average between 25 and 35%.

Commissioner Reeves asked do a majority of tips or reports come from school officials or teachers? Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated a large portion of them do, yes, because for the most part those schoolteachers, and counselors develop relationships and friendships with these kids, and the kids will disclose information through these officials, or the school officials will observe physical characteristics that will tie into that phone call. Commission Chairman Hinkle stated it is also a good time for those individuals to be away from whoever is abusing them, so they can open up during that situation, I have been told. Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated they are safe, they feel safe and secure, they have that good relationship with that teacher or counselor so they are away from that potential violator or suspect and so they feel more comfortable disclosing the information.

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated Lieutenant Colonel Aaron, will you go ahead and present the Highway Patrol Division report.

Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated the Highway Patrol Division for the month of June answered 28,767 calls for service. Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated the troopers made 2,352 criminal arrests, with 534 of those for felony offenses. Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated they made 257 DWI arrests, that number is low but also as you go back and look at past historical data for past months of June, it trends low every June. Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated what attributes to that, I don't know if its troopers on vacation, or what it is but I would have to believe that has got something to do with it, less troopers on the road during the month of June, but if you go back and look at the historical data it trends low the month of June. Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated they issued 15,224 citations, 6,007 were for hazardous offenses, 17,948 warnings were issued, and we conducted 3,364 motorists assists. Lieutenant

Colonel Aaron stated they recovered 17 stolen vehicles with a net worth of $239,000.00, engaged in 42 vehicle pursuits, completed 1,224 crash investigations with 24 resulting in fatalities. Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated the DL/CDL personnel tested 22,189 individuals. Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated the ICP team seized $24,442.00 in U. S. Currency, 91 one-ounce bars of gold estimated at a value of $388,000.00, 771 pounds of marijuana, a little over ½ pound of methamphetamine, a little over 324 pounds of cocaine, and various quantities of Alprazolam, MDMA, Zanax, Hydrocodone, Fentanyl, Promethazine, THC gummies, vapes and wax. Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated the Arkansas State Police SWAT Team conducted 19 missions, the ERT Team had 12 deployments, and our Aircraft Section flew 12 missions.

Lieutenant Colonel Aaron stated I can tell you also that in the past couple of weeks our Highway Patrol Division, Troop C and our CID Division, Company F, played a big part in the fatality crash that a Marked Tree Officer was involved in a couple weeks back.

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated thank you for these graphs, you and Major Hydron. It makes it a lot easier for us to compare month to month, thank you.

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated next is Major Stacie Rhoads.

Major Stacie Rhoads stated good morning, Chairman, Colonel, Commissioners for the month of June we initiated 139 cases, 17 of those were death investigations with 6 homicides, we conducted one in custody death investigation and one officer criminal misconduct investigation. Major Stacie Rhoads stated we did not have any officer-involved shootings for the month of June, which is really good, positive.

Major Stacie Rhoads stated we had 187 felony arrests, we conducted 100 crime scene searches, we conducted 149 hours of surveillance, we conducted 280 criminal interviews, executed 110 search warrants, we had 41 hours' worth of court appearances, and we had zero FARO scans for the month of June.

Commissioner Reeves asked this $2 million dollars SIU value of drugs, was that the one we saw in the paper of just the bales of marijuana or what was that? Major Stacie Rhoads stated no, so most of what you are going to see from the Criminal Investigation side are cases that we work out amongst the Companies and we actually have an agent that is assigned to the DEA Task Force, a lot of those are just we have gone out and purchased those drugs.

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated Major Mike Moyer.

Major Mike Moyer stated good morning, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, and Colonel Hagar, during the month of June, the Identification Bureau processed 25,546 civil background checks and 9,419 criminal fingerprint submissions. The Used Motor Vehicle Dealer Section processed 299 dealer applications, and the PI Security Section processed 758 private investigator and alarm company applications.

The Fire Investigators conducted three origin and cause investigations, and the Bomb Squad handled eight explosive calls, and also assisted with seven SWAT missions. Major Moyer stated I will note one item that happened last week, one of the largest calls that they have had, they located over 80 improvised explosive devices at a residence, so it took federal agencies, it was a very big scene in a hoarder house so it made it even more difficult, so they have been doing a great job on that.

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated Colonel I believe you have a personnel matter to discuss. Colonel Hagar stated yes sir, I ask we move to Executive Session to consider personnel matters.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Teague stated I move that we retire into Executive Session to consider personnel matters. Commissioner Akin seconded. Commission Chairman Hinkle stated I have a motion and a second, all in favor say aye, all of those opposed. The Commission went into the Executive Session at 10:18 a.m.

At 10:43 a.m., Commission Chairman Hinkle stated I will call the meeting back to order and stated Colonel Hagar, I believe you have a recommendation for us.

Colonel Hagar stated yes sir, regarding the Lieutenant position in the Administrative Services Division, Training and my recommendation to the Commission would be Sergeant Nicholas Brown. Commissioner Teague made a motion that Sergeant Nicholas Brown be promoted to Lieutenant in the Administrative Services Division, Training. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Hinkle stated I have a motion, and a second, any discussion, all in favor say, aye, any opposed, so ordered.

NEXT MEETING:

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated the next regular monthly meeting will be held on August 13, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at Camp Robinson at the new ASP Training Facility.

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated we will probably be there a little early that day, I don't know completely what the exact time frame is, but we look forward to seeing any and all of you that can attend out at Camp Robinson next month.

Commission Chairman Hinkle asked if anybody has anything else. Commissioner Allison stated I had an opportunity to see it, and it is a fabulous facility, I think that for the troopers to go to school there is phenomenal, I mean it is like a Holiday Inn Hotel it is world class.

Commission Chairman Hinkle stated anybody have any other comments. Commissioner Reeves stated I move we adjourn, Commissioner Akin seconded and Commission Chairman Hinkle stated we have a motion and second, we are adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

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Commission Chairman

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Commission Secretary