

**Georgia Police Accreditation Coalition, Inc.**  
**Regular Meeting - October 24, 2003**  
**Macon, Georgia**

This meeting was held at the Holiday Inn in Macon, Georgia. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sherry Lang at approximately 9:00 a.m.

Introduction and attendance was conducted. Minutes from the August meeting were offered for approval and accepted by unanimous vote.

The Chairperson then gave her report. The Chair recognized the previous Board Members and the outgoing Chairman and presented those present with plaques honoring their service to GPAC. The Chair then asked for a show of hands from those that were planning to attend the CALEA Conference in Colorado Springs. Several members indicated that they would be attending. Three agencies will be reviewed at this conference. The Chair then brought up the matter of the CALEA "focus group" that CALEA Commissioner Lou Dekmar of LaGrange PD was on. Chief Dekmar had asked for GPAC assistance for recommendations on the Standards and the CALEA Process to be presented during the "focus group" meetings. The Chair advised that Drew Marchetta was going to Chair a committee to develop some input to be forwarded to Chief Dekmar. Drew then asked for volunteers to serve on the committee. Diane Merritt, Chris Salo, Jason Donnelly and Beverly Trainor volunteered. The December meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn in Macon, Georgia on December 11 and 12, 2003. At this time, the Chair inquired of the membership about moving the meetings for 2004 around the State with agencies volunteering to host the meetings. The discussion was indicative of moving the meetings around the State if at least two meetings could be scheduled in the Southern portion of the State. The concept was presented to hold two meetings in the Southern portion of the State, one meeting in the Central portion of the State, one meeting in the Northern portion of the State and one meeting in the Metropolitan Atlanta area and one meeting being the Tri-Pac meeting which is scheduled in February of 2004 in Knoxville, TN. A motion was then made to have a member to check with the Holiday Inn and the Fairfield Inn in Forsyth, Georgia about meeting capabilities and also to check with the GPSTC about a meeting room. Diane Merritt agreed to perform this task and report back at the December meeting. The Chair said that she would contact her prior to the meeting for an update.

At this time, Greg Nichols, Secretary for GPAC requested that the membership agree to hold the April 2004 meeting in Rome, Georgia due to Major Elaine Snow teaching the State Certification Manager Course and an Assessor Refresher Course that month. A motion was made and unanimously approved. The Chair then presented the Revised By Laws to the membership Article by Article. Chris Case from Tybee Island PD made a motion that Article 4 Section 5 be amended to read "In the event of any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors, a qualified representative of a member agency will be elected at the next general meeting **by** the membership to fill the remainder of the term in the office vacated." The motion was unanimously approved and the revised By Laws were also unanimously approved.

Todd VandeZande then gave the Vice Chairman's report. He thanked Chip Grefski and Leo Sherrer for providing the training for this meeting. He announced that the training for the December meeting would be on Media Relations for both Thursday and Friday. The February meeting will be the Tri-Pac meeting and LEACT will provide the training for that meeting. The April meeting will be hosted and Rome, Georgia and the training will be State Certification Manager and Assessor Refresher. Todd then asked the membership to contact him with suggestions for training for the June and August meetings for 2004.

Greg Nichols then gave the Secretary's report. He advised the membership that the GPAC roster was created from files given to him by the previous Secretary. If there was no proof in the files that 2003 dues were paid, then the agency was not placed on the roster. He advised the membership that if 2003 dues were paid and proof could be supplied by the agency then they would be added to the roster. He told the membership that an updated roster would be distributed in February and August. If possible, a roster will be made available at each meeting. He requested that member agencies contact the webmaster to update information on the web site roster and that the webmaster would forward update information to him so the roster that is distributed to the membership could be updated. He advised that agencies will be notified by e-mail of meeting dates, location and training topics. He also advised that e-mails would be sent to the Chiefs Association members and that meetings will be published in the monthly newsletter sent out by the Sheriffs Association.

Also, meeting minutes and any other relevant information will be posted on the web site for review prior to the next general meeting. He advised the membership of the Suggestion Box at the back of the room and encouraged the membership to use it to bring matters of concern to the attention of the Board.

Drew Marchetta then gave the financial report. A copy of the financial report was made available to the membership. Drew explained the report and the fact that there were two(2) accounts. The old account(Account A) is tentatively frozen due to inconsistencies. The account balance was in error in favor of GPAC by approximately \$1500. The matter is being looked into. A new account(Account B) was opened with dues checks that had been received. A motion was made to approve the financial report and was unanimously approved.

Chris Lagerbloom then gave the Web Site Committee Report. He advised the membership that the Homepage had been changed to be more user friendly. The site and all of the links were operational except for the roster page prior to the meeting. The roster page was operational on October 24, 2003. The roster page had to be changed due to download time being too long. It should be more user friendly at this time. Chris advised the membership of the possibility of setting up a "forum" page on the web site. This was generally accepted by the membership if the "forum" page could be password protected. Chris also advised the membership of the possibility of being able to pay dues and merchandise purchases by credit card over the web site. This will be researched and more information provided. The membership was asked to contact Chris by e-mail or phone and make suggestions on improvements to the web site. Chris also advised the membership that he was aware of a problem with Chapter 8 Certification Standards that are on the web site and that the problem will be corrected.

Bud Smith then gave the Outreach Committee Report. Bud asked for a volunteer to attend the SRIC Committee meeting at the Colorado Springs CALEA Conference and bring information back for the December meeting. Diane Merritt agreed to do this. Bud then spoke about the Georgia Law Enforcement Museum and Hall of Fame that the Chiefs Association and the Sheriffs Association is planning in Greene County. Bud asked all GPAC members present to promote GPAC and the State Certification program to other agencies whenever possible.

Angela King then gave the Mock On Site Committee Report. She mentioned those agencies that had recently had a mock on site and that they all did well. GSU is scheduled for a mock on site for November 18-20, 2003. She stated she was creating a list of available assessors and needed to know those that are Team Leaders. She asked about the Technical Advisor Program and as to why it was dissolved. Richard Darby, Director of State Certification explained.

A member then asked about a sample Policy Manual for State Certification. This resulted in a lengthy discussion on support for new agencies attempting State Certification.

Janet Moon gave a brief history of GPAC and its association with the State Certification Program so that new members of GPAC would understand that GPAC does not administer the State Certification Program although it has and continues to be very active in the program. The State Certification Program is the responsibility of the Chiefs Association and Richard Darby is the Director.

Richard Darby then gave the State Certification Report. There are now 90 agencies State Certified and 78 agencies in the process of State Certification.

The Chair advised that there was no P.O.S.T. Report.

Chip Grefski then gave the Hospitality Committee Report. He asked for volunteers to serve on the committee and Leo Sherrer and Chris Salo volunteered.

Drew Marchetta then gave a report on the new CALEA Standard that addresses departmental issued firearms and their security in the home. The Board is not in favor of this standard as it is written because it would cause proof of compliance problems. The Board supports a standard dealing with training on firearms security in the home and will be directing a letter to Peg Gant of CALEA expressing our view. The new CALEA Standard on Missing and Abducted Juveniles was discussed. The major change in the separation of this standard from Missing Adults deals with Levi's Call. Greg Nichols advised that Rome PD had already addressed Levi's Call in policy and offered to share the policy with members if they desired.

There was no unfinished business and no new business to discuss. Therefore, the meeting was adjourned.

Leo Sherrer then conducted a training class on how to deal with difficult people.