

Open Session Minutes

IOWA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY COUNCIL MEETING

July 3, 2025 9:00am

ILEA Building, Room 201

7105 NW 70th Avenue

4640 Burma Road

Johnston, IA 50131

A meeting of the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy Council was held as a hybrid of in-person and online attendance.

Members Present: Ricardo Martinez II, Academy Council Chair
Diane Venenga, Vice Chair and Chief, North Liberty Police Department
Ryan Ridout, DOT Director, Bureau of Investigation and Identity Protection
Vicky Long Hill, Citizen of Iowa
Melissa Henderson, Officer, Cedar Rapids Police Department
Aaron McClelland, Captain, Waterloo Police Department
Dave McDaniel, Sheriff, Hardin County Sheriff's Office
Daniel Jansen, Captain, West Des Moines Police Department
Sadie Weekley, Lieutenant, Marshalltown Police Department
Elizabeth Quinn, Sergeant, Story County Sheriff's Office

Members Absent: Kevin Schneider, Sheriff, Polk County Sheriff's Office
Nathan Fulk, Colonel, Iowa State Patrol
Jana Abens, Citizen of Iowa
Charles McClintock, Senator
Izaah Knox, Senator
Eric Gjerde, Representative
Judd Lawler, Representative

Legal Counsel Present: Erin Hardisty, Assistant Iowa Attorney General

Staff Present: Brady Carney, Director, ILEA
Sherry Poole, Assistant Director, ILEA
Kristi Traynor, Legal Counsel, ILEA
Jack Hueton, Financial Manager, ILEA
Jennifer Rico, ILEA

Guests Online: Danny Zempel Rick Schmitz

Ric Martinez called the meeting to order.

Ric Martinez stated the proceedings are being recorded and reminded Council members that they are to abstain from participating in and/or voting on any action items involving a potential conflict of interest.

Ric Martinez began with the welcome and introductions of the Academy Council, ILEA staff and guests.

Ric Martinez determined there was a quorum.

The first item (#1*) on the agenda was the disclosure of potential conflicts of interest on the Open Session agenda.

Diane Venenga advised that she would recuse herself from Action Item# 4.

The second item (#2*) on the agenda was public comment. There were none.

The third item (#3*) on the agenda was the Petition for Waiver of Iowa Administrative Code Rule 501-2.1(5) for Kyle Adams.

Adams was arrested for Burglary 3rd, Possession of Burglar Tools, Criminal Mishchief, Trespass & Theft 5th in 2013 when he was 18. He pled guilty to Attempted Burglary, received a deferred judgment, paid a fine, and was placed on unsupervised probation. The record was expunged in 2018 and Adams moved for a copy of the expunged record for this waiver. Since the incident, Adams appears to have held other employment, married and had children. Adams indicates he has matured since the violation. Adams does not appear to have further involvement with law enforcement other than traffic violations. Assistant Chief Ethan Johnson wrote a letter in support of the waiver.

Council members had consensus that they wanted to speak with Mr. Adams in person at their next meeting on August 7, 2025 due to the seriousness of the charges and tabled this discussion.

The fourth item (#4*) on the agenda was the Petition for Waiver of Iowa Administrative Code Rule 501-2.1(5) for Barry Earnhart. (Diane Venenga recused herself from this discussion)

Earnhart was arrested for DUI and DUI of drugs (PBT 0.00, Suspected Cannabis) in 2013. He pled guilty and was sentenced to 10 days in jail with all but 1 day suspended, paid a fine, and was placed on 12 months unsupervised probation. He also completed a substance abuse evaluation & MADD VIPP. At the time of his arrest for the DUI, there was a pending warrant for a Park After Hours charge & Failure to Appear in 2011. The Park After Hours charge was dismissed and Earnhart pled guilty to the Failure to Appear and was fined and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation. Since the incident, Earnhart indicates he has invested time, effort and dedication into preparing for a career in law enforcement and wants to give back to his community. Earnhart does not appear to have further involvement with law enforcement in Iowa.

Ric Martinez entertained a motion. Aaron McClelland made a motion to approve the petition for waiver of Iowa Administrative Code Rule 501-2.1(5) for Barry Earnhart. Sadie Weekley seconded the motion. A group voice vote was taken. 9-Aye; 1-Recuse (Venenga), motion carried.

The fifth item (#5*) on the agenda was the Petition for Extension of Iowa Administrative Code Rule 10.3(2) for Tanner Nowell.

Nowell was hired by the Webster City Police Department on June 10, 2024, giving him until December 10, 2025 to become certified. When he was appointed, he was in remission from leukemia, but has now relapsed and will be having CAR-T Therapy and a Stem Cell Transplant. He'll be in Omaha for a period of 4-5 months. He is anticipating the need for additional time due to the extended time in Omaha and the side effects from treatment. He is asking for an extension of time to complete the training necessary to become certified. Nowell has completed Modules A-E.

Ric Martinez entertained a motion. Diane Venenga made a motion to approve the petition for extension of Iowa Administrative Code Rule 10.3(2) for Tanner Nowell for 180-days from his expiration date. Dan Jansen seconded the motion. A group voice vote was taken. All Aye; 10-0, motion carried.

Ric Martinez entertained a motion. Aaron McClelland made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Melissa Henderson seconded the motion. A group vote was taken. All Aye; 10-0, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20am.



9/04/2025

Ricardo Martinez II, Chair
Iowa Law Enforcement Academy Council

Date