

## ALABAMA PRIVATE INVESTIGATION BOARD (APIB)

February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Board Minutes

*With proper notice and time, the meeting was made public in a timely manner. The meeting was called to order at 10:32 am at the Board office, 60 Commerce Street, Suite 1440.*

There was a quorum established with members of the board. Board members present were the following: Charles Knight, Jim Casteel, Ivan Gray, David Hill, Darrell Tatum, Scott Hawk, and Stephanie Smith.

Also present were Steve Herndon, Legal Counsel, Claire Austin, Executive Director, and Will Parker, Administrator of the Board.

### **10:30 AM Meeting called to order**

\*Swearing in of David Hill

\*New Attorney Steve Herndon was announced and introduced to the board.

\*Mandatory Re-Election of officers due to having a new member (David Hill)

\*Jim Casteel nominated Charles Knight for Chairman, Ivan Gray nominated Jim Casteel to be the Vice Chairman, Jim Casteel nominated Stephanie Smith for Secretary all were elected by unanimous vote by the Board.

\*The Consolidation bill (SB227) was discussed, and we were advised to contact all Senators regarding opposition to this bill.

\*Will Parker discuss the Board's first FBI audit stating that we were rated a perfect score/ report, finances and budget. Excellent job by the Board and staff.

\*Apprenticeship, Sponsors, Agencies and Trainers were discussed along with gun laws between AL and FL. Guns and weapons training classes were discussed and how a committee could be useful for this matter in the future.

\*Steve Herndon, new legal counsel introduced himself to the board, and gave members his background to all board members present.

\*Mr. Knight proposed that the APIB set up an informal meeting and greet all PI's in the state of Alabama in hopes of getting to know faces and learn more about each other. Should this be put together by APIA or APIB? Scott Hawk mentioned forming an Industry Relations Committee

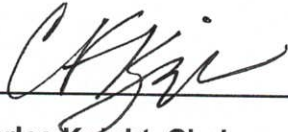
\*Ivan Gray discussed GPS trackers and laws changing pertaining to these

\* David Hill voiced that attorneys and mitigators state indigent fees went up recently and stated that PI's rate is still capped at \$70 hour. The board said they were investigating this and check on what others are paying.

The next Board meeting will be scheduled for May 12 @ 10:30 am

With now further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Ivan Gray and seconded by Darrel Tatum.

**11:50 AM Meeting adjourned.**



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**Charles Knight, Chairman**



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**Claire H. Austin, Executive Director**