From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)

Date: Monday, November 21, 2022 9:01:40 AM

From: Texas Sunset Advisory Commission <sunset@sunset.texas.gov>

Sent: Monday, November 21, 2022 8:40 AM

To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset.AdvisoryCommission@sunset.texas.gov> **Subject:** Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)

Submitted on Mon, 11/21/2022 - 07:20

Submitted by: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Choose the agency that you would like to provide input about

Texas Commission on Law Enforcement

Public Comments

1

First Name

Gavin

Last Name

Harrison

Title

Constable

Email

City

Rockport

State

Texas

Your Comments or Concerns

Having read both the executive summary and the staff report concerning tcole, there are a few issues that need to be addressed and a couple, of concerns. I am unaware if the staff is truly apprised of the Tcole mission. In the past when it was more appropriately name the Texas commission on law enforcement officer standards and education it mission was more clear. That agency exists to set minimum standards for both licensure and continuing education, nothing more.

It is not, nor was it intended to be an investigatory agency at the individual officer level beyond the scope of the above. That it handled appropriately by DPS through the Texas Rangers.

Additionally Issue 3.1, Tcole already requires applicants to submit FAST results processed by DPS, I'm unaware of how a duplication of work becomes more efficient.

Issue 3.3 runs afoul of several sections of Texas govt. code that clearly define that complaints against officers cannot be confidential and investigated, in fact it requires a copy of the signed complaint be tendered to the officer. That the advisory group seems to be u aware of this is concerning. They may also need to research the laws concerning polygraph and drug testing as well.

3.5, see above response, The fundamental core of American jurisprudence is the original state of innocence and the right to face accusers, officers do not lose these protections when they put on a badge (also a reason why we have Garrity warnings)

With the apparent lack of knowledge about existing laws regarding law enforcement, I have grave reservations about how such a "blue ribbon" panel would be selected.

Your Proposed Solution

- 1. Operate within existing laws concerning complaints, polygraph, drug testing, etc. covering peace officers.
- 2. "Blue ribbon " panel to be composed of no less that 50% peace officers with a minimum of 15 years active duty experience.
- 3. Do not duplicate work already accomplished by State agencies.

My Comments Will Be Made Public

Yes