

Members of the FLETA Community,

On Tuesday, April 21, 2020, the FLETA Board conducted its spring Board Meeting via teleconference. No accreditation reviews took place during the meeting and only essential business matters were discussed. What follows is a brief summary of the meeting.

I. Welcoming Remarks and General Announcements

FLETA Board Chair James Ward recognized the following new Board members:

Michael Barbuti	Special Agent in Charge Drug Enforcement Administration Training Academy
Colleen Coleman	Deputy Training Director Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency
Janeen DiGiuseppi	Section Chief FBI Training Academy
Tracy Siler	Assistant Director US Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Mr. Ward announced that since the last meeting the following members have departed the Board:

1. David Corwin, DCSA
2. William Mathews, DEA
3. Sandra Walker, ICE
4. Michael Robinson, IGCI

In addition, this was the final Board meeting for:

1. Ronald Ward, U.S.Courts
2. Robert Weitzel, DoS
3. Stephanie Creasy, USMS

II. Old Business

Mr. Ward announced that during this meeting, the Board needed to conclude business from the November 2019 FLETA Board Meeting. At the November 2019 meeting, an

amendment of the FLETA Bylaws was proposed in reference to Board Membership and the distribution of Board seats. The Bylaws Committee recommended moving one of the seats currently assigned to the “Other” category to the Department of Defense. This would reduce the seats for “Other” to two and allot four seats for the DoD. The Board unanimously approved the change and the new Bylaws will be posted to the FLETA.gov website.

III. New Business

The Board held an election for the position of Chair and Second Vice-Chair. The nominees were Mr. James Ward (VA LETC) and Mr. Robert Lachance (DOI) respectively. Both were reelected and sworn-in immediately.

The Board also selected Mrs. Sterling Payne (TSA) as the new Parliamentarian. Mrs. Payne was sworn-in and assumed her position immediately.

The FLETA Office of Accreditation Executive Director Joe Collins announced the 2020 FLETA Standards vote/implementation has been postponed until the November 2020 FLETA Board Meeting. Following the November vote, the OA will provide training and guidance regarding the transition to the new standards.

IV. Office of Accreditation Updates

Mr. Collins announced the next scheduled meeting will begin Tuesday, November 3, 2020 and conclude on Thursday, November 5, 2020, the proposed location is Glynco, GA. **Please note that Tuesday, November 3, 2020 is Election Day, so please make appropriate arrangements to vote.**

Mr. Collins also reported the following:

1. FLETA OA Business Case submission
 - a. In anticipation of future growth, the OA submitted a plan to seek additional resources, funds, and fulltime employees.
2. Update on proposed legislation
3. Update on FLETA’s path forward from the COVID-19 situation
 - a. Current operations - Mr. Collins assured maximum flexibility during this timeframe. Program Managers are working closely with organizations.
 - b. May seminar canceled, look to reschedule in the January 2021 timeframe, following the publication of the 2020 FLETA Procedures and Standards Manual.
 - c. Currently, one assessment has been postponed. Assessments pick back up in June for appearance at the November 2020 Board Meeting. It is assumed that some summer assessments will be impacted, and the OA is working with AMs regarding the schedule. Additionally, the OA is

developing guidance for assessments teams regarding flexibility when reviewing academy/program policy/evidence impacted by the pandemic.

- d. The in-person Team Leader Program (TLP), that was originally scheduled for August, is being modified to an online format and will be presented at a later date.
- e. The FLETA budget will be impacted due to the COVID-19 situation. The OA may not be able to expend a good amount of its yearly budget since the majority of the OA expenses are travel related.
- f. The OA offices at TH 383 on the FLETC, Glynco sustained significant damage due to a water leak. Cleanup and repairs are taking place.

I want to assure everyone that we will do our best to reschedule FLETA assessments, trainings, etc. as soon as we are able to do so. The COVID-19 situation is very fluid and we are monitoring things on a daily basis. We understand that there are some who are working through limitations as it relates to IT and the sharing of files to conduct self-assessments. Please use your OA Program Manager as a resource for guidance and information.

Please stay safe during these uncertain times. If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me, or any member of the OA staff.

Respectfully,
Joe Collins