

BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING

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THOSE PRESENT: Judge Flores
 Judge Dollinger
 Judge Lively
 Lt. Kelly
 Catherine Presley
 Tom Rugg
 Becky Garcia
 Tim Funchess
 Kevin Cribbs
 Mary Godina
 Liz Parks
 Glenda Segura

JUDGE FLORES: Okay. We're going to call
this meeting of the bail bond board -- Jefferson County
Bail Bond Board to order. First action is to -- are
there any comments, additions or further submissions on
the minutes from the last meeting?

(NO RESPONSE.)

JUDGE FLORES: If not, we'll go into the
district attorneys office report, Mr. Rugg?

TOM RUGG: Well, I don't see Ms. Garcia here
and she has my report, Your Honor. So, I guess we'll

1 have to defer that, Your Honor.

2 JUDGE FLORES: Okay, we'll hold that.

3 Ms. Presley, any applications to be
4 considered?

5 CATHERINE PRESLEY: No, sir.

6 JUDGE FLORES: Mrs. Godina, any complaints
7 against bondmen?

8 THE BAILIFF: No, sir.

9 (MS. GARCIA ENTERS.)

10 JUDGE DOLLINGER: Now say what you said
11 about her.

12 BECKY GARCIA: Go ahead. I've been working.
13 Me and the new girl. Less than two months.

14 JUDGE FLORES: Mr. Funchess, any report from
15 the treasurer's office?

16 TIM FUNCHESS: I've distributed my
17 treasurer's report, the collateral report.

18 BECKY GARCIA: Last month and this month.

19 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Are there any
20 comments, questions on the treasurer's report?

21 (NO RESPONSE.)

22 JUDGE FLORES: Do we have a representative
23 from two auditor's office today?

24 TIM FUNCHESS: I do.

25 JUDGE FLORES: Okay.

1 TIM FUNCHESS: First of all, as treasurer
2 I'd like to say we're all perfect; but that's not the
3 report that I got from the auditor.

4 TOM RUGG: What?

5 TIM FUNCHESS: I handed out the report, I'm
6 going to bring you-all to the second page, if you look
7 under the shaded area, the first one is Floyd Batiste.

8 JUDGE FLORES: Yes, sir.

9 TIM FUNCHESS: She wanted me to tell you
10 that his -- I think his license expired or something;
11 and he's -- his bond limit has gone -- his bond limit
12 still shows 360,000.

13 JUDGE FLORES: Okay.

14 TIM FUNCHESS: The other one is Joshua
15 Stewart. He's got a bond limit of 606 -- 606,780. He
16 just went over the four-year mark; so he should -- his
17 bond limit should be raised to eight times collateral.

18 JUDGE FLORES: Okay.

19 TOM RUGG: Okay.

20 BECKY GARCIA: In the computer? Yeah,
21 you'll have to get with Tina for that.

22 TIM FUNCHESS: Okay.

23 JUDGE FLORES: Well, is Batiste still --
24 he's no longer practicing?

25 BECKY GARCIA: What's the deal with him?

1 JUDGE DOLLINGER: If he's license expired,
2 he better not be.

3 JUDGE FLORES: That's what I'm thinking.

4 BECKY GARCIA: But if he still has bonds --

5 TOM RUGG: Yeah, he's just got -- he's just
6 got some outstanding bonds that are still subject to
7 liability.

8 BECKY GARCIA: I don't think they are mine.

9 TOM RUGG: They shouldn't be accepting new
10 bonds at the jail.

11 CATHERINE PRESLEY: We're not. He's not on
12 the list.

13 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Any other questions on
14 the auditor's report presented by Mr. Funchess?

15 TIM FUNCHESS: If you look on page three,
16 I've got a couple more items.

17 JUDGE FLORES: Okay.

18 TIM FUNCHESS: You know, the highlighted
19 ones there at the top, James Newberry, Michael Lindsey
20 Paul Buchanan and Steven Wohr, they're all over -- looks
21 like they have unpaid forfeitures in excess of their
22 bond limits.

23 JUDGE FLORES: Well, Paul Buchanan is
24 deceased; right?

25 BECKY GARCIA: He's dead and I took most of

1 his money that he had with us for forfeitures in my
2 office.

3 JUDGE FLORES: Right.

4 BECKY GARCIA: His balance is probably what
5 he owes in the felonies, because I think I only left
6 less than a hundred dollars.

7 JUDGE FLORES: I saw Mr. Newberry. I didn't
8 know he was still around.

9 BECKY GARCIA: Yeah. Paul Buchanan only has
10 \$93.95 in cash with you. The rest is probably unpaid
11 forfeitures on felonies.

12 JUDGE FLORES: Okay.

13 TIM FUNCHESS: That's about all I have right
14 now.

15 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. If there's nothing
16 further then -- Ms. Presley, I believe that we had an
17 item to add language to the applications about the 31
18 days in advance; is that right?

19 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Yes, sir.

20 JUDGE FLORES: Please kind of go ahead and
21 speak on that.

22 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Chapter 17.04, Section
23 1704.162, referencing (b) "to renew a license, license
24 holder must file with the board an application for
25 renewal not later than the 31st day before the license

1 expires". I'm going to start time stamping when I get
2 the applications, because I'm getting them out four to
3 six months in advance; and I don't want them rushing the
4 week before the meeting and want me to jump through
5 hoops to get their application together.

6 BECKY GARCIA: And especially when they're
7 missing information --

8 JUDGE FLORES: Sure.

9 BECKY GARCIA: -- in their application.

10 JUDGE FLORES: That's fine. I think we've
11 discussed that.

12 BECKY GARCIA: So that's something I did
13 talk to Mr. Roebuck about, that we would come up with
14 some kind of language, something to the effect of
15 "pursuant to local rules" -- because it's even in our
16 local rules -- "failure to submit this application and
17 all supporting required documents 31 days in advance to
18 the sheriff's department located at the courthouse" --
19 there's no mistaking where to turn it in -- "will result
20 in the application being held until the next" --

21 JUDGE FLORES: Talk a little slower.

22 BECKY GARCIA: -- "bail bond board meeting".
23 I'm sorry. I'm still in rush mode.

24 JUDGE FLORES: I'm watching Liz and she's
25 going crazy.

1 BECKY GARCIA: Just so it covers everyone,
2 at the time they get their application, they understand
3 what the repercussions could be if they don't submit
4 everything fully in the proper time allowed.

5 JUDGE FLORES: Okay.

6 BECKY GARCIA: Also, to go along with that,
7 I think rolls into your next thing. Go ahead, next
8 agenda item.

9 JUDGE FLORES: Okay, on the finance
10 statement?

11 BECKY GARCIA: No, there should be language
12 about the background search.

13 JUDGE FLORES: Okay, supply their own
14 background check.

15 BECKY GARCIA: Yes. We had talked in a
16 prior bail bond board meeting about having that language
17 added to the application, that they are to submit that
18 information because now that we can't run the criminal
19 histories on them. We also need to change our
20 applications to include that language as well. I
21 actually went to the DPS website. I've actually got
22 screen shots, the web address. The screen shots show
23 which options to select on which would bring them to the
24 instructions; and this is what I think we need to post
25 on our web page to go along with -- and it will be

1 included with the application.

2 JUDGE FLORES: Okay.

3 BECKY GARCIA: So it tells them how to get
4 in touch -- I think DD can tell you since they were the
5 first ones to do this -- the instructions, I think it
6 was fairly easy to get the appointment.

7 D.D. ROJAS: I wasn't the one who did it;
8 but yes.

9 BECKY GARCIA: Well, it was fairly easy.
10 You get an appointment to take your fingerprints; and
11 then you get put in the system; and then they run it.
12 It's an official form that we saw in that application to
13 us a couple months ago.

14 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Correct.

15 BECKY GARCIA: So I think that also will
16 need to be changed and updated in our applications.

17 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Well, do I hear a
18 motion to -- as to amending the language and requesting
19 that everybody supply their own background checks?

20 TOM RUGG: Yes, Your Honor, I'll make that
21 motion.

22 TIM FUNCHESS: I'll second it.

23 JUDGE FLORES: It's been moved and seconded.
24 All of those in favor signify by saying aye.

25 (RESPONSE.)

1 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Ms. Presley, if you'll
2 get a proposal together -- both of you-all, you and Ms.
3 Garcia.

4 CATHERINE PRESLEY: We'll work on it
5 together.

6 JUDGE FLORES: And I think whatever you
7 recommend is fine with us. I think -- that attaching
8 that document and everything else --

9 BECKY GARCIA: Okay.

10 JUDGE FLORES: I think that will do
11 everything that is required.

12 Okay. The next item on the agenda -- well,
13 let's go back to the district attorney's office report.
14 I know Ms. Garcia has handed it out now. Anybody have
15 any comments, submissions or further questions on the
16 district attorney's report?

17 (NONE.)

18 BECKY GARCIA: And that was for the last two
19 months, September and October.

20 JUDGE FLORES: Good.

21 Okay. If not, we'll move along. The last
22 item on the agenda is to discuss the finances statement
23 from the web page; and Mr. Funchess, any discussion on
24 that?

25 BECKY GARCIA: Actually, Mr. Roebuck and I

1 put that on there.

2 JUDGE FLORES: Okay, go ahead.

3 BECKY GARCIA: When one -- an inquiring
4 party went to our forms page, they saw this and they
5 called and the question that they asked me, I said I
6 don't know what you're talking about. So I went to the
7 web page, and saw where this form had been put out
8 there -- if you want to see this.

9 TOM RUGG: I -- I don't read these things.

10 BECKY GARCIA: The question is -- the
11 question is there's some information contained in this
12 form that isn't really relative to what we ask for. So
13 I think there needs to be a new list put together.

14 JUDGE FLORES: Let Mr. Funchess look at it.
15 Didn't you work on that, Mr. Funchess?

16 TIM FUNCHESS: I worked on this and it was
17 approved by this committee.

18 JUDGE FLORES: I thought so.

19 MARY GODINA: Uh-huh.

20 TIM FUNCHESS: And after it was finally
21 approved, there's a signature page, a notary page on the
22 last --

23 BECKY GARCIA: I never saw this, so maybe
24 I'm in the dark on it.

25 TIM FUNCHESS: And I had it loaded down to

1 the website.

2 BECKY GARCIA: See, we no longer go by
3 bondman pages. It's only file numbers. So, a lot of
4 this information is going to be confusing to the
5 applicant that's filling this out.

6 I don't have no idea what a business
7 homestead is; and I don't think they do, either. That
8 was some of the questioning, what's a business
9 homestead.

10 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Josh Stewart asked me
11 that.

12 BECKY GARCIA: Uh-huh.

13 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Last month, what's that?
14 What's a business homestead?

15 TOM RUGG: I'm sure Roebuck can tell us
16 since he's board certified in property law.

17 BECKY GARCIA: Well, he's language to me was
18 he didn't know. So, he would have to look into that.

19 JUDGE FLORES: Roebuck didn't no?

20 BECKY GARCIA: Well, I guess he didn't have
21 time to explain it to me; but I think he doesn't think
22 that's relative for this.

23 TOM RUGG: I'm not sure it's relevant for
24 this either.

25 TIM FUNCHESS: Well, it's easy to go in

1 there and change this form. I can drop off the volume
2 and page; and I can just put business -- you know,
3 business location or whatever. Business property.

4 BECKY GARCIA: What's the incumbrance?

5 TOM RUGG: It's a lien holder.

6 JUDGE FLORES: Yeah.

7 TOM RUGG: Uh-huh.

8 TIM FUNCHESS: If you-all want me to modify
9 that second page, I can do that and re-upload to the
10 computer and take all the questions off it.

11 BECKY GARCIA: Okay.

12 TOM RUGG: Yeah, and I would just eliminate
13 business homestead thing because I don't think that's
14 useful information for us.

15 JUDGE FLORES: This agenda item --

16 TIM FUNCHESS: I could put business property
17 instead of business homestead?

18 TOM RUGG: I don't know that that's useful
19 information for us.

20 JUDGE FLORES: Probably just leave it off?

21 TOM RUGG: Because the only thing that's
22 going to be exempt from forced sale is the residential
23 homestead, so.

24 JUDGE FLORES: Yeah.

25 TOM RUGG: So I don't -- they can -- if they

1 want to put their business property up as collateral for
2 bonds, that's fine with me.

3 TIM FUNCHESS: I'm not saying their pledging
4 it for collateral. They're just listing it as an asset.

5 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Right.

6 TOM RUGG: Oh, I understand.

7 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Yeah, all their assets.

8 TIM FUNCHESS: So, it is relevant to the
9 financial statement, you have a personal interest in it.

10 JUDGE FLORES: Well, Mr. Funchess, what do
11 you suggest on that?

12 TOM RUGG: Maybe it's just I don't care.

13 TIM FUNCHESS: I'll just clean it up and
14 re-upload it.

15 TOM RUGG: Okay.

16 JUDGE FLORES: If you do that, then get with
17 Ms. Garcia, and make sure if -- if you have any
18 questions.

19 TOM RUGG: Yeah, those are non-substantive
20 changes, Judge; so I don't think it requires board
21 action.

22 JUDGE FLORES: Any new business to take up?
23 Any old business? I don't see Mister -- I don't guess
24 we have the guy from the bail bond board --

25 BECKY GARCIA: Keith called me.

1 JUDGE FLORES: All right.

2 JUDGE DOLLINGER: Day's now that guy.

3 JUDGE FLORES: No. He was going to bring in
4 one of the representatives from the state organization
5 to talk to us about something; and that's been on the
6 agenda for what, three -- three times?

7 TOM RUGG: Well, maybe next month.

8 JUDGE FLORES: If there's no new business,
9 no old business; if not, Judge Dollinger?

10 JUDGE DOLLINGER: Motion to adjourn.

11 JUDGE FLORES: Judge Lively?

12 JUDGE LIVELY: Second the motion.

13 JUDGE FLORES: Moved and seconded we
14 adjourn. All in favor signify by saying aye.

15 (RESPONSE).

16 JUDGE FLORES: Good.

17 (END OF HEARING)

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