
From: Rick Johnson
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 2:56 PM
Subject: Stakeholder Meeting Update

The information below has been provided by the PPIAC legislative chair as it relates to the Colorado PI licensing discussion that took place on Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at the offices of The Department of Regularity Agencies (DORA). I did not attend this meeting and my comments are highlighted

*During this meeting, DORA addressed the issue of the refund for the voluntary program and many in attendance voiced their displeasure that their plan was to issue a refund in July of next year. The discussion on this one issue took approximately 45 minutes and we believe DORA heard this loud and clear. They indicated that they will try to expedite this process. **Are you kidding me, a refund for what-how much more will the license cost as a result of this?***

*DORA indicated that they are doing everything they can to keep the costs of this program down, therefore keeping the fees lower for every investigator. In fact they have decided that once a licensee is approved for their license, the licensee can print their license from their own computer, therefore saving DORA the expense of sending these out to the licensee. This is just one example of how they are trying to keep costs down. **Huh-print the license from your computer, that will validate your license, you kidding me, perhaps we can print our Colorado Driver's License next. What happened to all that chatter about consumer safety when hiring a PI?***

*The applications and beginning of the process are expected to be up on the DORA web site, by April 1st. This will give the applicant a window of approximately 60 days in order to get this process completed, as PI licensing enforcement begins on June 1st. The application will be done online and after filling it out, the licensee will simply hit submit. **Really-what about the fingerprint card?***

*DORA indicated that the background checks for their other programs are taking approximately two weeks, which is a great improvement from the six months or so that we had during previous licensing. They believe the issues we had previously with CBI have been handled and we should not see any delays if you follow the directions that will be given. **Dora nor any of us will have any control over how long the CBI might take to do their part-what about a computer break down back log? I believe this application should be on the DORA web site no later than February one. This is typical government nonsense of not thinking ahead***

*The jurisprudence exam is going to be an online exam, which will be a test about the law itself and the rules. Therefore a licensee will have access to this information before, during and after the test. One issue that PPIAC brought up, was what if somebody failed to pass the exam, **if someone can't pass this exam they should be automatically employed by the federal government** how long before they could retake the exam, as the investigator will not be able to operate legally, until they did pass the exam and finished the process. They heard us and are going to try to limit the time, until one can retake the exam. After a licensee passes the exam, DORA will have a process in place, allowing the licensee to upload the exam to the application. The suggestion there is once you have passed the exam, you move onto the application.*

*DORA also stated there are no study guides available as the test will be based on the current law. They are looking to provide a link to the law so in essence this will be an open book test **Perhaps DORA could just provide the test with the answers, send it to us, we look it over and send it back-wouldn't that work?** Because of this DORA will not approve any study guide or vendors that say they have one available. (We know there are vendors out there that are already stating they have a study guide which is not possible since the test hasn't even been created yet so don't waste your money) **What the flip is the reason for the test in the first place-I argued about the test last year when I testified in from of***

numerous committees that it would be meaningless-guess what, it will be meaningless. So be sure when selling yourself to a client be sure to tell that person you passed the Colorado PI Test and you were awarded your license. This is an embarrassment indeed

Recommendations were made by PPIAC to have a surety bond that is no greater than \$10,000. Yeah, by gosh let's do the cheapest bond we can, fits right in with the testing qualifications-worthless That will cost the investigator on average, \$100 per year. Everybody that we have talked to in the insurance industry, indicated that this is the smallest fee an investigator can pay for a surety bond. Therefore if the bond was \$5000, it would still cost each investigator \$100. PPIAC is supporting any way to keep the cost of licensing down for every investigator, but there will be no additional cost savings for a lower bond.

The hours required for a Level II investigator were discussed by this group and the general consensus is the hours required should be between 4000-6000 hours for the level II license only. I suggest 20,000 hours, make the level II license worth having We strongly recommended that there is no time restriction on obtaining those hours. If you have that amount of experience over any period of time in your career, it will apply. However keep in mind, there are no hours required for a Level I investigator, therefore this will not exclude anyone, from any level of experience, in applying for their license.

We also learned that if a licensee allows their license to lapse, they will have a 60 day grace period to renew their license. After that, they will have to go through a re-instatement process, yet to be determined how that will occur.

There will be no reciprocity in this program or advisory board as both of these items need to be included in the law, not at the rulemaking phase. And really, what flipping state is going allow a Colorado PI with all the tough requirements in place be able to conduct business in their state?

The next step in this process is that DORA will develop an outline of the rules, based on the input of all of the professionals who attended today's meeting and submit these rules to the Secretary of State, later this month. At that time, everybody can view what rules have been developed. You will be able to send emails, written comments, etc.. Then in January (anticipated date) there will be a rulemaking hearing at DORA. This again gives all of you in our profession a chance to voice your opinion on the rules they drafted. If there needs to be changes, DORA can still do that.

Early March the rules will then be published.

DORA indicated that during the life of this program, rules can be revisited periodically, if there is something needs to be changed.

As you can see many things were discussed and I believe the meeting was informative and productive. Please don't hesitate to contact DORA directly if you have any questions.

This is a true embarrassment to our profession.

Rick Johnson