

DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

# BOARD OF PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR & PRIVATE FIRE INVESTIGATOR EXAMINERS

AUGUST 2012



## Governor

The Honorable Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon

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John M. Huff, Director

## Division of Professional Registration

Jane A. Rackers, Director

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## COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

By: Dwight McNeil

**D**ear  
Fellow  
Private

Investigators:

It doesn't seem  
possible that  
it has been

four years since the creation of  
the Board of Private Investigation  
Examiners. Much has been  
accomplished during the Board's  
tenure including the drafting and  
passage of rules establishing the  
licensing procedure and handling  
and resolving complaints and  
other issues which fall under  
the Board's responsibility. Over  
the past year, we have also  
successfully merged with the Board  
of Private Fire Investigators, and  
we are in the process of drafting  
rules of licensure of Private  
Fire Investigators with much  
appreciated input from the State  
Fire Marshal as well as the IAAI and  
PFFIA.

It has been rewarding to see the  
results of the hard work by our  
staff in Jefferson City to bring the  
actual licensing process to fruition.



We have been blessed to have one  
of the best teams at the Division  
of Professional Registration to  
support us in this endeavor and the  
many compliments we have heard  
from licensees regarding their  
professionalism and assistance  
are a testament to their attitude,  
knowledge and skill.

However, with all that has been  
accomplished, there is still work to  
be done. The bulk of the Board's  
responsibilities to implement  
the licensing process have been  
accomplished and over the past  
year, a significant percentage of  
our focus has shift to complaint  
review and resolution. As you will  
see in the statistics provided in this  
newsletter, more than one hundred  
complaints have been fielded,  
investigated and resolved by the  
Board.

This Board relies heavily upon input  
from you, the licensees, as well  
as the input we receive from the  
public. A number of procedural  
changes have been made over  
the course of the past two years  
in an attempt to streamline the  
licensing process and make it less

cumbersome for members of the profession. We value your continued input and look forward to hearing from you at any time, and I would encourage you to attend one of our regular meetings which are held quarterly in Jefferson City.

Regards,  
J. Dwight McNiel

## MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By: Pam Groose

**F**irst, I want to say that I hope everyone enjoys the first Newsletter from the Board of Private



Investigator & Private Fire Investigator Examiners. I realize there is a lot of informative information being shared and I truly hope some of your questions will be answered when you are finished reading. If not, I want you to feel free to [contact our office](#) in regard to your unanswered question(s).

We have done it, we obtained statutory authority to license private investigators & private fire investigators *and* we have now completed the first renewal and CE cycle for private investigators. I don't know about you but I am glad we are past those steps.

I do want to take some time and talk with you about a few things that most everyone needs to pay more attention to:

### 1. CONTINUING EDUCATION

Private Investigators are now in the next continuing education cycle so you should be thinking and planning for those required hours. You will find a list of approved hours on our website, check it often for new offerings. Remember, if you attend an offering that has been submitted by the provider you DO NOT have to submit the required individual course application with the \$10.00 fee *but* if you attend

an offering that is not on the approved list you **must** submit the individual request, \$10.00 fee, agenda and attendance certificate. My biggest request and reminder is that you begin submitting continuing education information as it is obtained, don't wait until you receive your renewal. Because this was the first renewal and continuing education cycle the Board was very forgiving but that cannot continue to happen. Make yourself familiar with the continuing education requirements in the rule.

### 2. LICENSE EXPIRATION DATES

Licenses for private investigators expire April 30, for agencies they expire May 31 and for agency investigator employees, the expiration date is June 30. It is illegal to work past the expiration date of the license. Not renewing an agency license prior to the expiration date invalidates all Agency Investigator Employee licenses so please pay attention to those expiration dates. It is important to understand that a private investigator license not renewed prior to April 30 can invalidate the agency license which invalidates all agency investigator employees registered with that agency.

### 3. ADVERTISING

Another reminder, remember you cannot advertise or conduct business from an address other than the one on file with the Board as your principal place of business. The public must be able to verify your location. Your letterhead and businesscards should include your

name, telephone number or numbers and your license number or the agency license number.

#### **4. UNLICENSED PRACTICE**

If you are aware of an individual practicing without a license you can file a complaint with the Board by completing a complaint form that can be found on our website at [pr.mo.gov/pi](http://pr.mo.gov/pi).

#### **5. CHANGE OF EMPLOYMENT**

Agency Investigator Employees (AIE) and Private Investigators In Charge (PIIC), this information is for you. AIE, if you terminate from an agency, you are to return your license and pocket card to the PIIC. PIIC you are to collect and return the license and pocket card to the Board office within five (5) days of the termination. PIIC, if you are unable to get the license and pocket card back from the AIE please notify our office of the termination in order that our records get updated as quickly as possible. Reason...the AIE holds an active license and that license will continue to be verified as active until we receive notification from the PIIC that the AIE is no longer employed with the agency. AIE you cannot terminate from one agency and go to work for another agency without submitting an application to our office making that change in agency. PIIC, do not work an AIE until such time as an application has been submitted to our office and

you have received the license and pocket card showing the individual is registered with your agency.

#### **6. BOARD MEMBERS**

Lastly, I want to thank the current Board members for their time and talents as well as their patience helping me and my staff to better understand the private investigation business, we could not have made it this far without their vast knowledge and direction. You, as licensees may be interested to know that these members have traveled to Jefferson City for board meetings 35 times beginning with their first meeting on 7/21/2008. These members have put in many hours to get us to this point.

# KNOW YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

**Dwight McNeil**, Ozark Missouri. Private Investigator and owner of Midwest Intelligence Inc. which he founded in 1989.



**DWIGHT MCNEIL**  
CHAIR

**Kenneth McGhee**, Public Member, Florissant Missouri. Mr. McGhee has been a Missouri Licensed Funeral Director for 27 years and is the owner of Archway Memorial Chapel in Hazelwood MO.



**KEN MCGHEE**  
PUBLIC MEMBER

**Doug Mitchell**, Warrensburg Missouri. Private Investigator and owner of Legal Investigative Services Inc. which he founded in 1980.



**DOUG MITCHELL**  
VICE CHAIR

**Timothy Cudd**, St. Charles Missouri. Mr. Cudd specializes in investigations regarding insurance claims and reviewing them for potential fraud. He has more than 35 years of experience in law enforcement, loss prevention, and fraud investigations.



**TIM CUDD**  
MEMBER

**Francis "Chris" Rey**, St Louis Missouri. Private Investigator and owner of Aabott-Rey Detective Agency Inc. which he founded in 1992.



**CHRIS REY**  
MEMBER

**Charles Giessing**, Farmington Missouri. Mr. Giessing has been in the fire investigation field for 33 years, including 10 while in law enforcement with the Farmington Police Department and the St. Francois County Sheriff's Department, and 23 years as the senior fire investigator with SEA Ltd.



**CHARLES GIESSING**  
MEMBER

\* **Dwight McNeil, Doug Mitchell, Francis "Chris" Rey** and **Kenneth McGhee** were appointed by Governor Matt Blunt in March 2008 as the first members of the newly enacted Board of Private Investigator Examiners.

\* **Timothy D. Cudd** and **Charles R. Giessing** were appointed by Governor Nixon to the Board of Private Investigator and Private Fire Investigator Examiners.

\* **Under a 2011 bill signed into law by Governor Nixon**, the Board of Private Investigator Examiners and the Board of Private Fire Investigator Examiners were merged into a single board to license and regulate those professions.

# DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Ordered from 2/1/2010 through 8/7/2012

**1. Mackey, John Michael,  
Private Investigator  
2010030941**

▼  
*Suspended 1/1/2011.*  
License was suspended by operation of law pursuant to Section 324.010, RSMo, which requires suspension of the professional license of individuals who fail to file state tax returns or fail to pay state tax liabilities. Reinstated 8/14/2011.

**2. Savorelli, Dana Charles,  
Private Investigator  
2011004149**

▼  
*Suspended 7/16/2011.*  
License was suspended by operation of law pursuant to Section 324.010, RSMo, which requires suspension of the professional license of individuals who fail to file state tax returns or fail to pay state tax liabilities.

**3. Wilfong, Victor,  
Agency Investigator  
Employee 2010032630**

▼  
*Suspended 3/14/2011 to 8/24/2011.* License was suspended by operation of law pursuant to Section

324.010, RSMo, which requires suspension of the professional license of individuals who fail to file state tax returns or fail to pay state tax liabilities. Reinstated 8/24/2011.

**4. Coffey, David Nelson,  
Agency Investigator  
Employee 2010039910**

▼  
*Suspended 4/2/2011 to 7/1/2012.* License was suspended by operation of law pursuant to Section 324.010, RSMo, which requires suspension of the professional license of individuals who fail to file state tax returns or fail to pay state tax liabilities.

**5. Long, Craig Alan,  
Agency Investigator  
Employee 2011026247**

▼  
*Suspended 1/15/2012.* License was suspended by operation of law pursuant to Section 324.010, RSMo, which requires suspension of the professional license of individuals who fail to file state tax returns or fail to pay state tax liabilities.

**6. Warren, Donald.  
Agency Investigator Employee,  
2012024504**

▼  
*Probation 7/18/2012 to 7/18/2014.* Warren was an applicant for licensure. The Board pursuant to 324.038.1, RSMo may at its discretion issue a license subject to probation. The Board issued the probation in lieu of denial of Warren's application pursuant to 324.1112.1(2) and (3), RSMo. The Board determined that the Order was necessary to ensure the protection of the public.

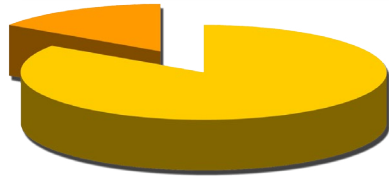
**7. Cotilla, Edward.  
Private Investigator,  
2010029781**

▼  
*Suspended 9/8/2012 to 9/10/2012.* License was suspended by operation of law pursuant to Section 324.010, RSMo, which requires suspension of the professional license of individuals who fail to file state tax returns or fail to pay state tax liabilities.

**DISCLAIMER:** Every effort has been made to ensure that the above enforcement information herein is correct. However, this information should not be relied upon without verification from the Board office. Discipline orders are public information and copies may be obtained via the website at [pr.mo.gov/pi](http://pr.mo.gov/pi) under Sub Navigation "Disciplined Licensees." A licensee is entitled to work as a private investigator during his/her probationary period providing that the licensee adheres to all of the terms and conditions of the Order. However, a licensee whose license has been suspended, is not entitled to work as a private investigator during his/her suspension period.

# RENEWAL INFORMATION & STATISTICS

## > PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR RENEWALS



**289** Private Investigator renewals were mailed

**53** Did not renew Private Investigator license

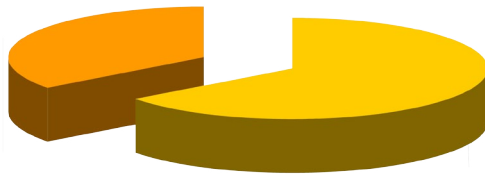
## > PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR AGENCY RENEWALS



**109** Private Investigator Agency renewals were mailed

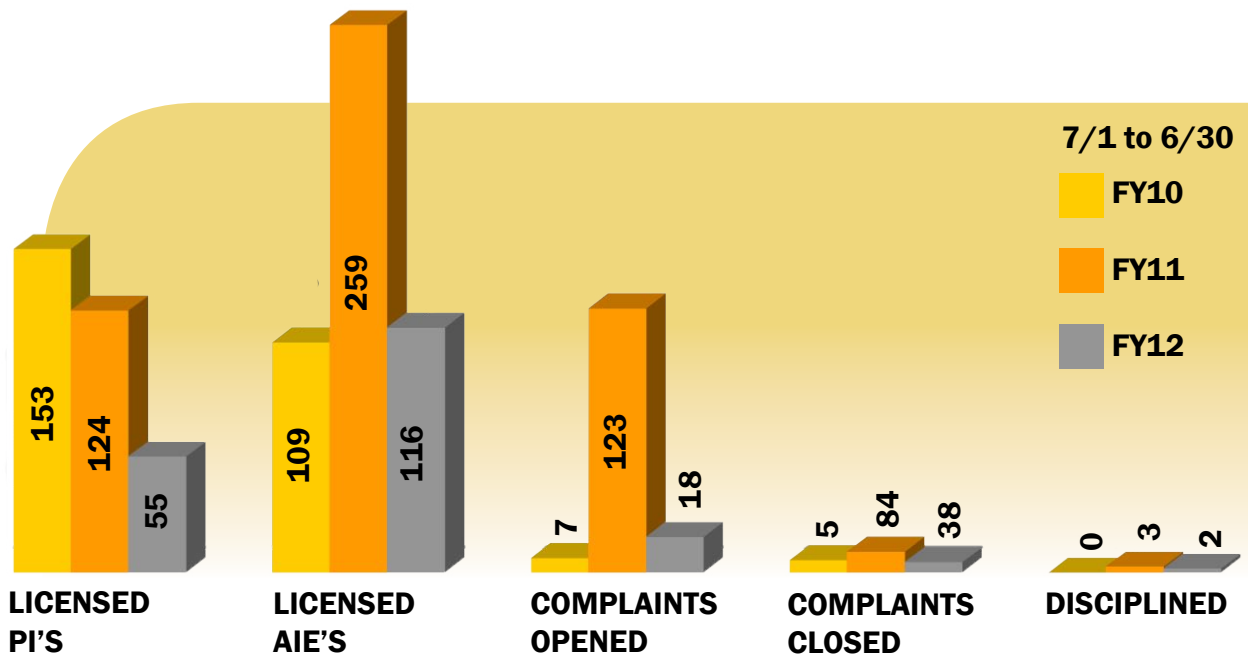
**13** Did not renew Private Investigator Agency license

## > AGENCY INVESTIGATOR EMPLOYEE RENEWALS



**349** Agency Investigator Employee renewals were mailed

**190** Did not renew Agency Investigator Employee license





**T**he Missouri Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration and the Board of Private Investigator & Private Fire Investigator Examiners are pleased to announce a new subscription service to make it easier for you to receive updates - by email or text message - on the topics that interest you.

When you visit our subscribe page, you'll see an extensive list of categories. You are currently signed up for the PI'S topic, but I encourage you to further customize your preferences on the subscribe page. Getting started is easy.

Simply go to the [subscribe page](#), enter your email address or mobile number, then select the topics you'd like to receive updates for. Click the submit button when you're finished, and watch for a confirmation email or text



Visit GovDelivery [here](#)

verifying the updates you've made. You can change your account preferences at any time. Thank you for your continued interest in DIFP and the Board of Private Investigator & Private Fire Investigator Examiners. We look forward to improving our communication with you. Please forward this invitation to any contacts you believe would be interested in this service.

## VISIT OUR WEB PAGE



Go to [pr.mo.gov/pi](http://pr.mo.gov/pi) to view the Boards' web page. You will find information relating to the following:

- Current board members
- Staff Members
- Upcoming meeting dates and locations
- Open meeting minutes
- Laws and rules
- Draft of pending rules
- Related links
- PI News (sign up)

# THINGS TO KNOW

**ADDRESS CHANGE:** All licensees are required to notify the board within 30 days of an address change. The notification can be submitted in writing to the Board of Private Investigator and Private Fire Investigator Examiners, P.O. Box 1335, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, by fax to (573) 526-0661, by telephone to (573) 522-7744 or go to our website and [complete the Change of Address Form](#).

**IMPORTANT:** Please keep the Board informed of your current e-mail address as most notifications will come to you via e-mail notices. You can add or change your e-mail using the [Change of Address form](#) on the website.

**DUPLICATE LICENSE:** Licensees can be issued a duplicate renewal license by submitting a written request to the Board, P.O. Box 1335, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 or by fax to (573) 526-0661.

**CONTACT:** Please send your comments/suggestions regarding the Newsletter to: Pamela Groose, Executive Director, Board of Private Investigator & Private Fire Investigator Examiners, P.O. Box 1335, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Or you can e-mail: [pam.groose@pr.mo.gov](mailto:pam.groose@pr.mo.gov) or to [PI@pr.mo.gov](mailto:PI@pr.mo.gov) Your comments/suggestions are welcomed and encouraged.

Go to [pr.mo.gov/pi](http://pr.mo.gov/pi) and complete the change of address form.