Sheriff D. Brad Riley

February 21, 2017

Garth K. Dunklin, Chairperson North Carolina Rules Review Commission NC Office of Administrative Hearings 6714 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-6714

RE:

North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission's Periodic

Review of Existing Rules 12NCAC Chapter 10

Dear Chairman Dunklin:

Pursuant to 26 NCAC 05 .0204, I am writing to request a waiver of the deadline for filing the review of existing rules for the Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission, located in 12NCAC 10B.

This request is necessary due to recent changes in Commission staff. The Sheriffs' Standards Division serves as staff to the Commission and the Division's Director serves as the rule-making coordinator for the Commission. The Division's long-time Director retired suddenly in June of 2016, following a period of leave from her position. The Division's new Director, Diane Konopka, was appointed in October of 2016, and formally assumed the duties of rule-making coordinator. During the interim period and since her appointment, Ms. Konopka has facilitated the normal rule-making duties and processes on behalf of the Commission. However, on January 17, 2017, she received notification from the Rules Division staff that the rules of the Sheriffs' Commission are currently set for review by the Rules Review Commission in May of 2017. It appears that the initial notice of review had been emailed to the Division's Director just prior to her departure, but unfortunately this notice was not further communicated and was lost in the transition.

In addition to a new rule-making coordinator, the Commission is also undergoing a change in legal counsel. In December of 2016, Lauren Earnhardt was assigned as the Commission's legal counsel, following the departure of her predecessor. Ms. Earnhardt went out on maternity leave earlier this month but plans to return to work following that period of leave.

Due to the recent transition of staff responsible in this area, and the fact that our Commission meets only four times per year (March, June, September and December), I respectfully request

that the review of the existing rules of the Sheriffs' Commission be postponed until the February 2018 meeting of the Rules Review Commission. We would anticipate a review of the report at our June 2017 Commission meeting, followed by the filing of the report and public comment period, then final review and approval. We realize the importance of this review and want to ensure a thorough and thoughtful process.

I very much appreciate your consideration of this request and I apologize for any inconvenience to the Rules Review Commission.

Sincerely,

Brad Riley Chairman

Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission

cc:

Diane Konopka Lauren Earnhardt