



COC&I REGION 3 SESSION 6

Meeting Minutes

Location: Hill Saloon & Dance Hall
Date: Saturday, December 10th
Time: 12:00pm - 2:00pm
Attendees: COC&I Board Members, Region 3 Clubs & Independent Riders

- Meet and Greet
- Call to Order

Agenda items

Opening

Region 3 SA - Amigos MC Porkchop opened up the meeting with a call to order and Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Opening Prayer. Region 3 Chairman - Outcasts MC Cass followed up addressing the region.

1. Introduction of Attorney Frank Martin

AIM attorneys are out there fighting for your civil rights. Here are a couple updates.

In Oregon our AIM attorney filed a law suit against a government employee for firing one of his workers for wearing a motorcycle to work. These things do happen. He worked at a youth correctional facility and he brought the law suit on free speech and association grounds. The court of appeals ruled in his favor that there was nothing in the record that his wearing of the jacket adversely affected his job performance or relationships at work or interfered with the work of the correctional facility. On the contrary the court found that he was an exemplary employee with a positive influence on the youth. He even arranged for motorcycle shows for the youth and invited motorcycle club members to speak with them. It's the Godman case. This is the kind of case we try to get involved in so you have to let us know.

Then in New Mexico a few months ago a court house officer refused to admit anyone wearing motorcycle club colors. The New Mexico MRO sent a letter to the chief judge and the judge said court officers cannot prohibit club colors. This shows that we have power to influence people and get things done.

The feds in Michigan brought criminal charges against the Devil's Disciples and an action for forfeiture of their trademark and their patch. The feds agreed to remove the forfeiture action from the criminal case. So it's a big win.

Brought a few copies of the court case defense files. It's a really big win. These two cases were going on for a long time.

Thank you to all the club members for referring cases to my office because I really do help fund all these civil rights cases. Got a bunch of new cases this week where there was no uninsured or under-insured motorist coverage and they could have really used it because they had really bad injuries. This coverage comes into place when another driver causes an accident and they either don't have enough insurance or no insurance. A guy got hit and the driver came up and said sorry I don't have insurance and just took off. I'm sure there are a lot of stories like this around here. Three months later the same happened to the same guy. Fortunately he had uninsured motorist coverage. If it applies to your case it covers everything from medical to lost wages to pain and suffering. A lot of you make think you have full coverage but check your policy for uninsured and under-insured coverage. Get as much coverage as you can afford.

We have the flyers for the NCOM convention in May. It's never too early to make reservations. It's in Reno again so it would be a great ride from here.

I have a lot of rights cards, what to do when you are pulled over by an officer. If your not a member of AIM. AIM is our traffic accident program. Aid to injured motorcyclists. You can sign up online. It has a lot of great benefits. I also have packets for clubs that have all the AIM membership cards in them. You can just take them.

I have a few clubhouse placks, COC Newsletter and don't' forget about our flyer program AIM and NCOM will pay up to \$250 to print your club event flyers which is a great deal. Contact Sarge in my office.

Be safe, be careful, thanks.

2. Legislative Day

Gulf Coast Busas MC Pres Blow - quick reminder about Legislative Day coming up January 23. That's a Monday. We ask as many of you guys as can take time off work to show up. Whatever it takes to get more participation. I want to thank each and every one for the donations for parking fees. We have flyers with hotel information and meet up spots, Sunday activities. Those leaving Monday try to be there about 11am so we can ride in as a big group. It's exciting to see all those bikes roll in like that. When you get there talk to your representatives. If you don't know who that is there is a link on txcoc.news.org. You enter zip code and it tells you who your US Representative is. When you get there you know exactly who you're go talk to. The directory will tell you where there office is.

3. Texas Motorcycle Safety Coalition

Rough Riders RC Philbert - This past Thursday several of us joined the Texas Motorcycle Safety Coalition in Bryan. It was the final one for the quarter. Some things that came up in the meeting. They are having trouble with money but they are trying to get more trainers to get more people trained to ride. So many are getting out there and are fresh riders who are responsible for a big chunk of the accidents out there. Another part of the accidents out there are people making left turns in front of us so there's also a push for more drivers ed training. TX-Dot representative Dan Jeffries, who happens to be a patch holder, said that based on fatalities over the last three years Texas is the only state that it has dropped rather than increased. Impressive for a state that doesn't have any helmet law. That being said surveys indicate that over 70% of us are riding with helmets voluntarily. Some is club choice, some personal choice. There gonna leave that as it is. They don't want to spend money on that. They are going to spend it on training though. Roughly 40% of those riding don't have an M endorsement on their drivers license. That is gonna be a big push from the state. If they pull you over that's the first thing they're gonna look for. To help those that have been riding for a while they have expanded to give us some one day classes on the weekend. There will be four in the Houston area. Six months ago there was only one. There's been some issues with trikes. Some of us as we age we move over to three wheels instead of two. Still trying to get money from the state for these classes. That's controlled by DPS. We've got the safety funds released but it's just sitting there. here's the big deal. Regarding Legislative Day a quote from Paul Landers "Vision without execution is a fucking hallucination." What does that mean? We go to Austin. We visit with our state senators and reps. They see us as a group, we are one of the lobbyist groups in the country collectively. They see that we are serious about this. The first priority for 2017 is the motorcycle profiling bill. House Bill 831 has 31 senators already signed on. It's ready to be introduced and go to committee. On two states in the country have this, Washington and Maryland. This is our big push. Wearing a patch or an independent, it doesn't matter.

The second and third items are dead read and lane filtering. Both were introduced two years ago and both died in committee. Senator Kirk Watson has changed the language and reintroduced both.

House Bill 831 is the big one. Don't forget it.

Boozefighters MC Einstein also mentioned that during the TX-Dot safety meeting they projected a map showing the locations of motorcycle profiling stops in the state of Texas where bikers were not ticketed. It can be found on the TX-Dot website.

4. Minutes

Outcast MC Cass directed everyone to the website to find COC&I meeting minutes. Event dates are also on the website. Proclamations can be found there as well. He also directed those not getting the emails to get with Lost Inc MC Loop to be added to the email list.

Next meeting will be February 11 at Hawg Stop.

5. Multiple events were announced.

6. Motion to Adjourn

Seconded. Closing prayer...

United Federation of Clubs Executive Meeting