

# TAVTI/SCRC Members

Emergency General Membership Meeting of TAVTI/SCRC – Date TBD,  
Location TBD

**Agenda:** Vote on the status of membership and association with the International Association of Auto Theft Investigators (IAATI), on whether to leave IAATI and cease all association with the IAATI organization and on whether to operate independently as the Texas Association of Vehicle Theft Investigators (TAVTI).

Dear Members,

In May of 2021, the IAATI Committee was formed under the leadership of TAVTI/SCRC President Brian Johns. The Committee was formed to investigate the issues between IAATI and the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) and how these issues were affecting the membership of TAVTI/SCRC.

This issue was brought up at our annual TAVTI Training Conference Business Meeting on Thursday 9/30/21 at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in San Marcos, Texas. During the Conference Business Meeting, members were made aware of the concerns with IAATI and its effects on NICB's relationship with TAVTI/SCRC along with other issues concerns. This was read by Past President Tommy Wooley at the Conference Business Meeting.

On 11/9/21, the IAATI Committee met again after a request was made to IAATI for documents pertaining to the working relationship between IAATI and TAVTI/SCRC. Documents requested from IAATI were not provided in the time requested. Past President Reid Stacy also conducted a search of the past business meeting minutes and could not find any binding documents pertaining to the relationship with TAVTI and IAATI.

On 11/16/21, an Emergency Meeting of the TAVTI Board of Directors was held to hear the findings of the IAATI Committee. At this meeting, a recommendation was made by Past President Brian Johns that the TAVTI membership vote to cease any involvement or association with the IAATI organization and work independently as TAVTI. A motion was made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Rene Cordona that TAVTI/SCRC have an emergency meeting of the membership to vote on whether to leave the IAATI organization and operate independently as TAVTI. The motion was seconded by Secretary Jared Dupree, and the motion was passed unanimously by the board. A TAVTI Membership Meeting will take place on a date and time to be determined to finalize this matter. Details will be announced when they become available.

For this meeting and vote, we wish to have as many members as possible attend the meeting to state any concerns you may have and to ensure everyone has a voice in this matter. We encourage members to research this on your own and reach out to the IAATI Committee, which consists of Past President and Committee Chairman Brian Johns, Past President Reid Stacy, Past President Lee Garza, 1<sup>st</sup> V.P. Herman Adair, and Past President Tommy Wooley, who was Committee Chairman before being elected as Executive Director of TAVTI/SCRC and who served in an advisory position.

Also attached you will find the report read by Past President Tommy Wooley at the Annual Conference Business Meeting.

Thank you,

TAVTI President Larry W. Swinford

11/10/2021

**To: TAVTI-SCRC President Brian Johns**

**From: Tommy Wooley, Past President**

**Date: September 30, 2021**

**Reference: IAATI-NICB Committee**

Overview:

In May 2021, a committee was selected by TAVTI/SCRC President Brian Johns to investigate issues between the International Association of Auto Theft Investigators and the National Insurance Crime Bureau and how those issues were effecting TAVTI-SCRC members.

The committee consisted of:

*Tommy Wooley, Past President, chairman*

*Reid Stacy, Past President*

*Lee Garza, Past President*

*Herman Adair, Second VP*

President Johns had a memorandum from the NICB Chief Executive Officer directing its employees not to conduct any business with IAATI or any of its chapters .

TAVTI/SCRC has numerous members that are NICB employees. As a result of this investigation numerous TAVTI/SCRC members were unable to attend this year's conference or the quarterly meetings.

During the investigation, it was learned that IAATI had hired a law firm to investigate several complaints filed with NICB Executive Staff regarding IAATI's former Executive Director at a cost of \$10,000.00. The investigation is still ongoing

The committee met numerous times prior to the conference to discuss this issue between IAATI and NICB.

## Conclusion:

During the committee's investigation other concerns were raised by the committee. Some of those concerns were:

1. The relationship between IAATI and NICB.
2. The amount of the dues TAVTI/SCRC pays to IAATI.
3. How the fees are different for the out of country chapters verses the North American Chapters.
4. The cost of being able to attend IAATI Conferences.
5. The spending of funds at those conferences by IAATI staff. Are they being good stewards with their funds?
6. The communication between IAATI and its chapters.
7. The IAATI Board.
8. Is our membership getting what we pay for with our membership dues?
9. Are our members benefiting from being a member of IAATI?
10. The lack of professionalism between the IAATI Board members themselves.
11. **And last but not least, do we feel it's in the best interest of our membership to be affiliated with IAATI?**

It was also learned that at the 2021 IAATI Conference in Denver, Colorado that the Executive Director under investigation had been replaced by the new IAATI Board and that they had hired a new Executive Director.

The new Executive Director is Chris McDonald a former highly respected IAATI Past President.

Result:

At the July 2021 quarterly TAVTI-SCRC meeting while in Executive Session, the committee chairman Tommy Wooley presented a recommendation to the TAVTI-SCRC Executive Board at the request of the committee to:

- A. Have the membership vote to either stay or leave IAATI.
- B. If a TAVTI-SCRC member wanted to continue to be a member of IAATI, they could do so on their own.
- C. Any investigator, from outside the state who wishes to join TAVTI can still do so even if it is voted by the membership to leave IAATI. They will become TAVTI members.

A motion was made, and the Executive Board voted, the motion passed to move forward with the vote.

On September 28, 2021, at the 2021 TAVTI/SCRC Conference the committee met with the new IAATI Executive Director Chris McDonald along with IAATI Past Presidents Peter Perrin and Tommy Hansen at the Embassy Suite Hotel in San Marcos, Texas to discuss the issues with NICB and the other concerns listed above.

Director McDonald stated that he had been in contact with the legal team that was in charge of investigating the complaints against the former Executive Director, and they advised him that the investigation should be completed in about 6 weeks.

We also discussed the other previously discussed concerns as well.

Director McDonald stated that he would address our concerns with the current IAATI Board. He stated there was a possibility that the membership dues could be changed and amended.

McDonald requested that the committee give him 6 months to try and resolve the issues that were discussed.

On September 29, 2021, the committee learned that there may have been a charter- contract signed in 1999 with IAATI by the Executive Board of TAVTI when TAVTI begin its affiliation with IAATI in 1999 that may hold some binding agreements with IAATI.

The committee agreed that it was in the best interest of the association to hold off on the vote to stay or leave IAATI until the charter-contract was reviewed by the committee and legal representation.

On September 29, 2021, during a special Executive Board meeting called by President Brian Johns, a recommendation was made by the chairman Tommy Wooley to table the prior motion on the vote to either stay or leave IAATI.

At the committee's request, a new motion was made by 1st Vice President Larry Swinford in which he requested that the vote be held off for a period of 45 days so that the committee and Executive Board be given the proper documentation from IAATI for review to ensure that all legal aspects are followed prior to any vote be taken by the membership.

Once it is determined that all legal avenues have been explored, the sitting TAVTI-SCRC President will call a special session of the TAVTI-SCRC Board and its membership to vote either to stay or leave IAATI.

Respectfully submitted on September 30, 2021:

Tommy Wooley, Chairman



Reid Stacy



Lee Garza



Herman Adair

