BEFORE THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RELATIONS BOARD

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS, LOCAL 24, Complainant,	)	
vs.	)	Case #12304-UC
CITY OF LAWTON, OKLAHOMA, Respondent.	)	

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER

The Board, being advised that the parties have stipulated to the following findings of fact and conclusions of law hereby makes the following findings, conclusions and order in this matter:

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The petition is the currently certified bargaining representative for the police officers employed by the City of Lawton.

2. The parties to this action have engaged in collective bargaining under the authority of the FPAA and are currently parties to an existing collective bargaining agreement.

3. The current bargaining unit excludes the Lawton Lake Rangers.

4. Whether or not they fit the traditional definition of police officer, the Lawton Lake Rangers fit the definition of

officers who are eligible to bargain collectively under the FPAA.

II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Employees working as Lake Rangers for the City of Lawton are legally entitled to engage in collective bargaining under the terms of the FPAA. 11 O.S. §§ 51-102(1), 51-101(A).

2. Lawton Lake Rangers, while not recognized as police officers of the City of Lawton, have a sufficient community of interest with members of the current bargaining unit that they should be included as members of the bargaining unit which is composed of Lawton police officers.

III. ORDER

The Board hereby orders that the current bargaining unit, which is composed of Lawton police officers, shall be clarified by including Lawton Lake Rangers for purposes of collective bargaining consistent with the FPAA. This Order does not, and cannot, change the current terms and conditions of employment for Lake Rangers such as their current job status and benefits. Such changes, if any, may only be affected through collective bargaining.

Date: January 9, 1992

James G. Castro
Public Employees Relations Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

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