



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION

Police Officer Standards and Training Council

Connecticut Police Academy

MINUTES OF MEETING

September 7, 2017

CONNECTICUT POLICE ACADEMY
MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ABRIDGED VERSION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 7, 2017 POST COUNCIL MEETING. THE ORIGINAL MINUTES ARE IN THE FORM OF A DIGITAL RECORDING AND AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST FROM THE ACADEMY ADMINISTRATOR.

Council Members Present: Sergeant William Brevard; Kurt P. Cavanaugh; Chief John F. Daly; Town Administrator Michael Freda; Douglas Glanville; Chief State's Attorney Kevin Kane; Chief Thomas Kulhawik; Chief Michael Maniago; Chief Keith Mello; Chief Mark Palmer; State Victim's Advocate Natasha Pierre; Patrick Rittmon; Commissioner Dora Schriro; Dr. Guy Vallaro and Chief Thomas Wydra.

Other Attendees: Police Academy Administrator Thomas E. Flaherty; Accreditation Manager William Tanner; Holly King, CSP - TA Administrative Staff; Assistant Attorney General Stephen Sarnoski; Chief John Gavallas – President CPCA; Director of Field Services Timothy Coon; Deputy Chief Shaun McColgan – Danbury PD; University of New Haven AVP Ronald Quagliani; UNH Assistant Chief Donald Parker; UNH Chief Tracy Mooney; Lindsey Michael, Accreditation Manager; Stephen Schnell, Redding PD Supervisor; Chief Douglas Fuchs – Redding PD; Sgt. Chris McManus; Dan Cargill – CCADV; Captain Mark O'Donnell – Redding PD; Chief James Wardwell – New Britain PD; Lt. Martin Lobraico, Danbury PD; Staff Corporal Ashley DelVecchio – Westport; Deputy Chief Vincent Denna; Captain Chris Chute - New Britain PD; Lt. James Salvatore, Bloomfield PD; Chief Paul Hammick, Bloomfield PD; Hardie Burgin, East Hartford PD; Deputy Chief Rob Davis – East Hartford PD.

Council Members Absent: Dr. Amy Donahue; Special Agent in Charge Patricia Ferrick; and Chief Ronnell Higgins.

CALL TO ORDER

Chief Keith Mello, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:34 A.M.

Moment of Silence for Chief William Knapp who passed on; he was the Executive Director for 14 years.

Welcome to new members of the council, Mr. Patrick Rittmon and Chief Wydra.

ACTION ITEMS:

MINUTES OF THE May 11, 2017 MEETING

Chief Mello requested a motion to accept the Minutes of May 11, 2017 Meeting as submitted. Motion made by Chief Daly, seconded by Chief Kulhawik, motion carried.

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE:

Request for a Certificate of Comparative Certification and Full or Partial Waiver of the Basic Recruit Training Academy

1. **Chick Bistany** – East Granby Police Department (Officer)
2. **Massimo D’Elia** – Easton Police Department (Officer)
3. **Karen M. Gabianelli** – Old Saybrook Police Department (Officer)
4. **Todd Harmon** – Ellington Police Department (Officer)
5. **Edwin Henion** – Weston Police Department (Chief)
6. **David J. Kardys** – East Hartford Police Department (Officer)
7. **Brett S. Leppard** – Southington Police Department (Officer)
8. **Scott C. Menard** – East Granby Police Department (Officer)
9. **Carlos C. Ocasio** – East Hartford Police Department (Officer)
10. **Craig B. Roth** – UCONN Police Department (Officer)
11. **Robert S. Hart** – Essex Police Department (Officer)

All above were read in individually, but approved (and seconded) as one as indicated below.

Mr. Cavanaugh and the certification committee has reviewed this application and moves that the council approve this certificate of comparative certification consistent with training requirements and associated conditions as specified within the contents of the council packet forwarded to each council member in advance of today’s meeting; seconded by Chief Maniago. Chief Daly abstained from Officer Brett S. Leppard, Southington PD. The motion carried.

Request for Extension of Probationary Status

1. **Jordan C. Fitzpatrick** – Guilford Police Department
Mr. Cavanaugh, on behalf of the Certification Committee, recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status to Probationary Officer Fitzpatrick for a period not to exceed March 16, 2018, in order to complete his academic and field training requirements; seconded by Chief Daly. Motion carried.

Failure to Recertify (Refuse to recertify and Approve to recertify the following)

1. **Leonard Alterio** – Bridgeport Police Department
2. **Harmi Jiminez** – Bridgeport Police Department
Recommendation #1 (Decertify the above officers):
Mr. Cavanaugh, on behalf of the Certification Committee, recommends the Council refuse to recertify the CT Police Officer Certifications of: Leonard Alterio,

POST ID 9938 and Hiram Jiminez, POST ID #2020 as Police Officers in the State of Connecticut, noting that their certification expired at 12:01 AM on July 1, 2017 as they failed to meet their training obligation as required by Council Regulations Section 7-294e-14(b)(2) and (c)(1). This was accepted by Mr. Kane and seconded by Chief Palmer. Motion carried.

Recommendation #2 (Re-Certify the above officers)

Mr. Cavanaugh, on behalf of the Certification Committee, recommends the Council approve the CT Police Officer Recertifications of: Leonard Alterio, POST ID 9938 and Hiram Jiminez, POST ID #2020 as Police Officers in the State of Connecticut, with the record indicating that their certification lapsed on July 1, 2017 at 12:01 AM, and that they were not certified as a Connecticut Police Officer between 12:01AM on July 1, 2017 and 9:30 AM September 7, 2017, for failure to meet Council Regulations Section 7-294e-14(b)(2) and (c)(1). This was seconded by Chief Daly and Mr. Kane. Motion carried.

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE:

1. Tier I Accreditation – Westport Police Department
Westport Police Department is under the command of Chief Foti Koskinas. This is their initial accreditation. The agency was in compliance with 119 applicable standards, 7 standards were non-applicable. In conclusion, Westport Police Department has established policies and practices which are consistent with the POSTC Tier I State Law Enforcement Accreditation Standards.

Chief Kulhawik and the Accreditation Committee make the motion that the POST Council award Tier I Connecticut State Accreditation to the Westport Police Department, seconded by Chief Palmer. The motion carried.

2. Tier I Accreditation – Redding Police Department
Redding Police Department is under the command of Chief Douglas Fuchs. They have been accredited since 2013. On April 17, 2017 the state assessors completed an assessment of Tier I State Accreditation Standards. They were in compliance with 119 applicable standards, 7 standards were non-applicable. In conclusion, Redding Police Department has established policies and practices which are consistent with the POSTC Tier I State Law Enforcement Accreditation Standards with some reservation in certain areas.

Chief Kulhawik and the Accreditation Committee make the motion that the POST Council confer Tier I Connecticut State Re-Accreditation to the Redding Police Department with the following condition that POST staff and at least one other assessor revisit the agency at about the one-year anniversary of the on-site to review the standards dealing with evidence, prisoners, disciplinary systems and racial profiling reporting; Seconded by Chief Palmer. If they are not in compliance with this condition, at that time the certificate could or will be revoked. The motion carried.

3. Tier III Re-Accreditation – Bloomfield Police Department
Bloomfield Police Department is under the command of Chief Paul Hammick. The agency has been CALEA accredited since 2015; this is their initial state accreditation. On July 27th,

2017 the agency was in compliance with 14 applicable standards. In conclusion, Bloomfield Police Department has established policies and practices which are consistent with the POSTC Tier III State Law Enforcement Accreditation Standards.

Chief Kulhawik and the Accreditation Committee make the motion that the POST Council bestow Tier III Connecticut State Accreditation to the Bloomfield Police Department, seconded by Chief Palmer. The motion carried.

4. Tier I Accreditation – University of New Haven Police Department
University of New Haven Police Department is under the command of Chief Tracy Mooney. This is their initial accreditation. The agency was in compliance with 88 applicable standards, 46 standards were non-applicable. UNH Police Department has established policies and practices which are consistent with the POSTC Tier I State Law Enforcement Accreditation Standards. The University of New Haven Police Department will become the first private University Police Department in the State of Connecticut to reach accredited status.

Chief Kulhawik and the Accreditation Committee make the motion that the POST Council bestow Tier I Connecticut State Accreditation to the University of New Haven Police Department, seconded by Chief Palmer. The motion carried.

5. Tier II Accreditation – Danbury Police Department
Danbury Police Department is under the command of Chief Patrick Ridenhour. They were originally accredited at Tier 1 in September 2016. In July, after review and assessment all files were well organized and in excellent shape. In conclusion, Danbury Police Department has established policies and practices which are consistent with the POSTC Tier II State Law Enforcement Accreditation Standards.

Chief Kulhawik and the Accreditation Committee make the motion that the POST Council confer Tier II Connecticut State Accreditation to the Danbury Police Department, seconded by Chief Palmer. The motion carried.

ACTION COMMITTEE:

1. EyeDetect Ocular Motor Deception Test – Chief Mark Palmer
Chief Palmer – upon agreement to be chair to this committee along with Chief Higgins, Mr. Freda and Chief Flaherty to consider the EyeDetect System, the Ocular Motor Deception Test which measures changes in the pupils to assess credibility (truthful or deceptive) of a candidate for employment. They (the committee) investigated the possible use of an assessment tool called EyeDetect as a replacement or a supplement to, the use of pre-employment polygraphs. Based upon the available information gathered and submitted in the meeting, Chief Palmer recommends that the POST Council make no changes in the current process of pre-employment polygraph testing. Furthermore, the decision regarding whether or not the EyeDetect system should be used in conjunction with traditional polygraph testing should be left to the individual agency. No action taken.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE:

1. Blue Courage Program – Approve the curriculum committee to add this program to the current training, subject to appropriation funds (Adds 16 hours to curriculum)
A motion was made by Chief Kulhawik, seconded by Mr. Freda. The motion carried.
2. De-escalation Block of Instruction – Currently teaching it under LEADS; goals and objectives (more generic) to be reviewed by the curriculum committee before they are implemented so they are not specific to one vendor. This program to be added beginning July 1, 2018. (Adds 4 hours to curriculum)
A motion was made by Mr. Freda, seconded by Chief Maniago. The motion carried.
3. Add Drug Endangered Children – Course currently taught by state police (Adds 2 hours to recruit training program curriculum)
A motion was made by Mr. Kane, seconded by Chief Palmer. The motion carried.
4. Add Mental Health First Aid - (Adds 8 hours of training also to be added July 1, 2018)
A motion was made by Chief Maniago, seconded by Mr. Freda. The motion carried.
5. Procedural Justice Lesson Plan - (Already being taught in other areas and will remain as such; adds 1 hour to recruit curriculum beginning July 1, 2018)
A motion was made by Mr. Kane, seconded by Chief Palmer. The motion carried.

In total these voted in above will take effect July 1, 2018 and include an additional 31 hours (a week's worth of training) onto the police academy for new recruits. There may be additional content to recommend to the committee in the future.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Executive Director's Report
Chief Flaherty, Police Academy Administrator – Since last meeting in June cohosted a full day's worth of training (Neuro-biology Trauma in Youths) partnered with SA Steve Sedensky on a grant – team approach to training; Attending DOT DUI Task Force Meetings; final preparations for CALEA on-site for Academy re-accreditation.
2. Directors Reports:
 - a. Basic Training – Information provided in the packet
 - b. In-Service Training – Information provided in the packet
3. Accreditation Manager's Report – William Tanner - nothing to add, materials are in the Council packets.
4. Compliance Officer's Report – William Tanner had nothing to add.
5. Audit Reports – in packet
6. Correspondence – Bryant case and in packet

Mr. Steve Sarnoski comments, in regards to Bryant case, retroactivity of 7-291c (requirement if a person has resigned or retired under a cloud while being investigated could not be hired).

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Update on the Curriculum Task Force – Chief Mello & Commissioner Schriro

Chief Mello – as a result of legislation earlier, the legislature created a Law Enforcement Task Force to study Police Training and Education. Commissioner Schriro will be presenting at the upcoming meeting (September) for both POSTC and CSP on training. This is our opportunity to be heard and it validates what we are doing and how well we're doing.

Commissioner Schriro – “Excellence is not a fixed point in time, it’s something to which we continually strive”. Chief Mello will be actively involved, as is Chief Flaherty, at this meeting. We’ll be telling our story.

Chief Mello provides a summary of the Task Force meetings and opens the floor up for discussion as necessary.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request Authorization to Accept Mental Health First Aid Text Books from the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Chief Flaherty – Earlier in the spring, in conjunction with the Connecticut Business Association and Aetna Insurance, ran a train the trainer, Mental Health First Aid for law enforcement; trained 27 law enforcement officers around the state as trainers to teach the course (8 hours) at academies or teach it in the local PD's. In conjunction with offering the course, the national organization has copyrighted the Mental Health First Aid, requires that textbooks be provided to every student that attends the 8 hour course. We don't have the resources to purchase these books, but Dan Cargill who is the law enforcement liaison for Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV), stated they had some grant money they were willing to share. CCADV, using that grant money, purchased 300 textbooks for our use with our students for their use here and at the satellites. In order to accept the gift (donation), we need council authority. Along with that we would like to thank Dan and CCADV for jointly working with us and helping us out.

Chief Mello requested a motion to accept the books from CCADV; motion made by Mr. Freda and seconded by Chief Daly. The motion carried.

Chief Mello moved to adjourn the meeting; motioned by Chief Mello, seconded by Chief Daly. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Holly L. King
DESPP, Connecticut State Police
Training Academy Secretary