

POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

September 9, 2010

CONNECTICUT POLICE ACADEMY

MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT

Council Members Present: Howard L. Burling, II, Dr. Amy K. Donahue, Chief Douglas L. Dortenzio, Chief Christopher J. Edson, Captain Alaric J. Fox representing Commissioner James M. Thomas, First Selectwoman Laura L. Francis, Chief Louis J. Fusaro, Chief Robert S. Hudd, Chief Lisa Maruzo-Bolduc, Chief Anthony J. Salvatore, Sr., Chief Thomas J. Sweeney and Town Administrator John D. Ward.

Other Attendees: Thomas E. Flaherty, Executive Director, Susan E. Rainville, Director, William Schultz, Director, Ted LeMay, Certification/Accreditation Manager, William Klein, Compliance Officer, Geoffrey Anderson, Training Officer, Patrick M. Ahlquist, Training Officer and Pamela Hayes, Executive Director, Connecticut Police Chiefs Association.

Council Members Absent: Mr. Kurt P. Cavanaugh, Officer William C. Curwen, Jr. Chief State's Attorney Kevin T. Kane, Special Agent in Charge Kimberly K. Mertz, Chief Harry W. Rilling, James N. Tallberg, Esq. and Commissioner James M. Thomas.

CALL TO ORDER

Chief Anthony Salvatore, Council Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

ADDITION TO THE MEETING AGENDA

Chief Dortenzio moved to add one item to the meeting agenda under Certification Committee, Request for Comparative Certification, new item #6 – Christopher G. Arciero – Canton Police Department, seconded by Chief Sweeney. The motion carried.

MINUTES

Chief Fusaro moved to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2010 meeting, seconded by Chief Maruzo-Bolduc. The motion carried.

CHIEFS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pamela Hayes, Executive Director of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association was recognized by Chairman Salvatore and she reported that Council Member Chief Edson had a legislative issue that he wished to bring to the Chair's attention. In that this issue did not involve Council

business, Chairman Salvatore indicated that he would discuss the issue with Chief Edson after the meeting.

Consideration of Proposed Meeting Dates – 2011

Chief Maruzo-Bolduc moved to adopt the Meeting Dates for 2010 as proposed, seconded by Chief Fusaro. The motion carried.

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Request for Comparative Certification

Tobin Hensgen – New Haven Police Department

Chief Dortenzio, Chair of the Certification Committee, presented the request of the City of New Haven on behalf of Tobin Hensgen for a certificate of comparative compliance. Tobin Hensgen was previously employed by the Chicago, Illinois Police Department for 16 years commencing June, 1992 to October, 2008 retiring at the rank of Police Officer. Tobin Hensgen was appointed as an Assistant Chief with the New Haven Police Department on June 4, 2010. Assistant Chief Hensgen has met the entry level standards for appointment as set forth in Council Regulations.

Chief Dortenzio moved to approve the request of the City of New Haven Police Department for a certificate of comparative compliance on behalf of Tobin Hensgen, subject to his successful completion of 17 specific courses, seconded by Chief Sweeney. The motion carried.

Thomas Wheeler, Jr. – New Haven Police Department

Chief Dortenzio, Chair of the Certification Committee, presented the request of the City of New Haven Police Department on behalf of Thomas Wheeler, Jr. for a certificate of comparative compliance. Thomas Wheeler, Jr. was previously employed by the Chicago, Illinois Police Department for twenty nine years commencing October 1976 to November 2005 retiring at the rank of Commander of the Area Two Detective Division. Thomas Wheeler, Jr. was appointed as an Assistant Chief with the New Haven Police Department on June 4, 2010. Thomas Wheeler, Jr. has met the entry level standards for appointment as set forth in Council Regulations.

Chief Dortenzio moved to approve the request of the City of New Haven Police Department for a certificate of comparative compliance on behalf of Thomas Wheeler, Jr., subject to his successful completion of 16 specific courses, seconded by Chief Edson. The motion carried.

Kimberly Sweeney - Norwich Police Department

Chief Dortenzio, Chair of the Certification Committee, presented the request of the Norwich Police Department on behalf of Kimberly Sweeney for a certificate of comparative compliance. Kimberly Sweeney currently serves as a Police Officer for the Arlington County, Virginia Police Department. She was appointed to that position in October, 2005 and she is expected to be appointed on or about October 18, 2010 as a Norwich Police Officer.

Chief Dortenzio moved to approve the recommendation of the Certification Committee. The motion was "The Certification Committee recommends that Kimberly Sweeney shall have met the entry level standards for appointment prior to being employed, as set forth in Council regulations, to approve the request of the Norwich Police Department for a certificate of comparative compliance on behalf of Kimberly Sweeney, subject to her successful completion of 20 specific courses, seconded by Chief Maruzo-Bolduc. The motion carried. Chief Fusaro abstained.

Eric Ladyga –Norwich Police Department

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented the request of the Norwich Police Department on behalf of Eric Ladyga for a Certificate of Comparative Compliance. Eric Ladyga currently serves as a police officer with the Arlington County, Virginia Police Department and was appointed to that position in December, 2006. He is expected to be appointed as a Norwich Police Officer on or about October 18, 2010.

Chief Dortenzio moved to approve the recommendation of the Certification Committee. The motion was "The Certification Committee recommends that Eric Ladyga shall have met the entry level standards for appointment prior to being employed, as set forth in Council regulations and to approve the request of the Norwich Police Department for a certificate of comparative compliance on behalf of Eric Ladyga, subject to his successful completion of 20 specific courses, seconded by Mr. Howard Burling. The motion carried. Chief Fusaro abstained.

Eric Ryan Lemke – New Milford Police Department

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented the request of the New Milford Police Department on behalf of Eric Ryan Lemke for a Certificate of Comparative Compliance. Eric Lemke formerly served as a Deputy Sheriff with the Fauquier County Sheriff's Office, Warrenton, Virginia from December, 1996 to August, 2004. He then became a police officer with the Alexandria, Virginia Police Department until September, 2009. He is expected to be appointed as a police officer in the New Milford Police Department on or about September 13, 2010.

Chief Dortenzio moved to approve the recommendation of the Certification Committee. The motion was "The Certification Committee recommends that Eric Ryan Lemke shall have met the entry level standards for appointment prior to being employed, as set forth in Council regulations and to approve the request of the New Milford Police Department for a certificate of comparative compliance on behalf of Eric Ryan Lemke, subject to his successful completion of 20 specific courses, seconded by Chief Fusaro. The motion carried.

Christopher G. Arciero – Canton Police Department

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented the request of the Canton Police Department on behalf of Christopher G. Arciero for a Certificate of Comparative Compliance. Christopher G. Arciero was conditionally appointed as the Chief of Police for the

Town of Canton on September 1, 2010 scheduled to be sworn in on or about September 20, 2010. He is currently employed as a Lieutenant Colonel with the Connecticut State Police and has been so employed for the last twenty eight years, commencing on November 15, 1982.

Chief Dortenzio moved to approve the recommendation of the Certification Committee. The motion was that "Christopher G. Arciero shall have met the entry level standards for appointment prior to employment subject to Council regulations and to approve the request of the Town of Canton Police Department on behalf of Christopher G. Arciero for a certificate of comparative compliance subject to his successful completion of 7 specific courses, seconded by Chief Sweeney. The motion carried.

Consideration of the Appointment of Special Police Officers by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council and Recertification as Police Officers.

Geoffrey M. Anderson – Police Officer Standards and Training Council

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented the request of the Executive Director to appoint Geoffrey M. Anderson as a Special Police Officer and to recertify him as a Police Officer. Geoffrey M. Anderson was hired as a Police Officer in June, 1980 by the Avon Police Department. In August, 1982, he transferred to the Newington Police Department where he served until May 18, 2005, a total of 23 years retiring at the rank of Sergeant. Sgt. Anderson then joined the New Britain Fire Department while maintaining his Instructor Certification working as a part time Police Instructor. Geoffrey M. Anderson has complied with all entry level standards for appointment pursuant to Council regulations.

Chief Dortenzio moved to approve the recommendation of the Certification Committee specifically that Geoffrey M. Anderson at the request of the Executive Director be appointed as a Special Police Officer and that he be recertified as a Police Officer subject to successful completion of 5 specific courses, seconded by Chief Fusaro. The motion carried.

Patrick Ahlquist – Police Officer Standards and Training Council

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented the request of the Executive Director to appoint Patrick Ahlquist as a Special Police Office and to recertify him as a Police Officer. Patrick Ahlquist, from February 1979 to November 1980 was a police officer in Middletown, Connecticut. In October 1982, he was hired as a police officer with the Cromwell Police Department and served for twenty five years until his retirement in November, 2007 at the rank of Sergeant. From April 2008 until February 2009, he served as an investigator with the State's Attorney's Consumer Protection Unit. In February, 2009, Patrick Ahlquist was hired by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council as a Part Time Night Duty Officer. Patrick Ahlquist has complied with all entry level standards for appointment pursuant to Council regulations.

Chief Dortenzio moved to approve the recommendation of the Certification Committee specifically that Patrick Ahlquist at the request of the Executive Director be appointed as a

Special Police Officer and that he be recertified as a Police Officer subject to successful completion of 2 specific courses, seconded by Mr. Howard Burling. The motion carried.

Chairman Salvatore offered congratulations to Geoffrey Anderson and Patrick Ahlquist on behalf of the entire Council and then swore them both in as Special Police Officers for the Police Officer Standards and Training Council. Their badges were presented by the Director of Basic Training William Schultz.

Consideration of the Decertification as Police Officers

William R. Edwards – Former New London Police Officer

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented this matter to the full Council on behalf of the Committee. William R. Edwards was certified by POSTC on July 8, 1988 and served with the New London Police Department for over twenty years until his termination on March 9, 2009. On January 22, 2009, Edwards was arrested on an arrest warrant by the Connecticut State Police and charged with Tampering with a Witness in violation of Sec. 53a-151 (a Class C. Felony) and Risk of Injury or Impairing the Morals of a Child in violation of Sec. 53a-21 (a)(1) (also a Class C Felony). On November 5, 2009, Edwards pled guilty to both charges in Danielson Superior Court and was sentenced on December 21, 2009 to a term of five years incarceration suspended after 1 year and 10 years probation. This guilty plea was verified by a Certified Copy Attesting to a Felony judgment and Commitment Order from the State of Connecticut, Superior Court Records Center.

Chief Dortenzio moved to adopt the recommendation of the Certification Committee to revoke the Police Officer Certification of William R. Edwards under the authority of Section 7-294d(22)(c)(1)(2)(D) CGS; specifically the holder has been convicted of two felony counts by the Superior Court of Connecticut, seconded by Chief Maruzo-Bolduc. The motion carried.

Francis P. Brevetti – Former Waterbury Police Officer

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented this matter to the full Council on behalf of the Committee. Francis P. Brevetti was certified by POSTC on April 5, 2006 and served with the Waterbury Police Department for over three years until his termination on September 30, 2009. Brevetti was arrested on September 24, 2009 by the Watertown Police Department on an arrest warrant issued in Superior Court on several charges including Tampering with Physical Evidence in violation of Sec. 53a-155 (Class D Felony) and Possession of Controlled Substances less than Four Ounces of Marijuana in violation of Sec. 21a-279(c) (a Misdemeanor). He pled guilty to both charges on April 21, 2010 in Waterbury Superior Court and received a three year suspended sentence and three years probation on the felony charge and an unconditional discharge for the marijuana charge. Brevetti was also the subject of an internal affairs investigation and on September 29, 2009, he was found to have violated seven department rules and regulations which included a violation of the Agency Evidence Control policy and Withholding Evidence which states “Members shall not fabricate, withhold or destroy evidence”.

Chief Dortenzio moved to adopt the recommendation of the Certification Committee to revoke the Police Officer Certification of Francis P. Brevetti under the authority of Sec. 7-294d(22)(c)(1)(2)(D) – Conviction of a Felony and Sec. 7-294d(22)(C)(1)(2)(I) – “the holder has been found by a law enforcement unit, pursuant to procedures established by such unit, to have committed any act that would constitute tampering with or fabricating physical evidence in violation of Sec. 53a-155, seconded by Chief Fusaro. The motion carried.

Refusal to Recertify as a Police Officer

Andrea L. Ansaldo – New Haven Police Department

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented this issue on behalf of the Committee. Andrea L. Ansaldo’s certification expired on June 30, 2010. The Certification Division had no record that she had complied with her triennial recertification requirements or had been granted any extensions. She was notified via letter received by her on July 6, 2010 notifying her of her deficiency and advising her of her due process rights to a hearing. She requested a hearing and then requested a postponement. An adjudicative hearing was conducted on August 19, 2010 by the Executive Director. The Executive Director concluded that Andrea L. Ansaldo had failed to receive the required training by June 30, 2010. On the date of the Hearing Andrea L. Ansaldo produced documentation that she had completed the required training prior to the beginning of the adjudicative process.

Chief Dortenzio moved to refuse to recertify Andrea L. Ansaldo as a Police Officer in the State of Connecticut noting that her certification expired midnight June 30, 2010 and she failed to meet her training obligation as required by Sec. 7-294e-14(b)(2) and (c)(1), seconded by Chief Fusaro. The motion carried.

Consideration of the Recertification as a Police Officer

Andrea L. Ansaldo – New Haven Police Department

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented this recommendation to the full Council in this matter. Andrea L. Ansaldo, although she failed to complete her required training prior to midnight on June 30, 2010 had since then completed the required training prior to the beginning of administrative proceedings, namely the hearing on August 19, 2010. Documents were produced at the Hearing confirming that training had been completed.

Chief Dortenzio moved to approve the recertification of Andrea L. Ansaldo as a Police Officer with the record indicating that her certification lapsed on June 30, 2010 and that she was not certified between July 1, 2010 and September 9, 2010 at 9:30 A.M. for Failure to meet Council regulations Sec. 7-294e-14(b)(2) and (c)(1), seconded by Chief Fusaro. The motion carried.

Request for Extension of Probationary Status

Kyle Mallory – New Haven Police Department

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented the request of the New Haven Police Department for an extension of Probationary status on behalf of Kyle Mallory. Mallory was appointed a Probationary Candidate on September 8, 2009 and completed the 171st Training Session at the New Haven Police Academy. Officer Mallory was taken seriously ill which required medical leave for treatment. Officer Mallory is presently incapable of neither performing police duties nor completing his field training requirement. An initial three month extension is requested with the endorsement of Chief Frank Limon.

Chief Dortenzio moved to approve an extension of probationary candidate status to Officer Kyle Mallory, New Haven Police Department for the purposes of completing the FTO program for three months to end December 27, 2010, seconded by Chief Maruzo-Bolduc. The motion carried.

Jason McConnell – New Haven Police Department

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented the request of the New Haven Police Department for an extension of Probationary status on behalf of Jason McConnell. McConnell was appointed a Probationary Candidate on September 8, 2009 and completed the 171st Training Session at the New Haven Police Academy. Off. McConnell was unable to take the mandated Cooper Standards physical fitness test while at the training academy due to an injury and after graduation sustained an off duty injury to his knee and at the current time, he is incapable of performing police duties and is still unable to take the Cooper Standards test as required. An initial three month extension is requested with the endorsement of Executive Training Officer, Sergeant David Sydnor, New Haven Police Department.

Chief Dortenzio moved to approve an extension of probationary candidate status to Officer Jason McConnell, New Haven Police Department for the purpose of completing the physical fitness requirement for three months to end December 27, 2010, seconded by Chief Fusaro. The motion carried.

Michael L. Luzzi, Jr. – Orange Police Department

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented the request of the Orange Police Department for an extension of Probationary status on behalf of Michael L. Luzzi, Jr. Michael L. Luzzi, Jr. was appointed a probationary candidate on October 23, 2009 and successfully completed the 327th Training Session at the Connecticut Police Academy. Officer Luzzi was unable to take the mandated Cooper Standards physical fitness test while at the Academy due to an injury and after graduation sustained another injury to his hip which may require surgery. At the current time, Off. Luzzi is incapable of performing police duties. An initial three month extension is requested with the endorsement of Chief Robert Gagne, Orange Police Department.

Chief Dortenzio moved to approve an extension of probationary candidate statue to Officer Michael L. Luzzi, Jr., Orange Police Department for the purpose of completing the physical fitness requirement for three months to end January 28, 2011, seconded by Chief Fusaro. The motion carried.

Application to Commence a Basic Police Training Academy

Milford Police Department

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented a request to commence a basic police training academy from Chief Keith L. Mello, Milford Police Department. Chief Keith L. Mello requested permission to conduct a Basic Police Officer Recruit Training Academy at the Milford Police Department to commence on or about September 13, 2010 with a maximum of thirty recruits from his own department and at least eight other police departments from the region. Certification staff conducted an onsite inspection and found that the Milford Academy was in compliance with 80 criteria areas.

Chief Dortenzio moved that the request of the Milford Police Department to operate a Police Officer Basic Training Academy to begin on or about September 13, 2010 for a maximum of 30 Recruits be approved subject to compliance with seven enumerated conditions, seconded by Chief Fusaro. The motion carried.

Amendment to Criteria for POSTC Certified Instructors

Area 301B (Patrol Rifle and a Requirement that this course be taught at least once a year for certified Instructors)

Chief Dortenzio, Chairman of the Certification Committee presented the recommendation to the full Council. The Certification Committee seeks to publish General Notice 10-02 on the POSTC website after approval by the Council which would require Patrol Rifle Instructors to teach at least one class per year.

Chief Dortenzio moved that the General Notice 10-02 be approved by the Council and published on the POSTC website, seconded by Chief Edson. The motion carried.

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Accreditation Manager Ted LeMay noted that there was nothing to report this meeting from the Accreditation Committee.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Report on the Status of On Line Training

Chief Sweeney, Chairman of the Curriculum Committee reported that the Committee had met with Curriculum Manager Tim Coon to discuss the entire issue forwarded to POSTC by the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association who had received a request from the Maine Police Chief's Association to consider joining them in a grant application to expand on line training to other states in New England. It was proposed at the meeting that online training be accepted for POSTC credit and Chief Sweeney generally outlined a process. He also identified several issues that needed to be resolved in terms of monitoring/tracking, quizzes built into every learning module, proctoring of exams and certificates of completion. Chief Sweeney reported that he

expected to be calling a meeting of the Committee for early October to begin formalizing work and developing a proposal for subsequent POST approval.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Flaherty reported to the Council on the following activities which have occurred since the last Council meeting:

The Academy hosted visits and tours for the West Hartford College Police Academy and the FBI National Academy Youth Leadership Program.

The Executive Director attended the Curriculum Committee meeting.

Mrs. Rainville and the Executive Director met with Johnette Tolliver, the Agency Affirmative Action Officer to finalize the annual Affirmative Action plan which will be presented to CHRO in October.

The Executive Director and staff met with State Representative Altobello and a constituent as well as a representative from Meriden City government to discuss the constituent's complaint of noise being generated by the Firearms Range. Subsequently, two Department of Transportation personnel visited the Academy ground to examine the range and monitor any noise that could be heard at the constituent's location. They will be generating a written report after readings with a decibel meter.

The Executive Director met with Mr. Ed Murray, a Regional Trainer for the Dept. of Emergency Management and Homeland Security to discuss participation in an emergency exercise in Fairfield County in 2011.

The Executive Director, Mrs. Rainville and Tim Coon met with Deputy Commissioner Betsy Hard of the Dept. of Emergency Management and Homeland Security to discuss training opportunities that they might be able to fund.

The Executive Director attended CPCA meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors.

The Executive Director conducted a hearing in the matter of Andrea L. Ansaldo, New Haven Police Department.

The Executive Director, Mrs. Rainville and staff met with Marie Rosales, our financial representative from DAS regarding our next two year budget.

The Executive Director and Training Officer Konesky met with Lt. Col. Chris Arciero and his staff regarding facility security.

The Executive Director met with Chief Kevin Searles of the Windsor Police Dept. to discuss combining the POSTC written policy on Missing Persons with an addition that came from the Amber Alert Committee.

The Executive Director attended the annual Legal Update Training at the Chief State's Attorneys Officer as well as a Certification Committee Meeting at the Academy.

The Executive Director and Training Officer Konesky met with a Training Committee from the state's colleges and universities on a grant they have received to provide domestic violence training to college police and security departments.

BASIC TRAINING DIVISION REPORT

William Schultz, Director of Basic Training, reported that there are two full time Basic classes in session. The 329th Training Session began on April 16, 2010 with Thirty nine Recruit Officers and is scheduled to graduate on September 22, 2010.

The 330th Session began on August 22, 2010 with Forty Six Recruit Officers with graduation anticipated in late January, 2011.

IN-SERVICE TRAINING DIVISION REPORT

Susan Rainville, Director of the Field Services Training Division indicated that the Divisions Training Operations Report for June, 2010 to September, 2010 was included in the Council Package for this meeting. Director Rainville reviewed the POSTC Training Calendar for August, 2010 to December, 2010 providing a description of the important offerings and the projected attendance. Director Rainville discussed a selection of additional courses that she and her staff have been able to offer in addition to the current course calendar.

She also reported to the Council that the Annual Digest of Administrative Reports to the Governor was in the Council's packages and noted the statistics for the Field Services Division, highly praising her staff for their accomplishments given the limited budget that the Agency has available and the volume of classes that has been provided.

ACCREDITATION MANAGER'S REPORT

Ted LeMay reported that he was working on gathering proofs of compliance for the POSTC Academy CALEA re-accreditation on site due in December, 2010. He further reported that survey has been distributed to the Connecticut Chiefs of Police by email and we are awaiting responses. One Agency is scheduled for a re-accreditation Tier III assessment in September on the 14th and 15th.

COMPLIANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

William Klein gave a certification division report to the Council. He briefed the Council on his Audit of the Thomaston Police Department and the positive steps that Chief Torrance has taken to eliminate the deficiencies. Mr. Klein reported that his Audit and Inspection reports were included in the Councilor's packages.

Mr. Klein provided a detailed report on the status of an resolution of certification issues with the Metropolitan Transit Authority Police who work in Connecticut in concert with Assistant Attorney General Stephen Sarnoski's written opinion.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Salvatore reported that there were several items of correspondence included in the Council Package for review including;

A letter from Dr. Richard Ward, University of New Haven, Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences thanking staff for hosting the Polish Police Delegation for a visit and tour.

A letter from the Joint Committee on Legislative Management, Executive Director D'Ann Mazzocca thanking this Agency for assisting them in the process of selecting a new Capitol Police Chief.

An email to Tim Coon from Sgt. David Hatheway, Vernon Police Department recounting how his critical incident response training was recently employed.

An email to Mrs. Rainville nominating her for the Patriot Award for supporting Tim Coon while recently activated.

An email from Officer Rob Riccobon, West Hartford police department thanking POST for its support of their Behind the Badge College Police Academy.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the Council.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to come before the Council.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:35 a.m., A Motion was made by Chief Dortenzio to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Chief Fusaro. The motion carried

Thomas E. Flaherty

Executive Director