



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
Police Officer Standards and Training Council
Connecticut Police Academy

POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

March 6, 2014

CONNECTICUT POLICE ACADEMY

MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT

Council Member Present: Chairman-Chief Anthony J. Salvatore, Sr.; Garvin Ambrose; Justice David Borden; Howard L. Burling, II; Kurt P. Cavanaugh; Chief John Daly; Special Agent in Charge, F.B.I. Patricia Ferrick; Town Administrator Michael Freda; Chief Ronnell Higgins; Chief State's Attorney Kevin T. Kane; Chief Duane Lovello; Chief Michael Maniago; and James N. Tallberg, Esq.

Other Attendees: Police Academy Administrator Thomas E. Flaherty; Pamela Hayes, CPCA; Certification/Compliance Officer William Klein; Ted LeMay; Director of Field Services Susan E. Rainville; Chief Mathew Reed, South Windsor Police Department; Director of Basic Training William J. Schultz; Steven Spellman, Commissioner's Chief of Staff, Assistant Attorney General DeAnn Varunes

Council Members Absent: Officer William Brevard; Dr. Amy K. Donahue; Chief Dean M. Esserman; First Selectman Lawrence K. Groh; Chief Lisa Maruzo-Bolduc; Chief Keith Mello; Commissioner Dora B. Schriro, DESPP

CALL TO ORDER

Chief Anthony Salvatore, Sr. Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM. Chief noted that an amended agenda had been added to the members' day packets.

ACTION ITEMS

CALEA Internationally Accredited Public Safety Training Academy

285 Preston Avenue • Meriden, Connecticut 06450-4891

An Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

AMENDED AGENDA

Chief Maniago moved to approve the amended Agenda as submitted, seconded by Cavanaugh. The motion carried.

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 9, 2014 MEETING

Justice Borden moved to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2014 meeting as submitted, seconded by Daly. The motion carried.

CHIEFS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from Chiefs or the Public offered.

RESOLUTIONS

Commissioner Bradford was unable to attend the council meeting, his resolution, prepared by Chief Flaherty and signed by both Chief Flaherty and Chief Salvatore was read into the record by Chief Salvatore; a copy is attached.

Ted LeMays Resolution prepared by Chief Flaherty and signed by both Chief Flaherty and Chief Salvatore was read into the record by Chief Salvatore and presented to Ted LeMay; a copy is attached. Chief Salvatore noted that “Ted played an intricate part in getting this academy accredited.” Chief Lovello commented that when new to the Council and the Accreditation committee, Ted was a great help in teaching him the accreditation process and his retiring is going to be a loss.

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Request for Comparative Certification

1. Adam Marchand – Farmington Police Department - Police Officer Position

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, stated that Mr. Marchand was appointed to the position of Police Officer with the Farmington Police Department on January 27, 2014. He served as a Vermont State Trooper for 7 years. Marchand graduated from the Vermont Police Academy in May of 2007 after receiving 12 weeks of training consisting of 803 curriculum hours. Assigned to the St. Albans Barracks where he was a Senior Trooper and Williston Barracks until his resignation. He received hundreds of hours of in service training, and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science. Chief Melanson requested a Certificate of Comparative Certification on behalf of Adam Marchand.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to grant comparative certification to Probationary Officer Marchand subject to State of Connecticut certification/recertification in NCIC/COLLECT, Intoxilyzer and the satisfactory completion of police officer training in twenty separate topics, seconded by Chief Lovello. The motion carried.

2. James R. Tilley – Hebron Police Department- Part Time Police Officer Position

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, stated that Mr. Tilley was given a conditional offer of hire as a part time Police officer with the Town of Hebron Police Department. He is in the process of fulfilling all entry-level standards. Tilley retired from the Connecticut State Police on February 28, 2013 with thirty years of service. He graduated from the Training Troop Academy in 1983 his assignments included Troop D, Resident State Trooper in Stafford Springs, Resident State Trooper in Mansfield with the last assignment as Resident State Trooper in Bolton. Prior to service with CSP he was a Constable for the Tolland Police Department and graduated from the MPT Academy in 1980. Hebron Town Manager Andrew J. Tierney requested a Certificate of Comparative Certification on behalf of James Tilley.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to grant comparative certification to Probationary Officer Tilley subject to State of Connecticut certification/recertification in NCIC/COLLECT, Intoxilyzer and the satisfactory completion of police officer training in ten separate topics, seconded by Mr. Freda. The motion carried.

3. Jose E. Claudio, Jr. – Somers Police Department – Admin. Lieutenant Position

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, stated that Jose Claudio was given a conditional offer of hire as an Administrative Lieutenant with the Somers Police Department with a prospective hire date of April 1, 2014. Claudio is currently employed with the Connecticut State Police at the Rank of Sergeant assigned as Somers Resident State Trooper Supervisor. He has been with the CSP for 23 ½ years and his assignments included Road trooper in several troops, detective assigned to Eastern District Major Crime Squad and a Sergeant assigned to Troop K as road supervisor. Somers First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini requested a Certificate of Comparative Certification on behalf of Jose Claudio, Jr.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to grant comparative certification to Probationary Officer Claudio, Jr. subject to certification/recertification in NCIC/COLLECT, Intoxilyzer and successful completion of police officer training in ten separate topics, seconded by Mr. Burling. The motion carried.

4. Scott Mazza – Somers Police Department - Police Officer Position

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, stated that Scott Mazza was given a conditional offer of hire as a Police Officer with the Somers Police Department with a prospective hire date of April 1, 2014. Mazza is currently employed with the Connecticut State Police at the Rank of Trooper assigned as Somers Resident State Trooper. He has been with the CSP 21 years. He joined the State Police in 1992, was assigned as Road Trooper in Troop C and remained there until he was assigned to his current position. Somers First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini requested a Certificate of Comparative Certification on behalf of Scott Mazza.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to grant comparative certification to Probationary Officer Mazza subject to certification/recertification in NCIC/COLLECT, Intoxilyzer and successful completion of police officer training in ten separate topics, seconded by Special Agent Ferrick. The motion carried.

5. Edwin C. Diaz – Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation PD - Police Officer Position

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, stated that Mr. Diaz was given a conditional offer of hire as a Police Officer with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation Police Department. He currently serves a Patrol Deputy with the Orange County, New York Sheriff's Office Patrol Division having been employed for the past 3 ½ years. In 2006 he retired from the New York City Police Department after 20 years. He had assignments in the Community Affairs Division training 60 recruits and was a certified instructor. Chief William Dittman requested a Certificate of Comparative Certification on behalf of Edwin Diaz.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to grant comparative certification to Probationary Officer Diaz subject to certification/recertification in NCIC/COLLECT, Intoxilyzer and successful completion of police officer training in 18 separate topics, seconded by Daly. The motion carried.

6. James R. Cole, Jr. – Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation PD - Police Officer Position

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, stated that Mr. Cole was given a conditional offer of hire as a Police Officer with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation Police Department (MPTNPD). He currently serves as a Law Enforcement Communication Officer with Mashantucket. Previously he was a certified Rhode Island Police Officer starting at the University of Rhode Island Police Department then laterally transferred to the Hopkinton, RI Police Department where he remained 15 years and retired in 2012 at the rank of Detective. Cole graduated from the RI Municipal Police Academy in 1998. Officer Chief William Dittman requested a Certificate of Comparative Certification on behalf of James Cole, Jr.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to grant comparative certification to Probationary Officer Cole subject to certification/recertification in NCIC/COLLECT, Intoxilyzer and successful completion of police officer training in 18 separate topics, seconded by Justice Borden. The motion carried.

7. Calvin Black – Manchester Police Department - Police Officer Position

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, stated that Mr. Black was given a conditional offer of hire as a Police officer with the Manchester Police Department. Probationary Officer Black is currently employed as a Police Officer with the New York City Police Department. He graduated from the New York City Police Academy in 2010 and was assigned to a New Your City precinct for patrol duties. Chief Marc Montminy requested a Certificate of Comparative Certification on behalf of Calvin Black.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to grant comparative certification to Probationary Officer Black subject to certification/recertification in NCIC/COLLECT, Intoxilyzer and successful completion of police officer training in 18 separate topics, seconded by Chief Higgins. The motion carried.

8. Brian C. Kearney – Manchester Police Department - Police Officer Position

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, stated that Brian Kearney has been given a conditional offer of hire as a Police Officer with the Manchester Police Department with a prospective hire date of April 1, 2014. Kearney graduated from the Durham Police Academy, Durham North Carolina in 2012 where he was assigned to patrol duties. Prior to that he graduated from the Massachusetts Reserve Police Academy in 2010 and served with the Hinsdale Massachusetts Police Department. Chief Marc Montminy requested a Certificate of Comparative Certification on behalf of Brain Kearney.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to grant comparative certification to Probationary Officer Kearney subject to certification/recertification in NCIC/COLLECT, Intoxilyzer and successful completion of police officer training in 18 separate topics, seconded by Mr. Kane. The motion carried.

9. Jeremy A. Powell- Ellington Police Department - Police Officer Position

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, stated that Jeremy Powell was given a conditional offer of hire as a Police Officer with the Ellington Police Department. Mr. Powell retired from the Connecticut State Police in March of 2013 with 20 years of service. He retired at the rank of Trooper and as the Administrative Resident State Trooper for the Town of East Granby. After joining the CSP in 1992 his assignments included Troop B as a Road Trooper, a School Resource Officer in the State

Technical High Schools in Manchester and New Britain, Troop H as a Road Trooper, and a Resident State Trooper in East Granby. He served as a DARE Instructor, Intoxilyzer Instructor, MRT and was a certified SCP Field Training Officer. Ellington First Selectman Maurice Blanchette requested a Certificate of Comparative Certification, on behalf of Jeremy A. Powell.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to grant comparative certification to Probationary Officer Powell subject to certification/recertification in NCIC/COLLECT, Intoxilyzer and successful completion of police officer training in 10 separate topics, seconded by Mr. Burling. The motion carried.

Revocation of Connecticut Police Officer Certifications

1. Jason Zullo – East Haven Police Department (Felony Conviction)

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, stated that Zullo was certified by this body as a police officer on January 31, 2005. On or about January 18, 2012 while a member of the East Haven Police Department Officer Zullo was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury impaneled in the District of Connecticut for Conspiracy Against Rights, in violation of 18 USC 241 and Deprivation of Rights/Using Unreasonable Force, in violation of 18 USC 242. Both charges are classified as Federal Felonies. Mr. Zullo subsequently pled guilty to a superseding indictment charging him with one count of Obstruction of Justice/Making a False Report (felony) in violation of 18 USC 1519, concerning an incident relating to a non-Hispanic defendant. On December 16, 2013 Zullo was sentenced in Federal court and received a 24- month sentence. On January 21, 2014 Certification staff sent certified mail, a Notice of Intent of Revocation of Certification. The certification committee recommends the Council to approve the revocation of Jason Zullo's Connecticut Police Officer Certification POST ID #12563.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to approve the recommendation of the Certification Committee for the revocation of Officer Zullo's Police Officer Certification effective immediately after having been convicted of a felony crime of Obstruction of Justice, in violation of Section 7-294d (2)(D), Connecticut General Statutes, seconded by Mr. Kane. The motion carried. Mr. Tallberg recused himself and abstained from voting.

2. David Cari – East Haven Police Department (Felony Convictions)

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, stated that Cari was certified by this body as a police officer on June 3, 2002. On or about January 18, 2012 while a member of the East Haven Police Department, Officer Cari was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury impaneled in the District of Connecticut for Conspiracy Against Rights, in violation of 18 USC 241, Deprivation of a Constitutionally Protected Right/False Arrest in

violation of 18 USC 242 and Falsifying a Report in violation of 18 USC 1519. Cari maintained his innocence of the charges and elected to go to trial. On October 21, 2013 Cari was found guilty of all charges by a petit jury in the District of Connecticut. On Feb. 4, 2014 Certification staff sent certified mail, a Notice of Intent of Revocation of Certification. The letter was sent to Cari's last known address, and informed him of his due process rights. He had 15 calendar days to respond or it would be deemed that his right would be waived if not heard from. The certification committee recommends the Council to approve the revocation of David M. Cari's Connecticut Police Officer Certification POST ID #11496.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to approve the recommendation of the Certification Committee for the revocation of Officer Cari's Police Officer Certification effective immediately after having been convicted of three (3) felony crimes, in violation of Section 7-294d (2)(D), Connecticut General Statutes, seconded by Mr. Ambrose. The motion carried. Mr. Tallberg recused himself and abstained from voting.

3. Dennis Spaulding – East Haven Police Department (Felony Convictions)

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, stated that Dennis Spaulding was certified by this body as a police officer on November 2, 2005. On or about January 18, 2012 while a member of the East Haven Police Department Officer Spaulding was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury impaneled in the District of Connecticut for Conspiracy Against Rights, in violation of 18 USC 241, Deprivation of a Constitutionally Protected Right/False Arrest in violation of 18 USC 242, Deprivation of a Constitutionally Protected Rights/Using Unreasonable Force Resulting in Bodily Injury in violation of 18 USC 242 and Falsifying a Report in violation of 18 USC 1519. All charges are classified as Federal felonies. Spaulding maintained his innocence of the charges and elected to go to trial. Spaulding was found guilty of all charges by a petit jury in the District of Connecticut. On January 23, 2014 Spaulding was sentenced to a term of 60- months' imprisonment, followed by one year of supervised release. On February 4, 2014 Certification staff sent certified mail, a Notice of Intent of Revocation of Certification. The certification committee recommends the Council to approve the revocation of Dennis E. Spaulding's Connecticut Police Officer Certification POST ID #12876.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to approve the recommendation of the Certification Committee for the revocation of Officer Spaulding's Police Officer Certification effective immediately after having been convicted of four (4) felony crimes, in violation of Section 7-294d (2)(D), Connecticut General Statutes, seconded by Justice Borden. The motion carried. Mr. Tallberg recused himself and abstained from voting.

4. Michael Szabo – Torrington Police Department (Departmental Charges: Making False Statements)

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, stated that Michael A. Szabo was a certified as a police officer by this body on April 12, 1999. On June 18, 2012, as a

result of a Torrington Police Department Internal Affairs Investigation, Szabo was found guilty among other charges, for violation of nine (9) counts of department General Order, Reports and Bookings, and for making nine (9) false entries into Torrington Police Department's Report Management System and for violation of nine (9) counts of department General Order, Truthfulness, concerning his untruthfulness when questioned about nine specific false/"phantom motor vehicle stops." Pursuant to Section 7-294d(2)(I), Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), the Council may cancel or revoke any certificate if 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 False Statements in the 2nd degree, in violation of 53a-157b (CGS). Pursuant to Section 7-294e-18, "Whenever the Council believes there is a reasonable basis for cancellation or revocation of the certification of a police officer...it shall give adequate opportunity for a hearing prior to such cancellation or revocation." That opportunity was given and the Certification Committee received a letter from Szabo and his POST ID card was enclosed. The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve the revocation of Michael A. Szabo's Connecticut Police Officer Certification, POST ID #10123.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to approve the recommendation of the Certification Committee for the revocation of Officer Szabo's Police Officer Certification effective immediately, for his department's finding of Making False Statements/Untruthfulness, under oath, which also violates Section 7-294d(2)(I), CGS, seconded by Chief Lovello. The motion carried. Chief Maniago abstained.

5. Jennifer Hayes – Torrington Police Department (Departmental Charges: Making False Statements)

Mr. Cavanaugh, Chairman of the Certification Committee, states that Jennifer M. Hayes was certified as a police officer by this body on December 12, 1997. On June 18, 2012, as a result of a Torrington Police Department Internal Affairs Investigation, she was found guilty among other charges for violation of three (3) counts of department General Order, Reports and Bookings, and for making three (3) false entries into Torrington Police Department's Report Management System and for violation of three (3) counts of department General Order, Truthfulness, concerning her untruthfulness when questioned about three specific false/ "phantom motor vehicle stops." Pursuant to Section 7-294d(2)(I), Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), the Council may cancel or revoke any certificate if 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 False Statements in the 2nd degree, in violation of 53a-157b (CGS). Pursuant to Section 7-294e-18, "Whenever the Council believes there is a reasonable basis for cancellation or revocation of the certification of a police officer...it shall give adequate

opportunity for a hearing prior to such cancellation or revocation.” A certified letter was sent and received by Hayes, she did not respond for a hearing. The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve the revocation of Jennifer A, Hayes’ Connecticut Police Officer Certification, POST ID #9586.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to approve the recommendation of the Certification Committee for the revocation of Officer Hayes’ Police Officer Certification effective immediately, for her department’s finding of Making False Statements/Untruthfulness, under oath, which also violates Section 7-294d(2)(1), CGS, seconded by Chief Daly. The motion carried. Chief Maniago abstained.

Application to Commence a Basic Police Recruit Training Academy

1. Waterbury Police Academy- Waterbury Police Department

Chief Vernon L. Riddick, Jr. of the Waterbury Police Department has requested a police academy for no more than thirty recruits beginning on or about April 25, 2014. They will have recruits from Waterbury as well as other local police departments. The Certification Committee recommends the council approve the application for a maximum of thirty recruits.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to accept the Waterbury Police Department’s application for a Basic Training Police Academy for a maximum of thirty recruits. Mr. Kane seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. New Haven Police Academy- New Haven Police Department

Chief Dean M. Esserman of the New Haven Police Department has requested a police academy beginning on or about March 17, 2014, not to exceed fifty applicants, including recruits from New Haven as well as other local police departments. The Certification Committee recommends the council approve the application for a maximum of fifty recruits.

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to accept the New Haven Police Department’s application for a Basic Training Police Academy for a maximum of fifty recruits. Chief Daly seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Chief Salvatore, on behalf of the council, thanks Mr. Cavanaugh, Bill Klein and the Certification Committee for the work that they have done for this meeting.

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

1. Request for Extension – Tier I – Newtown Police Department

Chief Lovello, Chair of the Accreditation Committee reported that the Newtown Police Department has been State Accredited Tier 1 since 2005. They did successfully undergo a reaccreditation in 2008 and 2011. In light of the challenges faced by Newtown and the Town of Newtown, Chief Kehoe has requested an extension of a scheduled May 2014 reaccreditation on site and asks for an extension through December 31, 2014. The Accreditation committee recommends that such extension be granted.

Chief Lovello moved that the POST Council grant an extension of Newtown's accredited status, Tier 1, with an assessment to be conducted no later than December 2014, seconded by Chief Daly. The motion carried.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Executive Director's Report

The Police Academy Administrator reported to the Council on Agency activities since the last Council meeting:

The Administrator attended a DUI Task Force meeting at DOT, the CT Law Enforcement Memorial Board of Directors meeting and the CCPA Board of Directors Meeting. . The academy received 9 replacement cruisers from DESPP for the Driver Training Program. Human Resources is working to fill the Field Program Manager/Accreditation Manager position. The Administrator requested to bring Ted LeMay back to work as Retired State Employee for 120 calendars days, he also requested authorization to bring Holly Blakely back as a temporary worker and requested two part time physical fitness instructors for basic training to replace the two instructors that are leaving. POST is In the process of replacing seats in the two main basic training classrooms, the old seats are beginning to fracture. Mrs. Rainville and the Administrator met with Dr. Lee and Stephen Shiner from the University of New Haven. They are interested in doing some joint training with POST. On February 5, 2014 the Administrator hosted a tour of the building with Commissioner Schriro and discussion of POST operations. Chief Salvatore and the Academy Administrator met with representative Dargen of the Public Safety Committee to discuss a request from State Marshalls who want to be recognized as Peace Officers and also obtain access to NCIC and COLLECT. At this time no Bill has been introduced regarding this. Ted LeMay and the Administrator attended the CCADV Law Enforcement Advisory Committee meeting, they are looking to develop a two hour block of in-service

training for Domestic Violence. POST hosted Family Night for the 344th session. The Administrator has been working with Commissioner Schriro and her staff on School Security Officers and School Safety.

2. Directors Reports

- a. **Basic Training** – Director Schultz reported to the Council on Basic Training Division activities and reviewed his written report which was distributed in the Council agenda.
- b. **Field Services** – Director Rainville briefed the Council on activities of the Field Services Division and reviewed her written reports in the Council Agenda pointing out high lights of popular classes and upcoming scheduled training sessions.

3. Accreditation Manager’s Report

Mr. Lemay reported that there are two (2) onsite assessments for CALEA Accreditation to take place within the next few months; Bristol and Wallingford.

4. Compliance Officer’s Report

Mr. Klein advised the Council that his audit and inspection reports were included in the Council’s agenda packet.

5. 6. And 7.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to come before the Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kane made a comment to ensure each State’s Attorney office is notified of the Officer’s that have been decertified.

Motion made to adjourn by Daly and seconded by several Council members. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.

***Thomas E. Flaherty
Police Academy Administrator***