

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION**

Police Officer Standards and Training Council

**Connecticut Police Academy
MINUTES OF MEETING**

January 18, 2018

**Training Academy, 285 Preston Avenue
Meriden, CONNECTICUT**

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ABRIDGED VERSION OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 18, 2018 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: Kurt P. Cavanaugh; Chief John F. Daly; Dr. Amy Donahue; Douglas Glanville; Chief Ronnell Higgins; Chief State's Attorney Kevin Kane; Chief Thomas Kulhawik; Chief Michael Maniago; Chief Keith Mello; Chief Mark Palmer; Patrick Rittmon; Commissioner Dora Schriro; Dr. Guy Vallaro; Chief James Viadero 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; Pamela Hayes, CPCA Executive Director; Chief Brian Gould – Bristol PD; Officer Jim Daniels – Bristol PD; Ellen Zappo-Sassu, Bristol Mayor; Chief William Wright – Wallingford PD; Officer Coleman Turner and Officer Caddett – Wallingford PD.

Council Members Absent: Sergeant William Brévard; Special Agent in Charge Patricia Ferrick; 1st Selectman Laura Francis; Town Administrator Michael Freda and State Victim's Advocate Natasha Pierre.

CALL TO ORDER

Chief Keith Mello, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:29 A.M. Welcome new council member, Chief Viadero of Newtown Police Department.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. MINUTES OF THE November 9, 2017 MEETING

Chief Mello requested a motion to accept the Minutes of November 9, 2017 Meeting as submitted. Motion made by Chief Daly, seconded by Chief Palmer; minutes accepted.

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE:

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

CALEA Internationally Accredited Public Safety Training Academy

285 Preston Avenue • Meriden, Connecticut 06450-4891

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1. **Bryant W. Cleveland** – Glastonbury Police Department (Officer)
The certification committee recommends the council approve the request of Director of Police Services, Thomas J. Sweeney, on behalf of Bryant W. Cleveland, for Police Officer Certification by way of a Certificate of Comparative Certification subject to State of Connecticut certification/recertification or proof of current 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; motion made by Mr. Cavanaugh, seconded by Dr. Donahue. The motion carried.

2. **Nicole M. Devlin** – East Windsor Police Department (Officer)
The certification committee recommends the council approve the request of Chief Edward DeMarco, on behalf of Nicole M. Devlin, for Police Officer Certification by way of a Certificate of Comparative Certification subject to State of Connecticut certification/recertification or proof of current 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; made by Mr. Cavanaugh, seconded by Dr. Donahue. The motion carried.

3. **Sean B. Kershaw** – Southington Police Department (Officer)
The certification committee recommends the council approve the request of Chief John Daly, on behalf of Sean Kershaw, for Police Officer Certification by way of a Certificate of Comparative Certification subject to State of Connecticut certification/recertification or proof of current 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; made by Mr. Cavanaugh, seconded by Dr. Donahue. The motion carried.

4. **Scott W. Perrin** – Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation Police Department (Officer)
The certification committee recommends the council approve the request of Chief William Dittman, on behalf of Scott W. Perrin, for Police Officer Certification by way of a Certificate of Comparative Certification subject to State of Connecticut certification/recertification or proof of current 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; made by Mr. Cavanaugh, seconded by Dr. Donahue. The motion carried.

Revocation of Police Officer Certification

1. Mark J. Diciara – Newington Police Department

The Certification Committee, recommends the Council vote to approve the immediate revocation of Mark Diciara's Connecticut Police Officer Certification (Certificate) POST ID 8048 for being found (Pled) guilty of a Felony in violation of Section 7-294d (2) (I), of the Connecticut General Statutes. Motion made by Mr. Cavanaugh seconded by Chief Kulhawik. Motion carried.

2. Jaime Longolucco – Norwich Police Department

The Certification Committee, recommends the Council vote to approve the immediate revocation of Jaime Longolucco's Connecticut Police Officer Certification (Certificate) POST ID 10404 for being found (pleading) guilty of two felonies in violation of Section 7-294d (2) (I), of the Connecticut General Statutes. Motion made by Mr. Cavanaugh seconded by Chief Daly. Motion carried.

Basic Training Academy Applications

1. Bridgeport Police Academy – Bridgeport Police Department

The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve the Bridgeport Police Department's application to commence a Basic Police Officer Recruit Training Academy for a maximum of forty (40) recruits noting items 1-12; motion made by Mr. Cavanaugh seconded by Mr. Kane. Motion carried.

2. Hartford Police Academy – Hartford Police Department

The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve the Hartford Police Department's application to commence a Basic Police Officer Recruit Training Academy for a maximum of forty-eight (48) recruits noting items 1-12; motion made by Mr. Cavanaugh seconded by Mr. Kane. Motion carried.

3. New Haven Police Academy – New Haven Police Department

The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve the New Haven Police Department's application to commence a Basic Police Officer Recruit Training Academy for a maximum of forty (40) recruits noting items 1-12; motion made by Mr. Cavanaugh seconded by Mr. Kane. Motion carried.

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE:

1. Tier I Re-Accreditation – Bristol Police Department

Bristol Police Department, currently under the command of Chief Brian Gould has been accredited since 2014. On December 15, 2017 a team of State Assessors met and completed an assessment of the Tier I State Accreditation Standards and found the agency in compliance with 118 applicable standards, 8 standards were non-applicable. In conclusion, based upon the file review and physical inspection, Bristol 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 confer Tier I Connecticut State reaccreditation to the Bristol Police Department, seconded by Chief Palmer. The motion carried.

2. Tier III Re-Accreditation – Wallingford Police Department

Wallingford Police Department, currently under the command of Chief William Wright has been accredited since 2008. On November 3, 2017 and December 8, 2017 a team of State Assessors met and completed an assessment of the Tier III State Accreditation Standards. They found the agency in compliance with 305 applicable standards, 21 standards were non-applicable and they chose the 5% option on 1 additional standard. In conclusion, based upon the file review and physical inspection, the Wallingford 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 confer Tier III Connecticut State Accreditation to the Wallingford Police Department, seconded by Chief Higgins. The motion carried.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Executive Director's Report
Chief Flaherty, Police Academy Administrator – Since last meeting attended CALEA Conference November 15-18, 2017 with William Tanner; Bill made arrangements to change the system over to Power DMS; we have a request into Commissioner for a part-time clerk typist; Commissioner secured authorization from OPM to fill a Secretary 1 Basic Training; Final meeting for Curriculum Task Force attended with Commissioner and Chief Mello; Attended CT Coalition Domestic Violence – Family Violence Dual Arrest Committee.
2. Directors Reports, William Schultz:
 - a. Basic Training – (Information provided in the packet)
 - 358th Session graduated December 21, 2017 with 49 graduates
 - 359th Training Session began on October 6, 2017 currently has 41 recruits; set to graduate on March 28, 2018
 - 360th Training Session began on December 29, 2017 currently has 49 recruits; set to graduate on June 12, 2018
 - 361st Training Session set to begin on April 6, 2018
 - b. In-Service Training – Information provided in the packet
3. Accreditation Manager's Report – William Tanner (materials are in the Council packets)
4. Compliance Officer's Report – William Tanner (materials are in the Council packets); only comment regarding the excel spreadsheet put together in regards to "Deaths" – 3 were suicides (possibly 4), others were cancer.
5. Audit Reports – in packet
6. Correspondence – in packet; Letter regarding POSTC awarded CALEA TA Accreditation effective March 15, 2017 for the fourth time; Letter regarding UCONN and University of Connecticut Health Center (UCHC) Police Departments merge to one department (The

University of Connecticut Police Department) effective 1/1/2018, Chief Rhynhart to remain as the Chief of Police for the Department

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Sub-Committee Report (Various Issues) – Chief Maniago
Chief Maniago

Electronic Defense Weapon Analysis and Findings, 2015

Action Committee – **Chief Maniago** (chair) reviews CEW Report and the recommendations given; Questions they have:

What is going to be done with information if/when they get it? Opposition to the report being sent in, just submit a taser use, no other use of force info? Modify the CEW report to add certain type of information necessary, but not include medical conditions? What are the best practices in use today (making sure the forms reflect that)? Is CCSU Qualified to judge use of force? Information being sought is not required by state statute. Should we slow down and take a look at what we are asked to turn in? Do we not turn it in at all? Do we want to look like we are engaged or if we don't turn in information are we looked at like we are being resistant? How do we correct under reporting? Is there apathy in reporting? How many tasers does each department deploy per shift? How can we come up with information when there are so many discrepancies in how many tasers each department uses?

The committee is meeting after this meeting, will try to answer the questions and report back to all of you.

Chief Mello – Final Meeting of Law Enforcement Task Force Training & Education in December; draft report has been finalized, but not voted on by Task Force; Recommendations:

- 1) Tier 1 Accreditation Mandate (would require legislation and additional staff at POST)
- 2) Commuter Class (Municipal and CSP)
- 3) Study current stress model of training versus a collegiate model (assurance given that we would take a comprehensive look at each)
 - a. Stress Model “Warrior vs Guardian” – we don't use that terminology
 - b. Current model - Collegiate more relaxed
- 4) Collaborate with Colleges/Universities in state to provide training opportunity (for recruits and certified police officers, 2 fold); teach/instruct at recruit and certified level
- 5) Mandatory Training for new supervisors (First Line Supervisor class); Lieutenants – Mid management training, which we have although it's not mandatory
- 6) Adopt statewide Officer Performance Evaluation Standard

Review and see where we should focus from the above recommendations:

- 1) Prepare and determine what Tier 1 Accreditation looks like; Request that Action Committee collaborate with Accreditation Committee and get back to us by May meeting
- 2) Develop strategy for a commuter class; Chief Flaherty to bring a strategy back to us by the May meeting – convert one of the classes from a residential to a commuter class; once we complete that class and that class graduates we can then study the impact. What impact did it have financially? What impact in resources? Were there any deviations in test scores? Then take a look at where to go in the future.

- 3) & #4) These 2 recommendations will take more time; maybe look at these in Fall or maybe beginning of next calendar year
- 4) “
- 5) & #6) Mandatory Training for new sergeants and lieutenants and the Adoption of Officer Performance Evaluation Standards; those are 2 things we may want to consider for our Tier 1 Accreditation; we may want to include these in our Tier 1 Accreditation if not we can also take a look at later in calendar year
- 6) “

Discussion on the above (*Chief Mello's response to council views*):

- Tier 1 is up to Legislative Process not necessarily the council as to whether communities in Connecticut can adhere, afford and go through the process to become Tier 1 Accredited
- If not accredited, would it create a punitive effect; *Punative Sanctions* → we are opposed to that and not really interested in doing that; it may be introduced in legislation
- Does any other state have this requirement? We already mandate certain policies, this would be an additional mandate and instead of legislature telling us, we take control ourselves and adhere to them; they may not call it “Accreditation”, but other states have mandates similar to what we have.

Mr. Sarnoski – Has the committee given thought to what degree if any of “Civil Liability” would be created by “identifying” best practices that become mandatory. Doing this may create a degree of potential civil liability which doesn’t now exist

Chief Daly – another unfunded mandate putting down on the departments

Chief Mello – Best Practices are necessary; Accreditation can enhance your defense in a liability case; that may be the punitive sanction that this incentive as a CEO or First Selectman, we need to adhere to these standards otherwise we open ourselves up to liability

Chief Kulhawik – we can craft a Tier 1 set of standards – not looking at a CALEA model for everyone here, we may run into funding; but not difficult for Agency (even small ones) to accomplish

Chief Mello - Nothing can occur without additional staff and funding

Commissioner Schriro – We are fundamentally committed to Accreditation as a council; we will head off legislation

Chief Mello - this puts the CPCA lobbyist in stronger position and we would get less resistance with this model than if we were trying to oppose legislation without this model

Chief Kulhawik – Body Worn Task Force – there was a complaint, is at a stand-still? *Chief Mello* responded that it hasn’t met yet. We appointed our representative

Dr. Donahue – Action Committee – the agenda expanded quite a bit, do we have enough hands?

Chief Kulhawik – suggest that Accreditation Committee to look at it then report back to the full sub committee

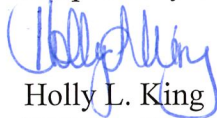
NEW BUSINESS:

Nothing at this time

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

The meeting was adjourned at 1013 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



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