



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION

Police Officer Standards and Training Council

Connecticut Police Academy

MINUTES OF MEETING

September 13, 2018

Training Academy, 285 Preston Avenue

Meriden, CONNECTICUT

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ABRIDGED VERSION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 13, 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; 1st Selectman Laura Francis; Town Administrator Michael Freda; Douglas Glanville; Chief Ronnell Higgins; Chief State's Attorney Kevin Kane; Chief Thomas Kulhawik; Chief Keith Mello; Chief Mark Palmer; Chief Vernon Riddick, Jr.; 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 DeAnn Varunes; Stephen McEleney, Atty for Hat City Local, CACP; Donald Parker, UNH PD; Shaun McColgan, Danbury PD; Christopher Engler, Attorney for City of Danbury; Amber Rush, Records Specialist; Chief Paul Melanson; Marina Darila, Accreditation Coordinator; Marc Fasano, POST Accreditation Compliance Officer; Chris Belair (civilian); Chief Brett Mahoney, Waterford; Detective Michael Reo, Danbury; Detective Justin Williams, Danbury PD and Lieutenant Patrick Buckley, Farmington PD.

Council Members Absent: Dr. Amy Donahue; State Victim's Advocate Natasha Pierre; Patrick Rittmon and Special Agent in Charge Brian C. Turner.

CALL TO ORDER

Chief Keith Mello, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 0930 A.M.

Welcome Chief Vernon Riddick, Jr., of West Hartford PD and Mark Fasano, POST Staff managing CALEA and Law Enforcement Standards and Practices Program, new program as of this year.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. AMENDED AGENDA

Chief Mello requested a motion to accept the Amended Agenda for September 13, 2018 Meeting. Motion made by Chief Daly, seconded by Chief Kulhawik.

2. MINUTES OF THE May 10, 2018 MEETING

Chief Mello requested a motion to accept the Minutes of May 10, 2018 Meeting as submitted. Motion made by Chief Riddick, seconded by Mr. Freda; motion passes.

CALEA Internationally Accredited Public Safety Training Academy

285 Preston Avenue • Meriden, Connecticut 06450-4891

An Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

3. MINUTES OF THE July 26, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING

Chief Mello requested a motion to accept the Minutes of July 26, 2018 Special Meeting as submitted. Motion made by Chief Kulhawik, seconded by Chief Daly; motion passes.

4. **Chiefs or Public Comment** – Steve McEleney Attorney representing the Hat City Local CACP on behalf of the local and Officer Belair

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE:

Request for a Certificate of Comparative Certification

1. Michael P. Alogna – North Haven Police Department (Police Officer)
2. Robert G. Janco – New Hartford Police Department (Police Officer)
3. William A. Kelly – North Haven Police Department (Police Officer)
4. Paul M. McElroy – Killingly Police Department (Police Officer)
5. Patrick J. Meehan – Cheshire Police Department (Police Officer)
6. Raymond Rodriguez – Waterford Police Department (Police Officer)
7. Gustavo A. Salas – Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation PD (Police Officer)
8. Aaron R. West – Windsor Police Department (Police Officer)
9. Eric Chapdelaine – Newington Police Department (Police Officer)

The certification committee has reviewed the applications and moves that the council approve these certificates of Comparative Certification consistent with the 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 Chief Daly. The motion passes.

Recertification of Police Officer

1. Christopher Belair – Danbury Police Department (Tabled on July 26, 2018)
Motion made by Chief Daly, seconded by Mr. Kane to bring the discussion requiring Mr. Belair to attend the academy for training from the table back onto the floor.
*The certification committee recommends that **Christopher Belair be required to attend a Basic Police Recruit Training Academy at the current tuition rate. Prior to entry in the Recruit Academy, Belair will be required to obtain a medical release and meet all entry level requirements as is standard procedure for all Basic Academy attendees, with the following exceptions; written examination, interview, and entry Cooper standards; also noting items 1-8.** Motion made by Mr. Cavanaugh, seconded by Chief Daly.*

A request from Mr. Glanville to be given time to look over all the new items pertaining to the additional letters included in the packet – letter from Attorney McEleney. This was agreed upon by Chief Mello (given approximately 5 minutes as recording continues during this time). Floor reopened to discussion and reminded of councils role is to **'determine whether or not we are going to require him to attend the police academy and under what conditions to become recertified, looking at what we have done in the past and understand what we do today will have an impact on what we continue to do going forward.'** *Small discussions occur regarding the topic. The motion passes.*

Revocation of Police Officer Certification

1. Stephen J. Rilling – Fairfield Police Department (Conviction – Sec. 21a-279(a)(1).) *The Certification Committee recommends the Council vote to approve the immediate revocation of Stephen J. Rilling's Connecticut Police Officer Certification, POST ID 10283, for being found (Pled) guilty of Possession of a Controlled Substance of more than ½ ounce of cannabis in violation of CGS 21a-279(a)(1). Motion made by Mr. Cavanaugh seconded by Chief Daly. Motion passes.*

Basic Training Academy Applications

1. **Hartford Police Academy – Hartford Police Department**
The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve the Hartford Police Department application to commence Basic Police Officer Recruit Training Academy for a maximum of 46 (not 28 as printed in notes) recruits noting items 1-12 and the recommendations; motion made by Mr. Cavanaugh seconded by Chief Higgins. Motion carried.
2. **New Britain Police Academy – New Britain Police Department**
The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve New Britain Police Department's application to commence a Basic Recruit Training Academy for a maximum of 40 recruits noting items 1-12; motion made by Mr. Cavanaugh seconded by Mr. Kane. Motion passes.

Probationary Status Extension

1. Joel S. Decaprio – Willimantic Police Department
The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status to Probationary Officer DeCaprio for a period not to exceed midnight, April 19, 2019, in order for Probationary Officer DeCaprio to complete his field training requirements to achieve police officer certification. Motion made by Mr. Cavanaugh seconded by Mr. Kane. Motion passes.
2. Anthony J. Netkovick – Guilford Police Department
The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status to Probationary Officer Netkovick for a period not to exceed midnight, June 24, 2019, in order to complete his academic and field training requirements to achieve police officer certification. Motion made by Mr. Cavanaugh seconded by Chief Daly. Motion passes.

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE:

1. **Tier II Accreditation – University of New Haven Police Department**
University of New Haven Police Department, under the command of Chief Tracy Mooney. On May 8, 2018 the agency was in compliance with 161 applicable standards, found 52 standards were non-applicable, numerous files needed additional attention. Upon final review, University of New Haven Police Department has established policies and practices which are consistent with the POSTC Tier II State Law Enforcement Accreditation Standards.

Chief Kulhawik on behalf of the Accreditation Committee makes the motion that the POST Council bestow Tier II State Accreditation to the University of New Haven Police Department, seconded by Chief Palmer. Motion passes.

2. Tier III Re-Accreditation – Farmington Police Department

Farmington Police Department, under the command of Chief Paul Melanson. On July 28, 2018 the agency was awarded CALEA reaccreditation for the eighth time at the conference in Grand Rapids, MI. On August 13, 2018 POST Staff found the agency in compliance with fourteen (14) applicable standards. Upon review, Farmington Police Department has established policies and practices consistent with the POSTC State Tier III Law Enforcement Accreditation Standards.

Chief Kulhawik on behalf of the Accreditation Committee makes the motion that the POST Council confer Tier III State Re-accreditation to the Farmington Police Department, seconded by Chief Daly. The motion passes.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Central Connecticut State University Employee Background Investigations
2. New Haven Police Department – Background Investigations
3. Executive Director’s Report

Chief Flaherty, Police Academy Administrator – on committee to develop a curriculum in response to Public Act 18-5 which created a category of Primary Aggressor and Domestic Violence Cases; working with Patrice Palumbo from Mr. Kane’s Office, our own staff, Lt. Palmer, state trooper and CCADV – we believe we finalized lesson plan (bringing it to the committee at November Meeting), plan to invite every POSTC certified Law Enforcement DV Instructor in for a Train-the-trainer here at the academy handing out a copy of the lesson plan with the recommendation that can be used in their own departments for In-Service Training; attending CCADV advisory meetings; Along with Bill Tanner, meeting with another committee to revise Polygraph Questionnaire booklet last revised in 2009 also to be on for the November agenda; summer intern, Shariff Bryce who has finished and gone back to Boston College; Bill Tanner and I attended a meeting with Steve Sarnoski and Bernie Sullivan from Central Connecticut State University to discuss hiring issues up there, we believe these issues have been resolved; Tim Coon has retired as of September 1st, refill request has been forwarded to Commissioner Schriro; In contact with Laurie Rinaldi, US Attorney’s Office to see any type of training the federal authorities can offer us in the interim; attending DUI Task Force Meetings at DOT; we will have a dip in traffic safety in-service training because Ed Hedge (law enforcement liaison) has retired and he has not been replaced yet we need to establish a new relationship with whoever will replace Ed; spoke to the new SAC – Brian Turner – who is not here this morning but asked to offer his greetings to the council.

4. Directors Reports, William Schultz:
 - a. Basic Training – Information provided in the packet
 - b. In-Service Training – Information provided in the packet
5. Accreditation Manager’s Report – William Tanner
6. Compliance Officer’s Report – William Tanner
7. Audit Reports
8. Correspondence

OLD BUSINESS:

1. (For Discussion Only) – Compliance to Law Enforcement Standards and Practices (CLESP) Program
Chief Kulhawik anticipates having something available for the November meeting to vote on “mandated standards”, total of 16.
2. Reporting on Police Pursuits – Chief Viadero
Chief Viadero – will have a presentation for the November meeting; create a Data Collection Form, formulate a report, then they will set up an online portal on their Sacred Heart University (SHU) website.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolution – Timothy P. Coon – Retired Curriculum Manager as if September 1st.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 1010 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



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