

**POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**September 10, 2020**

**CONNECTICUT POLICE ACADEMY**

**MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT**

**Remotely via Zoom**

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**Council Members Present:** Town Administrator Michael Freda; First Selectman Laura Francis; Dr. Amy Donahue; Chief John Daly; Chief Ronnell Higgins; Chief Thomas Kulhawik; Chief Paul Melanson; Chief Keith Mello; Chief Mark Palmer; Chief Vernon Riddick, Jr.; Chief James Viadero; Director Guy Vallaro; Commissioner James Rovella.

**Other Attendees:** Academy Administrator Karen Boisvert; Field Services Director William Steck; Basic Training Director Marc Fasano; Certification Officer Patrice Palombo (POSTC); Attorney Colin Milne, DESPP Legal; Accreditation Manager William Tanner (POSTC); Barbara Fullenwiley (POSTC) Administrative Staff; Holly King (CSP) Administrative Staff.

**Council Members Absent:** Kurt Cavanaugh; Chief State's Attorney Richard Colangelo; Douglas Glanville; State Victim Advocate Natasha Pierre; Mr. Patrick Rittmon; Special Agent- In-Charge David Sundberg.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chief Keith Mello, POST Council Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. Approval of the Minutes of the May 14, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Chief Mello requested a motion to accept the Minutes of the May 14, 2020 regular meeting as submitted. Motion to accept the minutes made by Chief Palmer; seconded by Chief Daly. Motion passes.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the August 7, 2020 Special Meeting.

Chief Mello requested a motion to accept the Minutes of the August 7, 2020 special meeting as submitted. Motion to accept the minutes made by Professor Amy Donahue; seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion passes.

3. Chiefs/Public Comment: No public comments.

## **CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

### **Request for Comparative Certification**

1. Christopher Campbell, West Hartford: successful completion

Recommendation to confer a comparative certification and POSTC certification to Christopher Campbell with an expiration date of June 30, 2024. Motion made by Chief Daly; seconded by Chief Palmer. Motion passes.

2. Nicholas Rienzi, New Canaan: Will not complete EMR until November of 2020. New Canaan requests certification and agrees not to allow Officer Rienzi to participate in any medical calls until such time as he successfully completes his EMR.

Recommendation the agreement between New Canaan that the new hire will not participate in any medical calls until completion of the EMR class can allow POSTC to agree to certification at this time.

Chief Mello requested a motion to certify Nicholas Rienzi from New Canaan. Motion made by Chief Higgins; seconded by Chief Viadero. Motion failed – 12 No; 1 Yes.

Discussion: During discussion the Council did not go with the recommendations of the Certification Committee and recommended that Nicholas Rienzi should complete the EMR program before he is certified.

### **Previously Certified Officers:**

1. Christopher Fiore, ECSUPD: POSTC approved on August 7, 2020 the request from Chief Garewski to recertify Christopher Fiore, previous certified officer with Coventry Police Department upon successful completion of approved courses

Recommendation: Reactive the certification of Christopher Fiore based upon the evidence provided in his file verifying completion of all entry requirements. Officer Fiore's certification will expire on 6/30/22.

Chief Palmer made a motion to accept the certification committee's recommendations; seconded by Chief Higgins. Motion passes.

2. Odino Rasile, Madison PD: POST's Certification Unit received a new hire form for Odine Rasile. short break in service, recertification completed, expiration 6/30/23

Recommendation: Approve the transfer of Officer Rasile to the Madison Police Department, reactive his certification, and reinstate his expiration date of 6/20/23 without any additional requirements.

Chief Palmer made a motion to accept the certification committee's recommendations; seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion passes.

### **Basic Training One – Year Probationary Extensions**

#### **Enfield:**

Christopher Bouchard

The certification committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status for Probationary Officer Bouchard for a period not to exceed Midnight September 30, 2020.

Motion made by Chief Daly; Chief Riddick second. Motion passes

Morgan Ledden

The certification committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status for Probationary Officer Ledden for a period not to exceed Midnight September 30, 2020.

Motion made by Chief Daly; seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion passes.

Adam B. Borawski

The certification committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status for Probationary Officer Borawski for a period not to exceed Midnight September 30, 2020.

**Motion made by Chief Daly; seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion passes.**

Tyler M. Crochiere

The certification committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status for Probationary Officer Crochiere for a period not to exceed Midnight September 30, 2020.

**Motion made by Chief Daly; seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion passes.**

Eric M. Larson

The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status for Probationary Officer Larson for a period not to exceed Midnight September 30, 2020.

**Motion made by Chief Daly; seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion passes.**

**Hartford:**

Lizette Torres

The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status for Probationary Officer Torres for a period not to exceed Midnight November 8, 2020.

**Motion made by Chief Daly; seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion passes.**

Ba B. Soe

The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status for Probationary Officer Soe for a period not to exceed Midnight October 8, 2020.

**Motion made by Chief Daly; seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion passes.**

Manchester

Arthur La Tulippe

The certification committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status for Probationary Officer La Tulippe for a period not to exceed Midnight August 31, 2020.

**Motion made by Chief Daly; seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion passes.**

Shannon Murphy

The certification committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status for Probationary Officer Murphy for a period not to exceed Midnight August 31, 2020.

**Motion made by Chief Daly; seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion passes.**

Haylee Ouellette

The certification committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status for Probationary Officer Ouellette for a period not to exceed Midnight August 31, 2020.

**Motion made by Chief Daly; seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion passes.**

## **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE**

### **1. Avon Police Department – Tier III Reaccreditation**

The Accreditation Committee therefore makes the following motion; that the POST Council award Tier III State reaccreditation to the Avon Police Department.

**Motion made by Chief Kulhawik; seconded by Chief Palmer. Motion passes.**

Chief Jim Rio, Interim Director acknowledge acceptance.

2. Ridgefield Police Department – Tier III Reaccreditation

The Accreditation Committee therefore makes the following motion: The POST Council award Tier III State Reaccreditation to the Ridgefield Police Department with the following conditions: On or about the one-year anniversary of this award, POST-C Staff and/or an assessor visit the agency and review the following two (2) Standards for continued compliance; 1.5.1 and 1.5.5.

**Motion made by Chief Kulhawik; seconded by Chief Palmer. Motion passes.**

Sgt. John Knoche, Accreditation Manager acknowledge acceptance.

3. Rocky Hill Police Department – Initial Tier III Accreditation

The Accreditation Committee therefore makes the following motion; that the POST Council award Tier III State accreditation to the Rocky Hill Police Department.

**Motion made by Chief Kulhawik; seconded by Chief Palmer. Motion passes.**

4. Trumbull Police Department – Initial Tier I Accreditation

The Accreditation Committee therefore makes the following motion: The POST Council award Tier I State accreditation to the Trumbull Police Department with the following conditions; on or about the one-year anniversary of this award, POST-C Staff and/or an assessor will visit the agency and review the following Standard for continued compliance; 1.3.13.

**Motion made by Chief Kulhawik; seconded by Chief Palmer. Motion passes.**

Chief Mike Lombardo acknowledge acceptance along with Sgt. Douglas Smith, Lt. Leonard Scinto, Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes, and Officer Tim Fedor.

5. Westport Police Department – Initial Tier II Accreditation

The Accreditation Committee therefore makes the following motion: The POST Council confer Tier II State Accreditation to the Westport Police Department.

**Motion made by Chief Kulhawik; seconded by Chief Palmer. Motion passes.**

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### 1) Academy Administrator's Report

#### a) In – Service Mandatory Hour Change:

Academy Administrator Boisvert requested the removal of the one hour of gangs from in-service and to add the following courses: 410 – Citizens with Special Needs; 412 – Cultural Awareness; 413 – Fair and Impartial Policing; 416 – Procedural Justice; 419 – Implicit Bias and highlighted Use of Force to show that POST is already doing this training in Firearms which has a 2 hr. annual practical requirement and 1 hr. annual of use of force classroom.

The three year review training period will remain at 60 hours - 31 hours of mandatory topics and 29 hours of electives which will allow the agencies to choose based on training needs. The effective date will be July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024.

**Chief Mello made a motion to accept the change in the mandated training hours. Motion made by Chief Riddick; seconded by Kulhawik. Motion passes.**

#### b) Revised Review Training Form

Academy Administrator Boisvert requested a revision to the POSTC-50 Review Training Report Form (revised 9/10/20) to reflect the review changes.

**Chief Melanson made a motion to approve the new training form and to add on specific categories numbers, seconded by Chief Viadero. Motion passes.**

## OLD BUSINESS - None

Bill No. 6004 – Affix name tags

Chief Viadero gave an updated report and will have something ready in October.

## NEW BUSINESS – None

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chief Mello requested a motion to go into executive session with the town of Plainville to meet for a petition for recertification. Motion made by Chief Riddick, seconded by Chief Higgins. **Motion passes.**

Chief Mello moved to go into Executive Session at 10:21 a.m.

Chief Mello reconvened the regular meeting at 11:09 a.m.

Chief Daly made a motion to grant certification to Officer Cullen, seconded by Professor Donahue.

**After further discussion the motion was tabled.**

**Chief Mello moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:21 a.m.; motioned by Chief Daly; seconded by Chief Palmer.**

Respectfully submitted,



**Barbara Fullenwiley  
Administrative Assistant  
POSTC**