

POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

May 12, 2022

9:00 AM

Remotely via Zoom

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**Council Member Present:** Chief Paul Melanson; Commissioner James Rovella; Chief Ronnell Higgins; Town Administrator Michael Freda; Captain Mark Davison; Mr. Douglas Glanville; Chief Vernon Riddick; Chief Scott Sansom; Chief Fernando Spagnolo; Mayor Caroline Simmons; Ms. Pamela Mautte; Mr. David Kosciuk; Mr. Jonathan Slifka; Attorney Michael Lawlor; Acting Chief State's Attorney John Russotto; Lieutenant Stephen Samson

**Other Attendees:** Academy Administrator Karen Boisvert; Carrie-Jo McGuffey, POST Certification Officer; Attorney Colin Milne, DESPP Legal; Chief Donald Anderson, Darien Police Department, Jeremiah Marron, Darien Police Department; Valerie Pankowsky, Stamford Mayor's Office

**Council Members Absent:** Chief Robert Rosado; Special Agent-In-Charge David Sundberg.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chief Paul Melanson, POST Council Member, called the meeting to order at 9:02AM

**ACTION ITEMS**

**1. Approval of the Minutes of March 10, 2022, Regular Meeting**

Chief Melanson requested a motion to accept the Minutes of March 10, 2022, regular meeting as submitted. Motion to accept the minutes made by Chief Riddick; seconded by Ms. Mautte; Minutes accepted.

**2. Chiefs/Public Comment:**

Captain Davison introduced Lieutenant Stephen Samson as new Commander of the State Police Academy who will be replacing him on POST Council.

**CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

Request for Comparative Certification

1. CAVASENO, Amanda – Greenwich Police Department
2. INDIVGLIO, Chester – Greenwich Police Department
3. BUZZETTA, Andrew – Greenwich Police Department

4. LAROSE, Justin – Wethersfield Police Department
5. SINCLAIR, Kevin – New London Police Department
6. DARROW, Kaden – Norwalk Police Department
7. VOELTZ, Mark – Norwalk Police Department
8. NOTT, Joseph – New London Police Department
9. MAJIA, Mable – Darien Police Department
10. RUNES, Maxwell – Stamford Police Department
11. BRANCIFORTE, Jonathan – MP - Norwalk Police Department

Chief Higgins made a motion to approve listed Officers 1-11. The request for comparative certification for the eleven (11) officers to certify was seconded by Mr. Freda. Motion carried. Discussion- Difficulty finding applicants, and many are coming from out of state. CT voted best state to be a police officer.

**Request for Certification Extension-**

**A. Injury or Illness**

1. ARVANITAKIS, Konstantine – Norwalk Police Department
2. PETTINICCHI, Mark – Naugatuck Police Department
3. ZALESKI, Daniel – East Hartford Police Department
4. MARKIEWCZ, Taylor – Watertown Police Department
5. KOVACS, Bradley- Thomaston Police Department
6. GONZALEZ, Amanda – Branford Police Department
7. CARNEY, Melissa – Branford Police Department
8. BLUNDON, Robert – New Britain Police Department
9. ROMANO, Carmen - Yale University Police Department
10. RODRIGUEZ-PEREZ, Karl- Yale University Police Department
11. MILLER, Elizabeth- Yale University Police Department
12. PALMER, Warren- Yale University Police Department
13. DOMINIQUE, Michael- Yale University Police Department
14. MINIACI, Ryan- Yale University Police Department
15. ST. GERMAIN, Erik- Yale University Police Department
16. KALAMARAS, Thomas - Norwalk Police Department
17. MONTELEONE, Domenic- Norwalk Police Department
18. FRATTAROLI, Joseph - Norwalk Police Department
19. JOHN, Praveen - Norwalk Police Department

Chief Higgins made a motion to approve the certification extension for above listed Officers 1-19. The request for certification extension for the nineteen (19) officers was seconded by Ms. Mautte. Chief Higgins abstained from vote. Motion carried.

### **Request for Probationary Certification Extension**

#### **A. Administrative/Injury/Illness**

1. GALLAGHER, Michael – East Haven Police Department
2. DOMINGUEZ, Michael – New Britain Police Department
3. FAMILIA-RAMIREZ, Fendy – Hartford Police Department

Chief Higgins made a motion to approve the probationary certification extension due to administrative/Injury/Illness for above listed Probationary Officers 1-3. The request for certification extension for the three (3) Probationary Officers was seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion carried.

### **Request for Basic Recruit Training Academy-**

1. Connecticut State Police Academy

Chief Higgins made a motion to approve the Connecticut State Police Training Academies. The request was seconded by Chief Sansom. Motion carried.

### **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE**

1. Darien Police Department- Reaccreditation Tier II

Chief Melanson made a motion to grant Reaccreditation Tier II to the Darien Police Department. The request was seconded by Chief Higgins. Discussion – Darien Accredited in 2009, Tier II Compliance March 21. Motion carried.

Chief Anderson- Thankful for Reaccreditation and planning to move forward to Tier III.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Academy Administrator's Report – Written report submitted

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. POSTC Determined DRE's OTG and OPM  
Discussion:  
Ms. Boisvert- Provided a review of process 21-1.  
Chief Melanson, Attorney Lawlor, Mr. Glanville and Chief Samson discussion of how numbers calculated, arrests with breathalyzer vs refusal, number of times DRE respond to these accidents, applicability.

Chief Sansom made a motion to support the report. The request was seconded by Mr. Slifka. Motion carried.

2. Request submitted to the POST Certification Division after the Certification Sub-Committee Meeting:

**Request for Comparative Certification**

1. SPAULDING, Frank – Darien Police Department
2. MCGEE, Brady – Darien Police Department
3. STOJKOVIC, Dragan – Danbury Police Department
4. DIGIOVANNI, Anthony – Newtown Police Department

Chief Higgins made a motion to approve listed Officers 1-4. The request for comparative certification for the four (4) officers to certify was seconded by Mr. Freda. Motion carried.

**Request for Certification Extensions due to injury or illness**

1. DITRIA, Steven – Seymour Police Department
2. FUNCHION, Matthew – Seymour Police Department
3. DEPOLO, Ryan – Orange Police Department
4. STANKO, Stephen – CT EnConn Police
5. CORBIT, Matthew – Trumbull Police Department
6. DEJESUS, Richard – Danbury Police Department
7. GALGANO, Christine – Danbury Police Department
8. CHAPMAN, Walter – Danbury Police Department

Chief Higgins made a motion to approve listed Officers 1-8. The request for comparative certification for the eight (8) officers to certify was seconded by Ms. Mautte. Motion carried.

**Request for Basic Training One-year Probationary Extension**

1. HUBERT, Tyler – Plainfield Police Department
2. NACCARATO, Richard – West Haven Police Department
3. ROSSOMANDO, Ronald – West Haven Police Department

Chief Riddick made a motion to approve listed Officers 1-3. The request for comparative certification for the three (3) officers to certify was seconded by Chief Sansom. Motion carried.

Discussion: procedure if these recruits are not granted an extension and how long they can receive extension before requiring repeat of basic training. Need procedure to ensure recruit is brought up to speed with training to set them up for success. Difference if out of work and away from law enforcement vs still working.

### **Basic Training Application**

#### **1. Hartford Police Department**

Chief Sansom made a motion to approve the Hartford Police Training Academy. The request was seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion carried.

2. Chief Melanson – State Accreditation bill passed, now have choice between State Accreditation or CALEA. Agencies need to achieve State Accreditation with 1 year. Chief Melanson made general comments about the process. Accreditation committee looking at what the standards should be, look at most vital with accountability.

#### **ADJORNMENT – 10:06 AM**

**Motion made by Chief Higgins to adjourn; seconded by Chief Riddick. Motion carried.**

Prepared and submitted by:

CJ McGuffey 5/10/22

CJ:cj/kb