



**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 MEETING**

**Thursday, January 11, 2024**

**9:00 A.M.**

**Zoom; Classroom 4**

<https://ctdespp.zoom.us/j/4381640998>

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Council Members Present: Chief Keith Mello, **(Council Chairman)**, Town Administrator Michael Freda, Chief Paul Melanson, Chief Vernon Riddick, Jonathan Slifka, Chief Scott Sansom, Chief Neil Dryfe, Lieutenant Ryan Maynard, Professor Michael Lawlor, Doug Glanville, Commissioner Ronnell Higgins, Anderson Curtis, Pamela Mautte, Chief Roberto Rosado, Chief States Attorney Patrick Griffin, Florencio Cotto.

Council Members Not Present: Robert Fuller, David Koscuk, Iran Nazario, Mayor Caroline Simmons,

**Other Attendees:** Karen Boisvert, Amie Ledoux, Attorney Colin Milne, Michael Francis, Carrie-Jo McGuffey, Thomas Grimaldi, Jessica Blank, David Silverio, Sabine Nyenhuis

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. Approval of the Minutes – November 9, 2023 Meeting
  - a. Chief Melanson motions to accept the minutes. The motion is seconded by Chief Riddick. The motion passes.
2. Chiefs/Public Comment
3. Subcommittee Reports
  - a. Social Justice Advisory Committee
    - i. Background Investigation Manual Presented by Ken Barone
      1. Ken Barone presents a background investigation guideline for the State of Connecticut. The committee thought it would be helpful to develop uniform guidelines on how to

assess for background checks and if bias can be ruled out. The California Post Council adopted guidelines for background check for new law enforcement. Ken's team reviewed and met with the individuals in California. A 120 page document outlines best practices, assessing moral character and integrity with the goal of using the document endorsed by Council to develop a training program for background investigators. Ken is seeking endorsement from Post Council for this document. Ken also recognizes Dr. Mark Kurshner for his work on the psychological areas of the document.

2. Chief Riddick presents a motion for Post Council to review the document. Lieutenant Maynard seconds the motion. Commissioner Higgins asks that Connecticut State Police be involved in the evaluation of the document. Chief Melanson also discusses the operational issues. Chief Mello will create a review panel with all stake holders to meet prior to the next meeting. Commissioner Higgins questions agencies who hire out for background investigations and if this would affect those agencies. The motion to review passes.

## **CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

### **Request for Comparative Certification- Francis**

1. Reynaldo Pena– Danbury Police Department
2. Maria Famularo– Glastonbury Police Department
3. Stephanie Peloso – Milford Police Department
4. Mauro Ramos Arias – Old Saybrook Police Department
5. Daquan Beacham – Waterbury Police Department
6. Richard Creecy – Waterbury Police Department
7. Steven Leitao – Wolcott Police Department
  - a. A motion was made by Chief Riddick to approve the comparison certification for individuals 1-7. The motion was seconded by Chief Dryfe. The motion passes.

### **Request for Comparative Certification (Military Police) – Francis**

1. Jose Morales – Plainville Police Department
  - a. A motion was made by Chief Riddick to approve the request for comparative certification. The motion was seconded by Lieutenant Maynard. The motion passes.

### **Request for Reactivation of Certification- Francis**

1. Philip Hynes – Newtown Police Department
2. Natasha Pucillo – Madison Police Department
3. Daniel Foito – Madison Police Department
4. Brian Kilcomons – Town of Groton Police Department
  - i. A motion was made by Chief Riddick to accept the reactivation of individuals 1-4. The motion was seconded by Chief Dryfe. The motion passes.

### **Request for Extension-Francis**

#### **Injury/Medical**

1. Becky Fowler – Yale University Police Department
  - a. A motion was made by Chief Riddick to approve the request for extension. The motion was seconded by Chief Melanson. The motion passes.

### **Request for Extension- Probationary Candidate Status- Grimaldi**

1. Bianca Liete – East Hartford Police Department
  - a. A motion was made by Chief Riddick to approve the request for extension. The motion was seconded by Chief Dryfe. The motion passes.

### **Request for Waiver of Basic Training Program– Grimaldi**

1. Ryan Kelly – Mohegan Tribal Police Department
  - a. A motion was made by Chief Riddick to approve the request for extension. The motion was seconded by Chief Melanson. The motion passes.

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

1. Stamford Police Department
2. Hartford Police Department
  - a. A motion was made by Chief Riddick to approve the request for basic recruit training. The motion was seconded by Officer Cotto for items 1-2. The motion passes.

## **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE**

### **Request for Accreditation**

1. Connecticut State Community College Police Department, Tier 1, POSTC State Accreditation
  - a. A motion was made by Paul Melanson to approve the accreditation. The motion was seconded by Chief Rosado. The motion passes.
2. Department of Consumer Protection Gaming Division, Tier 1, POSTC State Accreditation
  - a. A motion was made by Paul Melanson to approve the accreditation. The motion was seconded by Officer Cotto. The motion passes.
3. Department of Motor Vehicles, Tier 1, POSTC State Accreditation
  - a. A motion was made by Paul Melanson to approve the accreditation. The motion was seconded by Officer Cotto. The motion passes.
4. Essex Police Department, Tier 1, POSTC State Accreditation
  - a. A motion was made by Paul Melanson to approve the accreditation. The motion was seconded by Administrator Freda. The motion passes.
5. Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Police, Tier 1, POSTC State Accreditation
  - a. A motion was made by Paul Melanson to approve the accreditation. The motion was seconded by Lieutenant Maynard. The motion passes.
6. Metropolitan District Commission Police Department, Tier 1, POSTC State Accreditation

- a. A motion was made by Paul Melanson to approve the accreditation. The motion was seconded by Chief Riddick. The motion passes.
- 7. North Branford Police Department, Tier 1, POSTC State Accreditation
  - a. A motion was made by Paul Melanson to approve the accreditation. The motion was seconded by Officer Cotto. The motion passes.
- 8. Norwich Police Department, Tier 1, POSTC State Accreditation
  - a. A motion was made by Paul Melanson to approve the accreditation. The motion was seconded by Chief Rosado. The motion passes.
- 9. Vernon Police Department, Tier 3, POSTC State Accreditation
  - a. A motion was made by Paul Melanson to approve the accreditation. The motion was seconded by Chief Dryfe. The motion passes.

**Request for Extension of Accreditation**

- 1. Ansonia Police Department
- 2. Connecticut Airport Authority
- 3. Connecticut Department of Social Services Capias Unit
- 4. New Haven Police Department
- 5. Plainville Police Department
- 6. Portland Police Department
- 7. Putnam Police Department
- 8. Stonington Police Department
- 9. Weston Police Department (Document Not Included)
- 10. Woodbridge Police Department
  - a. A motion was made by Paul Melanson to accept items 1-10. The motion is seconded by Chief Rosado. Officer Cotto abstains from item #4. The motion passes.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Chief Melanson states he has spearheaded a group related to adult sexual assault. After the film Victim/Suspect on Netflix, Connecticut was identified as having departments who were implicated in faulty investigating in the film. Chief Melanson requests a committee to create a model policy to perform adult sexual assault investigations. Chief Mello states he will put something together. Chief Melanson and Chief Riddick will co-chair. Officer Cotto offers to participate.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. Chief Mello presents related to EMR in the curriculum committee. He states the item was removed contingent to a replacement plan in the last Post Council meeting. Options included recruits who needed EMR returning after basic training, departments handling it on their own, and POST creating classes to be offered in person at POST. Chief Spagnolo states Waterbury Police Department was contacted asking if they are EMR certified. Because they are not the first responders they do not need to be. Chief Spagnolo encourages departments who do not know their status, that they should look into this.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

POSTC 01.11.24  
 Meeting – Minutes  
 Revised 01.30.24  
 KB:al

1. Academy Administrator's Written Report: 2023 Close Out Report
  - a. Karen Boisvert updates on the loan forgiveness program.
  - b. Colin reviews the status of the Crowd Control Policy. He states he is hopeful that this will be completed by May. He believes it could potentially be active by July.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chief Riddick presents a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion is seconded by Chief Rosado. The meeting is adjourned at 9:58 AM.

- Next Council Meeting: March 7, 2024