



DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & PUBLIC PROTECTION
POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS & TRAINING

285 PRESTON AVE, MERIDEN, CT 06450 • (203) 427-2622

POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS and TRAINING COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, January 9, 2024

9:00 A.M.

Classroom 9 & 10, Zoom

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

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Council Members Present: Chief Keith Mello (**Council Chairman**), Chief Paul Melanson, Chief Vernon Riddick, Chief Scott Sansom, Chief Neil Dryfe, Captain Ryan Maynard, Doug Glanville, Pamela Mautte, Chief Roberto Rosado, Chief Fernando Spagnolo, Iran Nazario, Michael Fraenza, Commissioner Ronnell Higgins, Chief States Attorney Patrick Griffin, Professor Michael Lawlor, Town Administrator Michael Freda

Council Members Not Present: Jonathan Slifka, David Kosciuk, Anderson Curtis, Robert Fuller, Florencio Cotto Jr., Mayor Caroline Simmons

Other Attendees: Chief Thomas Wydra, Karen Boisvert, Attorney Colin Milne, Attorney Jessica Gouveia, Michael Francis, Carrie-Jo McGuffey, Jessica Blank, David Silverio, Attorney Sarah Karwan, Marc Fasano, Jennie Rivera, Brian Budd, William Tanner, Rick Green, unknown call in

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM.

ADDED ITEMS

Chief Mello makes a request to add the following items:

1. Request for Extension of Accreditation
 - a. Town of Barkhamsted Police Department
 - b. Town of New Hartford Police Department
 - c. Bethlehem Police Department

A motion is made to add item 1a-c to Agenda. The motion is seconded by Chief Rosado. The motion passes unanimously.

2. Request for Waiver of Certification Requirements
 - a. Brian Flores-Linares – Meriden Police Department – DACA

A motion is made to add item 2 to the Agenda. The motion is seconded. The motion passes with all members present voting yes, except for Chief Rosado who abstained from the vote.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of the Minutes – December 5, 2024, Meeting

Motion to approve minutes. Motion seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

2. Chiefs/Public Comment
3. Subcommittee Reports

REPORT ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION¹

1. DESPP – Commissioner Higgins

Commissioner Higgins opens floor for Attorney Sarah Karwan regarding classification of Taser 10 as a firearm by ATF due to its platform which uses an explosion of gun powder to expel the projectiles. There is discussion of the need for POSTC Use of Force Model Policy to be updated. Specifically, language on page 8 of the policy will need to be modified to reflect that despite ATF's classification of the Taser 10 as a firearm, POSTC does not consider electronic defense weapons to be deadly force. There will also need to be an accompanying change to the General Statutes. Theoretically, if the policy and statutes are not changed, use of the taser 10 could trigger an investigation by the Office of the Inspector General for even routine taser uses.

¹ The Chairman reorganized the agenda and moved Matters of Administration to after Action Items, prior to Certification Subcommittee reports.

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Request for Comparative Certification- Francis

1. Roshel Goddard – Danbury Police Department
 - From New York City Police Department, NY
2. Kevin Manning – Danbury Police Department
 - From New York City Police Department, NY
3. Michael LaScala – Mohegan Tribal Police Department
 - From Scituate Police Department, RI
4. Kevin O’Connor – Ridgefield Police Department
 - From Holyoke Police Department, MA
5. Kevin Finizio – Rocky Hill Police Department
 - From Onondaga County Sheriff’s Office, NY
6. Russell Tompkins – Western Connecticut State University Police Department
 - From Town of Fishkill Police Department, NY

A motion is made to approve items 1-6. The motion is seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

Request for Waiver of Entry Level Requirements

1. Brian Flores-Linares – Meriden Police Department – DACA

A motion is made to approve item 1. The motion is seconded. Discussion about process to make this a permanent waiver and possible legislative change and add to POST 51. The motion passes by all members present voting yes, except for Chief Rosado who abstained from the vote.

Request for Certification Extension – Francis

1. Jay Mortara – Danbury Police Department

A motion is made to approve item 1. The motion is seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

Request for Extension- Probationary Candidate Status- Silverio

1. Dylan George – Middletown Police Department
2. Anthony Sagay – Windsor Police Department

A motion is made to approve items 1-2. The motion is seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

Request for Basic Training Academy – Silverio

1. Connecticut State Police – May 16, 2025
2. Stamford Police Department – April 2025
3. Waterbury Police Department – March 6, 2025

A motion is made to approve item 1-3. The motion is seconded. The motion passes by all members present voting yes except for Chief Spagnolo and Captain Maynard who abstained from the vote.

ACCREDITATION

Request for Extension of Accreditation

1. Town of Barkhamsted Police Department
2. Town of New Hartford Police Department
3. Bethlehem Police Department

A motion is made. The motion is seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Body Worn Camera Form Update – Ken Barone

Ken Barone suggested changes to the BWC form based on agency suggestions. Modifications include requesting number of POST certified officers instead of number of employed “sworn staff”; asking for “Other Command Staff” instead of “Command Staff”; and clarifying that dashboard information desired for patrol vehicles only.

A motion was made to accept the changes. The motion was seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

2. Request from Connecticut State Police -Colonel Loughman - Consideration to change the pre-employment background investigation requirement for a Polygraph Examination from within 182 days to within 275 days for all LEU’s.

A motion is made to approve the request. The motion was seconded. Discussion that the POST 51 will be updated to reflect the change. The motion passes unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. POSTC BWC Policy Revisions

A motion was made to accept policy revision presented for item 1. The motion was seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

2. POSTC Open Carry Reporting- Public Act 23-53 – Ken Barone – Tabled Item

Ken Barone presented an updated POSTC Open Carry Reporting form. A motion to accept the presented information in item 2 was made. The motion was seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

- Next Council Meeting: March 6, 2025

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:52 AM. The motion was seconded. The motion passes unanimously.