



DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & PUBLIC PROTECTION

POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS & TRAINING

POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS and TRAINING COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, March 13, 2025
9:00 A.M.
Classroom 9 & 10 or 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, Doug Glanville, Chief Roberto Rosado, Michael Fraenza, Commissioner Ronnell Higgins, Town Administrator Michael Freda, Florencio Cotto Jr., Mayor Caroline Simmons (@9:24AM), Chief Jonathan Mulhern, Jon Slifka, Chief States Attorney fill in Kevin Lawlor.

Council Members Not Present: David Koscuk, Anderson Curtis, Anish Shukla, Chief Neil Dryfe Captain Ryan Maynard, Pamela Mautte, Chief Fernando Spagnolo, Iran Nazario, Professor Michael Lawlor.

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, Rick Green, Kelly Kraynak-Duprey, Michael Mascari, Joann Peterson, Attorney Nicole Lake, Lois Pisani, Assistant Attorney General Samantha Wong, Sergeant Kateema Riettie (@9:33AM), Brian Lockhart (@10:33AM)

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Motion to add to agenda. The motion seconded. The motion passes unanimously

On behalf of the Norwalk Police dept to grant approval to extend the one-year probationary candidate status for Officer Benn for 6 months not to go past 8/13/25.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of the Minutes – January 9, 2025 Meeting

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

2. Chiefs/Public Comment - No comments.
3. Subcommittee Reports

ACCREDITATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Request for Accreditation

Tier I (1-4)

1. Beacon Falls Police Department	Tier I
2. New Fairfield Police Department	Tier I
3. Prospect Police Department	Tier I
4. Washington Police Department	Tier I

Motion to approve items 1-4. The motion is seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

Tier II (1-6)

1. Bridgewater Police Department	Tier II
2. Colchester Police Department	Tier II
3. Deep River Police Department	Tier II
4. Hebron Police Department	Tier II
5. Old Lyme Police Department	Tier II
6. Washington Police Department	Tier II

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

Tier III (1- 23)

1. Amtrak Police Department (CALEA ADV)	Tier III
2. Avon Police Department (CALEA ADV)	Tier III
3. Berlin Police Department (CALEA ADV)	Tier III
4. Bloomfield Police Department (CALEA ADV)	Tier III
5. Branford Police Department (CALEA LE1)	Tiers II and III
6. Bristol Police Department (CALEA ADV)	Tier III
7. Central CT State University Police Department (CALEA LE1)	Tiers II and III
8. Clinton Police Department (CALEA ADV)	Tier III
9. CT State Community College Police Department	Tiers II and III

10. Connecticut State Police (CALEA ADV)	Tier III
11. Coventry Police (CALEA ADV)	Tier III
12. Ledyard Police Department	Tiers II and III
13. Montville Police Department	Tiers II and III
14. New London Police Department	Tier III
15. Orange Police Department	Tier III
16. South Windsor Police Department (CALEA LE1)	Tiers II and III
17. Southern CT State University Police Department	Tier III
18. State Capitol Police Department (CALEA ADV)	Tier III
19. UConn Police Department (CALEA ADV)	Tier III
20. Waterford Police Department	Tier III
21. Wethersfield Police Department (CALEA ADV)	Tier III
22. Wilton Police Department	Tier III
23. Winchester Police Department (CALEA ADV)	Tier III

Motion to approve items 1-23. The motion is seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

New Business

1. Guidance on Accreditation
 - CALEA LE1 agencies as it relates to State Tier II and Tier III.

Motion that all CALEA LE1 agencies need to meet advanced CALEA certification or meet states Tier II and III accreditation standards by January 1, 2026 for traditional law enforcement units and January 1, 2027 for constables and Resident State Trooper Towns. The motion is seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion that all CALEA Advanced agencies will also be requested to comply with the CLESP program. The motion is seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

2. Request for Extension of Accreditation
 - Tolland Police Department, Tier I, extended to 4/30/25

Motion to Extend date of accreditation granted. Motion seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

Old Business

1. Barkhamsted Police Department, Tier I, extended to 4/30/25
2. Bethlehem Police Department, Tier I, extended to 4/30/25
3. New Hartford Police Department, Tier I, extended to 4/30/25

The above three agencies (Barkhamsted, Bethlehem, New Hartford) are working together on Tier 1 accreditation. Motion to extend time granted. The motion is seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Department of Social Services Capias Unit
5. Portland Police Department

CERTIFICATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Request for Comparative Certification

1. Aidan Alexander - Enfield Police Department
From Orlando Police Department, FL
2. Mason Hinken – Glastonbury Police Department
From Warren Police Department, RI
3. Nathan Charette – Suffield Police Department
From Southampton Police Department, MA
4. Michael Tine – Waterbury Police Department
From New York Police Department, NY
5. Nathaniel Van Stone – Waterbury Police Department
From New Orleans Police Department, LA
6. Myckland Cothias – Waterbury Police Department
From New York Police Department, NY

Motion for approval granted. The motion was seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

Request for Certification Reactivation – Lapsed

1. Jason Pontz - Department of Consumer Protection Gaming Division
2. Roger Falcone – Shelton Police Department
3. Michael Neumahr – Stamford Police Department
4. David McDonnell – Watertown Police Department
5. William Hoffman – Westbrook Police Department

Motion for approval granted. The motion was seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

Request for Certification Reactivation – Forfeiture

1. Stephen Stanko – EnCon Police Department

Motion for approval granted. The motion was seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

Request for Extension – Probationary Candidate Status

1. Quinton Bright – Hamden Police Department

Motion for Extension granted. The motion seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

2. Jamal Benn (Write In) – Norwalk Police Department.

Motion for approval granted. The motion was seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

Request for Basic Training Academy

1. New Britain Police Academy – March 7, 2025

Motion made to approve item 1 was granted. The motion was seconded. The motion passes unanimously. New Britain can take 50 recruits. It was stated that New Britain Police Academy currently have 35 recruits, 6 officers belong to New Britain.

Motion to enter into executive session to discuss a privileged document with respect to legal advice regarding Council's role and obligation to review complaints when there is a pending request to hold a satellite academy. Motion seconded. Motion passes unanimously. Executive session entered into pursuant to General Statutes Section 1-200(6)(E) and 1-210(b)(10).

COUNCIL WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made to come out of Executive Session. Motion seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

2. Bridgeport Police Academy – June 2025

Motion is made to table item 2. The motion is seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

1. Recommendations

- Update Tier II – require law enforcement units publish census information on website
- Update Tier III – require law enforcement units publish policies on website

Discussion by Chief Riddick regarding transparency of agencies. Clarification is made that the recommendations above both are for Tier III (not Tier II). These items will be discussed further in Subcommittee meeting.

REPORT ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

1. DESPP - Commissioner Ronnell A. Higgins

Welcomed both Dr. Mike Mascari, Chief Data Officer and Dr. Kelly Kraynak-Duprey who will be providing support regarding curriculum items, to meeting.

2. POSTC- Chief Keith L. Mello, Chairman

Two bills that describe a law enforcement advisory group. The POST Council is a highly-qualified large group representing different disciplines and groups. We have a history of doing great work!

NEW BUSINESS

1. Establish criteria for waiver of 7-294e-16 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients

Discussion occurred as to whether POST Council wishes to further waive the citizenship requirement to include DACA recipients.

Motion made to further waive the citizenship requirement and extend eligibility for appointment to a position of probationary candidate in law enforcement in CT to DACA recipients. Motion seconded. The Motion passes. Florencio Cotto Jr. Abstained.

2. Petition for Declaratory Ruling received from Charles DellaRocco, pursuant to State Regulation 7-294e-5

This is just informational.

OLD BUSINESS

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Sec. 7-291a. Efforts re recruitment, retention and promotion of minority police officers. Annual report received from: Ansonia, Bloomfield, Danbury, East Hartford, Hamden, Hartford, New Britain, South Windsor, Waterbury, Willimantic.
2. Review of Meal Supplement Plan- Basic Recruit Training Academy

Training Officer Peterson discussed nutritional needs for new recruits due to the burning of calories from training. They are now allowing new recruits to bring in protein products (drinks, bars). They can keep them in their barracks for their consumption. They will now have access to supplements to fuel their bodies.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

- Next Council Meeting May 8, 2025

Motion to adjourn was made at 11:30 a.m. The motion was seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

Key

- * CALEA – Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies
- * CALEA ADV - Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. Advanced includes all 461 standards
- * CALEA LE1 - Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. Law Enforcement (LE1) 1 includes 183 standards.
- * CLESP – Compliance to Law Enforcement Standards and Practices Program