



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

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**POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS and TRAINING COUNCIL
ACTION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

9:00 A.M.

Zoom

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

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Subcommittee Members Present: Chairman Chief Keith Mello (Milford Police Department), Chief Paul Melanson (Avon Police Department), First Selectman Michael Freda (Town Administrator North Haven), Chief Scott Sansom (Granby Police Department), Chief Neil Dryfe (Cheshire Police Department), Michael Lawlor (Associate Professor - University of New Haven), Iran Nazario (Peace Center of Connecticut)

Subcommittee Members Not Present: Chief Vernon Riddick (West Hartford Police Department)

Other Attendees: Karen Boisvert, Jessica Gouveia, Steve Strom, Colin Milne, CJ McGuffey, David Silverio, Michael Francis, Marshall Segar, James Hinkle, Evan Fisher

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting is called to order at 9:00 AM by Chief Mello.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Hinkle, James – Waterbury Police Department

Chief Mello acknowledged that the Agenda was posted to POST website less than 24 hours in advance of meeting, but noted that the Agenda was timely posted on Connecticut's Secretary of State website on the State Agency Public Meeting Calendar. Respondent waived compliance with FOIA requirement.

Motion was made to amend Hearing Officer's Report and Proposed Final Decision to correct date on which Hearing Officer denied Respondent's Motion to Dismiss (i.e., change the date from May 29, 2024 to May 28, 2024). Motion was voted on and approved unanimously.

Attorney Segar raised questions around implication of General Statutes § 7-291c. Attorney Milne responded that General Statutes § 7-291c is separate and distinct from the decertification process and better suited for the Certification Sub-Committee.

Chief Mello provided a brief history of decertification process and legislative intent behind changes made in 2020. He advised that the decertification process is separate and distinct from any labor board process and is governed by a different set of regulations and statutes. He explained that POST Council Action Committee decisions are not influenced by arbitration in that the Action Committee does not determine if an officer should be employed but rather if they should be certified as a police officer in the State of Connecticut.

Motion was made to accept Hearing Officer's Report and Proposed Final Decision as amended. Discussion was had. Chief Mello made remarks. Attorney Milne and Attorney Segar were provided an opportunity to present their cases.

Professor Lawlor made a statement in support of Chief Mello's comments, also emphasizing the clear and convincing nature of the evidence in this case and the importance of truthfulness to the integrity of policing and police accountability.

The Motion to accept the Hearing Officers Report and Proposed Final Decision as amended was voted on and approved unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

There were no information items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn was made seconded and unanimously approved.
Chief Mello called the meeting to adjournment at 9:50 AM.

DRAFT