

## **Municipal Police Training Committee**

### **Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**MPTC Headquarters, Randolph, MA**

**January 20, 2016**

#### **Call to Order**

At 9:35 AM, Chairman Chief Jim Hicks called the monthly meeting of the Municipal Police Training Committee to order and greeted all present.

#### **Attendees**

Mike Botieri – SE Mass; Michael Chapman – Boston Police; Scott Livingstone, Western Mass; Matthew Roy – MSP; James O'Brien – AG's Office; Joseph Vieira - MPA, and Undersecretary Jennifer Queally – EOPSS.

#### **MPTC Staff**

Dan Zivkovich, Marylou Powers, Dori Ference, Lara Thomas, John Mulloy, Dan May and Sheila Gallagher.

#### **Guests**

Shannon Hickey, Peter Roddy, Mark LeBlanc, Tom Fleming, and Mark Rolland.

#### **Review/Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the Minutes of December 16, 2015. There were two abstentions.

#### **Police Standards and Training**

Marylou Powers stated there were no requests for temporary waivers. However, the following requests were presented for permanent exemptions.

#### **Permanent Exemptions:**

Mark Castiglione

Milford PD

Tyrone Parham

UMass PD

Before a vote was taken, Chief Hicks asked whether the MPTC was creating a standard related to campus police officers who request that the MPTC grant a permanent exemption. Tyrone Parham was a former Penn State police officer and was requesting a permanent exemption to work as the Chief of Police at UMass. Marylou Powers stated that each request for permanent exemptions varies depending on the size of the campus and whether the individual was armed while working as a campus police officer. ED Zivkovich added that the Committee looks at the entire service while the individual is employed with the campus. Chief Hicks mentioned a former BC campus police officer who had requested that the MPTC grant a permanent exemption. The MPTC denied the request because the BC police officer had not attended a full academy which made a difference.

After some further discussion, a motion was made and it was seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice.

### Disciplinary Hearings

There were no requests for disciplinary hearings at this time.

### Open Discussion

There were no items for open discussion.

## **Executive Director's Report**

### Western Mass Update

ED Zivkovich reported that the state police will need two more weeks to complete the investigation regarding the recruit who was injured in the Western Mass Academy.

### Database

ED Zivkovich stated that the ELIS database will be replaced with Acadis. This new database will cost \$700K per year but it is an expendable database that has extensive capabilities including tracking certificates and other training records. Additionally, all the data currently maintained in ELIS can be extracted and inputted into the new database. A dozen post agencies are already using this database. ED Zivkovich hopes this will be the database for all public safety in Massachusetts. The MPTC will be the umbrella for this database and if other entities want to join, they will have to visit with the vendor. The database can house up to 30,000 individuals.

### Distance Learning

ED Zivkovich relayed they have contracted with a new vendor who is working on the firearms recertification class and will be completed by April. Suicide Prevention is another topic that the vendor is also working on. ED Zivkovich said the firearms class is more engaging and functional. For example, there is a test out module which allows seasoned instructors to move to the next module without watching the program in its entirety if they correctly answer all the questions.

Chief Livingstone asked how the MPTC will notify departments when the classes are running. ED Zivkovich stated that a notice will go out. Using the online format allows two range sessions to be offered daily, as opposed to a single session when the classroom portion was done at the range.

### Annual Instructor Re-Certifications

ED Zivkovich added that there will be annual re-certifications for legal and firearms instructors. If an instructor does not attend an annual train-the-trainer for those topics, the instructor's certification will not be renewed. The instructor re-certifications will be based on the calendar year.

### Miscellaneous Items

The Western Mass recruit that was dismissed from the academy in 2013 for academic failure initially filed a complaint with the MCAD because of age discrimination. He since dropped the MCAD complaint and filed a federal lawsuit, which is in the discovery phase.

### Boylston Academy

The upcoming class for the Boylston Academy was cancelled because there were not enough recruits to support a class. There are 101 available seats remaining out of 142 seats available statewide. The Boylston class only had 11 applicants, with 6 of them from Pittsfield. All affected departments were promptly notified. There was some discussion about the need for academies to run less frequently if the numbers are diminishing. ED Zivkovich advised no new academy start dates would be announced until it could be determined if this is a temporary lull or a new normal.

Tom Fleming announced that the NECC will be hosting a class of 27 for April. The recruits are coming from Lawrence, Dracut and Haverhill. Massachusetts State Police would also like to run another MSPMA class but will have to revisit depending on the interest. There was further discussion about whether the MPTC could project numbers. Marylou Powers recommended that departments use the expressions list that Pat Caggiano monitors. Without a legitimate interest, it is difficult to know how many departments need seats in academies.

### Recruit Officer Training Updates

Boston: class began with 89 students and 71 remain. There are students from 19 outside agencies. No graduation date has been set but anticipated to occur at the end of June or early July.

Boylston: 37 student officers graduated on January 15, 2016. John Mulloy added that Boylston will be running several specialized classes, including crash investigation, ARIDE, PTSD/ suicide prevention, PT instructor and BTO recertification classes.

Lowell: An academy with approximately 15-20 Lowell officers may be scheduled for May 23, 2016.

MSP: The RTT class holds at 158 in week 14, and graduation is scheduled for April 1, 2016, from DCU Worcester.

NECC: The class holds with 26 officers in week 17 of the academy. Graduation is scheduled for March 18, 2016.

Plymouth: The class is in week 13 and 42 officers remain. The next class is scheduled for April 11, 2016.

Randolph: There are 44 in the class. There was one resignation due to an injury. Graduation is expected on June 24, 2016.

Reading: There are 43 officers remaining. Graduation is planned for February 11 and another class is starting March 14, 2016.

Dan May added that a recruit stopped and saved a man who was involved in a roll-over accident on Route 128 in front of the recruit officer. The recruit was calm and utilized the training he received from the academy to respond to the

scene. The media picked up the story, which generated positive press.

Springfield: No class in session right now. However, Springfield expects a class of 45 in early to mid-June. Springfield is in the process of renovating its facility.

Transit: holding steady with 30 officers. The anticipated graduation is scheduled for March 14, 2016.

WMASS: The class holds at 32 officers and graduation is anticipated on February 12, 2016. The next class is scheduled for March 28, 2016.

Worcester: 38 recruits started on January 18, 2016, and graduation date is set for July 1, 2016.

### MANG

ED Zivkovich reported that the National Guard will be attending the next meeting to discuss running another reserve academy at Hanscom Air Force Base.

### Spending Plan

Administration and Finance reduced the MPTC's budget by 200K. Michelle Small with EOPPS believes a former analyst working for A & F made a mistake. ED Zivkovich mentioned that he was preparing for 9C cuts which essentially would be 42K and not 200K. Until this issue is resolved, ED Zivkovich is careful about approving specialized trainings.

In light of the concern with the budget, Chief Hicks asked ED Zivkovich to compare and contrast what the effect would be on training if the error is not corrected. At the next meeting, Chief Hicks would like to see a preliminary spending plan. ED Zivkovich added that 200K will not have an impact on In-Service training.

There was some discussion regarding the money that was collected as a fee for public safety. At one point the RMV had collected 400K and was not certain how it would be appropriated. Chief Hicks and Chief Brooks have asked EOPPS Secretary to find out where the money is and how much has been collected.

### Old Business

#### Funding for police training and other legislation affecting police training

No new updates at this time.

### New Business

#### Opioid Bill

ED Zivkovich mentioned that the House and Senate versions of the Opioid Bill contain similar language. Both recommend that there should be additional training but neither version mandates it.

CPR/First Responder Statewide Coordinator, Neal Hovey informed ED Zivkovich that the training the MPTC offers for Narcan is extensive and covers what the versions of the Opioid Bill advise for training. Undersecretary Queally asked whether everyone carries Narcan. Chief Botieri added that recruits are trained in the academy how to use Narcan but are not certified. Chief Hicks

agrees that recruits should be certified to use Narcan if they are receiving the training within the academy. There was some further discussion about certifying recruits. [After the meeting had adjourned, ED Zivkovich affirmed that graduates from MPTC recruit and in-service training are certified to carry and utilize nasal Narcan.]

### Training regarding Terrorist Tactics

Joe Vieira relayed that some of the line officers he works with would like to see the MPTC roll out training regarding terrorist tactics. ED Zivkovich stated that there are two aspects of this type of training. The first would target folks that are radicalized and the second training would focus on individuals in the in the community that may be plotting an attack. ED Zivkovich asked that Joe Vieira narrow down what type of training these officers were requesting. For example, MEMA has an excellent video that encourages citizens to report something they see that is suspicious. There was some follow-up discussion as to whether this was relevant to line officers or whether the training really should focus on response to critical incidents. Chief Hicks mentioned that the state police offer an excellent training that is 16 hours and includes a practical segment at Logan Airport. Joe Vieira added that he will connect with the officers again to streamline what type of training they really want.

### Training Year 2017 In-Service Training

ED Zivkovich distributed a sheet that contained potential In-Service and Specialized topics for TY 2017. Some of the Chiefs have not heard back from departments in their region. Chief Hicks asked what topics the Committee wants to mandate. One topic that was mentioned involved silver alert training that assists officers who are dealing with people who have Alzheimer's. There was some discussion whether silver alert training should be offered as a specialized course. Chief Lyle had been in contact with the group interested in this training and they were in the process of completing the curriculum. Dori said that recruits receive a twenty five minute block about dealing with people who have Alzheimer's. Chief Hicks asked Committee members to be ready in February to discuss what topics should be mandated for In-Service training for TY 2017.

### Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 17, 2016 @ Randolph.

### Adjournment

The motion was made seconded and passed at 11:36 AM to adjourn.