 **The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

 **Middlesex Sheriff’s Office**

**Peter J. Koutoujian**

**Sheriff**

**12 Gill St. Suite 4700 Phone (781) 960-2800**

**Woburn, Massachusetts 01801 Fax (781) 960-2902**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT**

October 11, 2023 Kevin Maccioli

 Dir. of Media Relations (MSO)

 781-960-2805

**Billerica Police Chief Roy Frost joins** **the
Middlesex County Restoration Center Commission**

BILLERICA, Mass. – The Middlesex County Restoration Center Commission today announced that Billerica Police Chief Roy Frost has joined the body tasked with establishing the Commonwealth’s first restoration center.

The center would support law enforcement efforts to divert those with mental health and/or substance use disorders in Middlesex County away from jails and emergency rooms and to treatment services. It would also serve as a walk-in facility for those in behavioral health crisis.

The commission is co-chaired by Middlesex Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian and Dr. Danna Mauch, the President and CEO of the Massachusetts Association for Mental Health. The commission also includes State Senator Cindy Friedman (D – Fourth Middlesex), State Representative Kenneth Gordon (D – 21st Middlesex), as well as public and behavioral health stakeholders.

“Chief Frost’s vast array of experience and knowledge – especially his leadership on pre-arrest diversion – will greatly benefit the commission as we work towards the launch of the restoration center,” said Co-Chairs Koutoujian and Mauch. “We are excited to welcome the Chief to the commission and thank him for his long-running support of this critical initiative.”

“I am honored to be part of the Middlesex County Restoration Center Commission,” said Chief Frost.  “The work that this Commission has accomplished under the leadership of Sheriff Koutoujian and Dr. Mauch has been critical in addressing the challenges our communities face in appropriately responding to the needs of those suffering from mental health and substance abuse disorder throughout the county.  I am hopeful that my time with the Commission will serve to continue with the high goals they have set.”

“Effective partnership with local law enforcement is essential for the success of the restoration center,” said Senator Friedman. “Chief Frost’s years of leadership experience and his perspective working at the community-level in Billerica will serve as an immense benefit to the implementation of the restoration center and to the commission overall.”

To learn more about the Middlesex County Restoration Center Commission, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/middlesex-county-restoration-center-commission>.

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