



# Chiefs Newsletter

Chiefs Newsletter

August 2010

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## News from the Executive Director

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## Municipal Police Training Commission Report

The final report from the Municipal Police Training Commission has been approved and is hitting bookstands across the Commonwealth. Well, the first part is true anyway. In summary, the report makes three primary, overarching recommendations. The final paragraph of the report reads,

“Based upon all of the aforementioned, the commission respectfully comes forward with three recommendations. First, the commission recommends the establishment of a consistent, adequate, dedicated funding mechanism for police training utilizing a surcharge on motor vehicle insurance policies. Second, the commission recommends the establishment of a statewide

POST system for overseeing law enforcement training in the Commonwealth. Third, recognizing that issues pertaining to mental illness require specialized training, the MPTC should continue to update and refine such training for implementation on a statewide basis.”

To read the report in its entirety, the Statewide Police Training Report, visit our website [www.mass.gov/mptc](http://www.mass.gov/mptc), you will find it in the Key Resources section on the left.

In case you did not hear about it, *The Boston Globe* published an article discussing the report on Saturday, August 7. To read that story visit our website under News & Updates “Globe Article: Police training lags badly”.



**“the commission recommends the establishment of a statewide POST system for overseeing law enforcement training in the Commonwealth”**



## Professional Development (In-Service) Training

As you know, the Committee has established the training agenda for the 2010-2011 Professional Development (In-Service) training program. Due to our 17% budget cut, we had to revisit the content and delivery of training. Due to overwhelming chiefs’ support for the core classes, the topics themselves are unchanged:

Defensive Tactics (2 blocks), Legal Issues (2 blocks), First Aid/CPR (2 blocks), Sexual Assault of Older Adults, Persons with Disabilities and Adolescents (1 block) and Firearms (1 block).

As was the case last year, all classroom portions will be available online, but the online versions will likely not be ready until November. However, the drastic cuts in our ability to pay contract/guest instructors forced us to change how the defensive tactics practical will be delivered: MPTC will **not** be providing the DT practical this year. Instead, although the class is still required, like firearms, the departments themselves will be responsible for delivering the training. Hopefully the chart below clarifies things:

TOPIC	HOURS OF TRAINING		
	Classroom / online	Practical	
		Delivered @ academy	Delivered by department
SA	3		
Legal	3 + 3 <sup>1</sup>		
CPR/FA	3	3	
DT	3		3 (2+1) <sup>2</sup>
Firearms			3
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>

<sup>1</sup>The goal is to promote/encourage the first block of legal to be taken online, with only the second block taken in the classroom to allow for Q&A and networking.

<sup>2</sup>The DT practical will have a two-hour component written and prescribed by the State-wide Coordinator and his advisory group, with the third hour being developed by the department to focus on departmental issues and concerns related to DT.

This change in providing the DT practical will save us about \$45,000 in training expenditures. At the same time, we are also hoping this new approach will actually give you a better product. Here’s why I feel that way: The DT statewide coordinator will develop a two-hour curriculum, complete

with a DVD showing the techniques to be taught. The DVD/lesson plan will be furnished to all DT instructors. The remaining one hour of instruction is meant to be agency driven. In other words, this gives you the opportunity to have your DT instructors address issues and concerns specific to your department’s needs. Moreover,

the training does not have to be completed in one training block. It can be completed in smaller increments that better mesh with your coverage and training schedules.

For those agencies who do not have in-house DT instructors, we will be accelerating the timeline for MPTC DT instructor development

training with classes starting in the fall rather than the spring. We will also be forwarding a list of all certified DT instructors and their departments to allow you to see the resources around you. Regional and shared training are certainly encouraged, and MPTC facilities are available for use. Regrettably,

## Professional Development (In-Service) Training *(Continued)*

though, we are unable to pay for the instructors.

With respect to the footnote regarding Legal Issues training, Howard came up with an observation regarding the training. Many chiefs were expressing a desire for their officers to attend a classroom session of Legal Issues training for the ability to ask questions and interact with other officers. In visiting with the instructors for last year's program, Howard came to the realization

that the morning sessions of Legal Issues were, indeed, filled with Q&A and networking, but not so much in the afternoon. So with that dynamic in mind, we are hoping to save those departments (and us) money by encouraging those departments to have their officers take the first block of Legal Issues training online and only attend the second block in the classroom for the Q&A and networking. This will be a more productive use of instructor and class time, as

well. That said, classroom versions of both sessions will still be available for those who are contractually obligated to send officers to classroom training and for those who do not have high-speed Internet access. Please be sure to notify your appropriate MPTC program coordinator if these apply to your department.

Deputy  
Captain  
Lieutenant  
Sergeant  
Patrolman

## Executive Level Professional Development (In-Service) Training Program

The Executive Certificate Series is still a part of this year's training plan. This was a priority for us, but it also helped that the actual costs of the statewide program are much less than originally anticipated, making the class

financially feasible in this tight budget year. As a reminder, the training is a statewide professional development program geared towards chiefs and command staff. The program will be a certificate program and will consist of eight half-

day training sessions, with one session per month. The core statewide classes will include Legal Issues, Liability Issues, Legislative Issues, CPR/First Aid, and DV/SA. The remaining sessions will be determined at the regional level. To

receive the certificate, seven of the eight sessions must be attended. You should be hearing from your local academies soon regarding the schedule.



## Recruit Officer Training

The following recruit classes are currently scheduled. None of these classes have a float status:

- ✓ MBTA Transit Police: October 18, 2010
- ✓ Plymouth Regional Police Academy: November 15, 2010

✓ Western Mass Regional Police Academy: March 7, 2011  
Depending upon the numbers, another class may be scheduled for February. As I have

mentioned before, to help us accurately determine the need for a class, we ask you to notify Lynda Kearns with updates regarding your recruit officer training plans (AKA hiring

plans), whether those plans are in the immediate future or months away. That way, we can schedule classes that more closely meet your needs and do so in a timely, expedient

manner. You can contact Lynda at [Lynda.Kearns@state.ma.us](mailto:Lynda.Kearns@state.ma.us) or at 781-437-0306. Thank you for your help.



## Military Veterans Transition Support and the GI Bill

Many of you are hiring military veterans or having officers return from military active duty. We all want to make sure our returning veterans have the tools they need to be successful in our departments, but we also recognize these members of the military often face diffi-

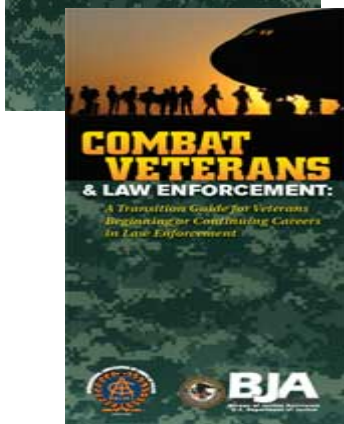
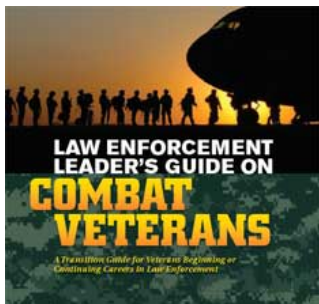
cult transitions back to civilian life and to their roles as civilian police officers and we wonder what we can do to facilitate these transitions. The IACP, in conjunction with BJA, has produced a guide to aid you. Below is an overview, and Lynda has put a link to the related

IACP website in the Chiefs Corner of the MPTC website ([www.mass.gov/mptc](http://www.mass.gov/mptc)).

In addition, if you are hiring military veterans, many of them can use their GI Bill benefits during recruit training and in some cases, during the FTO program. This can certainly serve

as a recruiting tool. Lynda has included a copy of the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education pamphlet giving an overview of GI Bill benefits and providing contact information on the Chiefs Corner page of the MPTC website.

### INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION of CHIEFS OF POLICE



The IACP, in partnership with the Bureau of Justice Assistance, is proud to announce the release of two guidebooks in support of military veterans who serve in law enforcement. Developed through the knowledge and experience of veterans serving in law enforcement, these guides address the challenges that veterans face as they deploy and reintegrate into their departments.

The *Leader's Guide* is designed to provide tools and strategies to define or refine a transition/reintegration strategy that optimizes a successful transition and enhanced support for veteran officers. The *Veteran's Guide* contains tips, checklists, and resources to assist law enforcement officers returning from combat deployments, while offering some useful suggestions for those veterans seeking a productive and sustainable career in law enforcement.

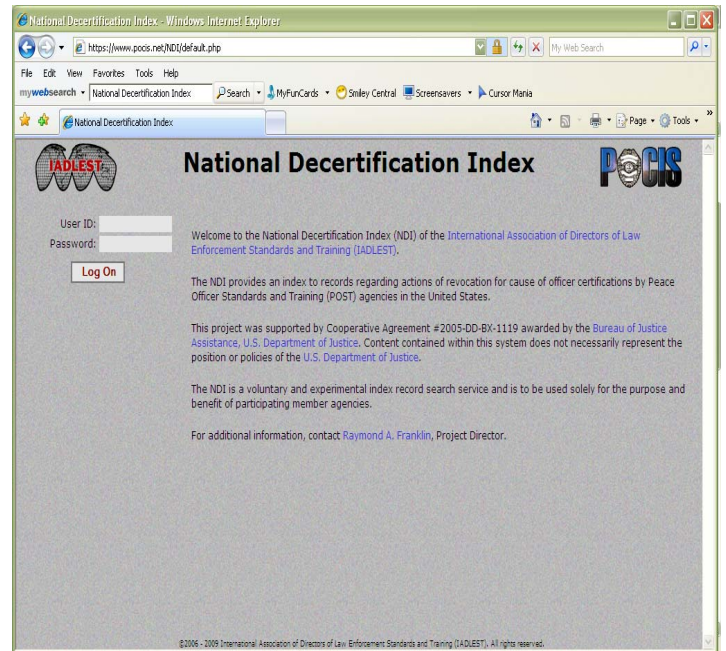
Law enforcement leaders are encouraged to provide the veterans guide to all veterans in their agency. Both guidebooks are available for download or hard copy request by visiting the IACP website: [www.iacp.org](http://www.iacp.org) For more information about the Returning Veterans Project, please contact Arnold Daxe Jr. at [daxe@theiacp.org](mailto:daxe@theiacp.org) or 1-800-THE-IACP / 703-836-6767 ext. 817



## National Decertification Index

As an ongoing reminder, MPTC has access to the National Decertification Index, which has data from participating POST states all over the country. The NDI is a list of officers who have been decertified and are no longer allowed to exercise police powers in the respective POST states. Please feel free to contact Marylou Powers @

[Marylou.Powers@state.ma.us](mailto:Marylou.Powers@state.ma.us) or 781-437-0302 if you would like us to see if an applicant or candidate you are considering is on that list.



## Budget

As you read above, we did receive a 17% budget reduction. After fixed costs were subtracted, we were left with roughly \$300,000 to provide the level of training that cost \$770,000 last year. In spite of the shortfall, the savings generated by having the DT practical done at the agency level will allow us to deliver recruit officer training, statutorily mandated training, and other core specialized classes. We will also be able to continue our instructor development programs through the statewide coordinators

and to revitalize our municipal EVOC program, including the development of an expanded instructor cadre.

In addition, we are still committed to providing as much training as possible despite the limited dollars. The academy directors and program coordinators are actively looking for quality training that can be delivered at little or no cost. If you have ideas or leads, please do not hesitate to share them with us.

As always, let me know if you have questions,

concerns, comments, suggestions, or critiques. And above all else, please be careful out there!

Dan

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Dan Zivkovich, Executive Director (781) 437-0301  
Municipal Police Training Committee  
6 Adams Street, Randolph, MA 02368  
Main Number: 781-437-0300 Fax: 781-963-0235

The mission of the Municipal Police Training Committee is to set and enforce training standards, to identify and meet the training needs of the Commonwealth's municipal police officers, to facilitate the delivery of up-to-date, state-of-the-art training, and to document training. At the same time, the MPTC must be responsive to the needs of municipal departments and the communities they serve.

## **MPTC Regional Police Academies**

### **Boylston Regional Police Academy**

221 Main Street,  
Boylston, MA 01505  
Lisa Ann Reich, Academy Director  
Ph: (781) 437-0322  
Fax: (508) 869-3187

### **New Bedford Regional Police Academy**

1204 Purchase Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740  
Rose Sauvageau, Program Coordinator  
Ph: (508) 992 - 7014  
FAX: (508) 9791771

### **Plymouth Regional Police Academy**

24 Long Pond Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360  
John DeGutis, Academy Director  
Ph: (781) 437-0331  
FAX: (508) 830-6319  
Alison Taylor, Veteran Officer Coordinator  
Cape & Islands (781) 437-0332  
Joanne Heres, Veteran Officer Coordinator  
(781) 437-0333  
Eileen Goodick, Basic & Reserve Intermit-  
tent (781) 437-0334

### **Randolph Regional Police Academy**

6 Adams Street, Randolph, MA 02368  
Carl Parsons, Academy Director (781) 437-0321  
James Scott, Specialized Training (781) 437-0307  
Fax: (781) 963-0235

### **Reading Regional Police Academy**

P.O. Box 522, Reading, MA 01867 FAX: (781) 942-0968  
Rhoda Pires, Academy Director (781) 437-0341  
Larry Norman, Program Coordinator (781) 437-0343  
Pam King, Governor's Highway Safety Division (781) 437-0342  
FAX: 781-942-0969

### **Western Mass Regional Police Academy c/o STCC**

1 Armory Square, Bldg. 12, Springfield, MA 01102  
John Claffey, Academy Director Ph: (781) 437-0361  
Dori-Ann Ference, Veteran Officer Coordinator (781) 437-0362  
FAX: 413-755-6331 for the immediate future, but will eventually  
change to (781) 437-0369.



**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.mass.gov/mptc](http://www.mass.gov/mptc)**