



# Chiefs Newsletter

Chiefs Newsletter

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## News from the Executive Director

Inside this issue:

Professional Development (In-Service) Training	1
Executive Level Professional Development (In-Service) Training Program	2
Recruit Officer Training	2
Recruit Officer Firearms Failure Training Policy	3
National Decertification Index (NDI)	3
Budget	3
Minimum Standards for Handgun Requalification and Continual Training	4

### Professional Development (In-Service) Training

As you may have heard, the Committee has established the training agenda for the 2010-2011 Professional Development (In-Service) training program. The topics to be included are:

**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)

**Firearms** (1 block to be provided by the departments themselves, not by MPTC.)

Recognizing the difficulties agencies are hav-

ing with training budgets, next year's training will involve an online component similar to this year's training. Likewise, the departmental firearms training component was included in an attempt to mitigate the impact of the recently adopted ongoing firearms training requirement. By making this a component of mandatory professional development training, the Committee hoped that agencies would be able to utilize their Professional Development line item to fund the training and to deal with related staffing issues.

Not surprisingly, MPTC is facing yet more budget challenges. (More on that in this Issue.) Until we get final budget numbers we

will not be able to finalize the format, structure, or number of available weeks for the training. Stay tuned.

**“we are developing a statewide professional development program geared towards chiefs and command staff ”**

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

In addition to professional development training for line officers, we are developing 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. If you have suggestions for topics to include in this program, please contact your local academy director or Marylou Powers with your ideas. To

receive the certificate, seven of the eight sessions must be attended. My thanks go to the MPTC academy directors and program coordinators who are working to make this an exceptional, meaningful program and to Academy Director John DeGutis and the Plymouth staff for sharing their insights on

their successful program.



## Recruit Officer Training

As you know, we have stopped using a float status for MPTC Recruit Officer training. That means a scheduled recruit class will run, regardless of the enrollment numbers. Hopefully, this aids in your planning and scheduling. It should also reduce the need to apply to several academies in the hopes of getting into one. However, this commitment on our part comes with a tradeoff: We only schedule a class when we feel the demand is sufficient to make the class feasible. That determination is made based upon the ex-

pressed interest we receive from the field.

Another tradeoff is the potential for waiting too long to schedule a recruit class and then have more demand than a single class can accommodate. As a result, I ask for your help with both of these tradeoffs. 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.

Speaking of recruit officer training, upcoming sessions include MSPMA3 at New Braintree, which is scheduled to begin August 30, and MBTA Transit Police MPOC scheduled to begin October 18. If you are not familiar with the New Braintree facility, dormitory rooms are available for students. The

decision as to the site for the next MPTC Recruit Officer training program will be made sometime in late summer or early fall, again, depending upon expressed needs.

## Recruit Officer Firearms Failure Training Policy

After much discussion, the Committee has adopted a proposal put forward by Statewide Firearms Coordinator Bill Leanos and his advisory group.

The policy defines and clarifies MPTC and

agency roles with respect to remedial firearms training for recruits. It also clarifies at what point in the training a failure can occur. I have included a copy of the policy at the end of this newsletter (page 4). Please feel

free to let us know if you have any questions or concerns.



## National Decertification Index (NDI)

As a 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 their respective states. Please feel free to contact Marylou Powers at:

[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

This will likely sound all too familiar, but we are facing another round of potential budget cuts. The current Ways and Means Committee budgets from both the Senate and House recommend funding MPTC at about \$2.4 million, which is 17% less than the current year's budget, which was 10% less than the previous year's budget, which was...

well, you get the picture.

However, at the risk of sounding too Pollyanna about it, that is not all bad news. On the positive side of that negative information, the MPTC is recommended for funding. Plus, the \$2.4 million is sufficient for staffing the MPTC and providing logistical support (AKA supplies, utilities, and facilities). Nonetheless, if that is the final budget we are given, we will most cer-

tainly have to revisit how we deliver training.

That said, I want to assure you that we are committed to continuing to get you the training you and your officers need. We may have to get creative as to how that happens, but we will **not** use money as an excuse to avoid our responsibilities. Certainly, we are hopeful that the insurance surcharge or some other funding mechanism will be passed, but

regardless, our goal is to provide exceptional customer service with whatever resources are at our disposal.

As always, please let me know your comments, suggestions, questions, and concerns. Thank you for what you do and above all else, be careful out there!

Dan

## Minimum Standards for Handgun Requalification and Continual Training



### Commonwealth of Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Committee *"Training for Today, Planning for the Future"*



#### Policies and Procedures Regarding Dismissal for Failing Recruit Officer Training in Firearms

The goal of 56-hour Firearms Training Course within the Basic Course for Police is to instruct, test, and qualify Student Officers in the safe, proficient, legal, and judicious use of the police duty handgun. The course is designed for the beginner and assumes that Student Officers have no prior experience with firearms. All activities within the 56 hours are considered *training* to include instruction, practice, review, and testing. In order to complete the Basic Course for Police, all Student Officers must complete the Firearms Training, pass all practical and written tests, and qualify to carry the duty weapon by shooting a minimum score of 80% on the MPTC Qualification Course. The following policies and procedures give direction to Academy Directors in cases when Student Officers fail to do so.

1. Notwithstanding safety violations, Student Officers must be afforded the full 56 hours of training to complete the course before a determination is made as to the student's success or failure.
2. Remedial training is defined as additional instruction not included within the 56 hours, whether given by academy staff or other trainers. Remedial training may take place before or after hours during the course, or at any time after the last day of the course up to the day before graduation.
3. Student Officers are allowed a maximum of three attempts each to pass the Qualification Course and the practical testing on the last day of range training. It is possible to pass one and not the other. In cases of failure, retesting will be conducted only on the failed segment.
4. Student Officers who fail to qualify or pass the practical testing will be allowed remedial training on their own time and at their or their Department's expense. Retesting will be conducted at a time mutually agreed upon by the Academy Director, the Student Officer, and the Department's liaison. The facility and staffing costs associated with the retesting will be the responsibility of the MPTC. The retest will be conducted by a certified MPTC instructor under the supervision of the MPTC State-wide Coordinator for Firearms. The last possible day for the retest is the day before graduation and will include a maximum of two attempts. Failure to qualify or pass the practical on the second attempt shall result in dismissal from the Academy.
5. When scheduling academy sessions, Academy Directors should ensure that the final day of firearms training is completed at least 30 days prior to graduation.

Written examinations given as a component of the Firearms Training Course is not governed by this policy. Any written testing, retesting, and failures shall be governed by the MPTC written testing guidelines and protocols.

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Municipal Police Training Committee  
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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 Intermittent (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 Police Academy c/o STCC**

1 Armory Square, Bldg. 12, Springfield, MA 01102  
John Claffey, Academy Director Ph: (413) 755-5721  
Dori-Ann Ference, Veteran Officer Coordinator (413) 755-5722  
FAX: 413-755-6331



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