



Chiefs Newsletter

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October 2009

Volume 1, Issue 1

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Greetings

Greetings from the MPTC!! As the new director of the MPTC, I have four major goals. The first is to make sure the police officers of the Commonwealth get the best training possible. The second is to be responsive to the needs of the departments and citizens. The third and fourth goals are derivatives of the first two: to establish collaborative working relationships and partnerships and to have open communication with you. This newsletter is a component of that dialogue. I am hoping this is an effective way to get important information to you in a timely and effective manner. If you have other suggestions for im-

proved communication and collaboration, please let me know.

Trust me; I will try not to abuse the email method. I do not want to add to the overflowing inbox you are already experiencing. So, you will not get messages from me *ad nauseum*. I do not want to end up on anyone's blocked senders list or to have you hit delete when you see messages from me. I recognize there is no substitute for in-person discussions. That is why my goal is to have my primary means of communication being attendance at the regional and state association meetings, via direct contact at other venues, and through

your MPTC committee representatives.

Recognizing these emails will deal primarily with training issues, please feel free to share them with your training officer/coordinator, if applicable. And if you think those coordinators should be primary recipients of these messages, please send me their email addresses, and I will be happy to add them.

The New Guy

By way of background for those who have not already Googled my name, I come to the Commonwealth from a faraway place: Wyoming. I grew up in South Carolina, but lived in Wyoming for the last 30 years. While there, I spent 18 years with the Wyoming Highway Patrol, working my way through the ranks from Trooper to Captain. During that time, I spent about 8 years in charge of our training division, where I

supervised the hiring process, the recruit and veteran officer training programs, the promotional testing process, and the safety education program. I was also the public information officer and a legislative liaison.

In 2000, I was offered the director's position for the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy, where I served for five years. Wyoming only has one facility, which trained

all police officers in the state, including troopers, deputies, municipal officers, game and fish wardens, and state park rangers. In addition to police officers, we provided basic training to detention officers, dispatchers, and coroners. The facility had a gymnasium, dormitory, cafeteria, driving pad. We also utilized dozens of adjunct instructors – officers and lay persons who came to teach portions of

the training.

In 2005, I accepted the position of chief of police for the Town of Jackson, Wyoming. We had 23 sworn officers, four community service officers, the victim services unit, and the animal shelter. Our resident population was about 12,000, but in the summertime, we had approximately 80,000 people in our community on a daily basis. In the winter, it was a mere 50,000. Throw in a healthy dose of alcoholic beverages, and it was a challenging place to work. Very scenic – but challenging.

“Training for Today, Planning for the Future”

**“The MPTC
Committee has
mandated four days
of training.”**

Professional Development - In-service

Since we are trying a new approach this year, there is much confusion over the required components of in-service training. The MPTC Committee has mandated four days of training. Three and one-half days of the training are to be one day of Legal Updates, one day of CPR and First Responder, one day of Defensive Tactics, and one-half day of Domestic Violence. The other half day can

be any specialized program the department chooses, whether it is furnished in house or by MPTC – so long as the training is law enforcement related.

The bulk of the confusion has stemmed from the role distance learning plays. The online component has been added by the Committee to save you time and money. As we go forward, online training will be an integral part of

our training delivery plan, BUT we recognize it does not do away with the need for classroom training. We will be selective as to what classes we put on line to make sure the online method is truly viable for the material. Also, you need to know that the MPTC online training is not your grandmother’s online courses. You will find Sandra’s and Lynda’s courses to be much more informative

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Distance Learning

and interactive than the traditional text-only or video-only versions.

As I said, in the interest of saving money and time, the Committee has established online components to all of the mandatory training. To wit, the CPR and FR both have an online component that equals a half-day of training, as does the Defensive

Tactics class. The entire Legal Update can be taken online, as can the Domestic Violence block. Only two of the seven blocks of training are NOT available online: the CPR/FR practical and the DT practical. Another advantage to the online training is it is **also open to use by reserve and intermittent officers at no charge.**

At the same time, there is **no** mandate that classes be taken online. One extreme is for officers to attend ALL of in-service training in the classroom, while not taking any classes on line. On the other end of the spectrum is for officers to take all available online training and only attend the CPR, FR, and DT practical exercises in the classroom. But a mix-and

Distance Learning continued....

match is acceptable as well. In other words, you may opt to have officers take the entire Legal Update blocks online, but not take CPR or DT online. OR, due to scheduling or other reasons, you may have some officers participating in online training, while others are not. Obviously, this range of options will present challenges for the academies and program coordinators as they schedule their training. The concern is officers coming to practical training after taking the online class, but not submitting their registrations. This would cause classes to be overbooked. Plus, we have concerns about being underbooked. So, **please be sure to have officers preregister for their training sessions.** Now you can see why this has created so much confusion: This truly is a new approach with many options available – all designed to try to provide training more economically and efficiently.

For more information (and potentially more clarification), please go to http://www.mass.gov/Eeops/docs/mptcelearn-ing_fy10_inservice_septe09.doc.

If your agency is NOT participating in online training, you can skip this paragraph and move onto the next topic. To participate in online training, you must have an agency registrar who has attended an MPTC registrar training. Most of you have done this. If you have not, contact Sandra Sousa @ San-dra.Sousa@massmail.state.ma.us to find the next class. Also please note:

- **The CPR and First Responder are separate classes with separate logins when taken online.** Both must be completed prior to attending the CPR/FR practical exercise. **Online components of the CPR, FR, and DT MUST be completed prior to attending the related practical train**

ing. The practical is built upon information conveyed in the classroom/online block of training.

- As a result, students taking the classroom portion online, **MUST** bring either a certificate of completion or the grade report (both of which the officer can print) from the online class when they attend the practical.

The target date for having all online classes available is October 26. (We got off to a late start for a variety of reasons.) Whew!!! Clear as mud? Probably, but if you still have questions, please call me, Marylou, or your local in-service coordinator, and we'll try to sort it out.



On-going Legal Issues

Ongoing Legal Updates:

We recognize the in-service legal update training does not take into account the new cases being decided on a daily basis. As a result, we try to provide ongoing legal updates beyond the in-service material. Due to budget constraints, we are unable to

pay any outside vendors to provide these ongoing updates this year. However, the State Police provides this service as an ongoing component of their online training. Any department which has a trained MPTC registrar can access these updates and can print them for

posting and sharing and/or can open them to the department's officers who can review them individually. Again, if you do not have a registrar and would like one, please contact our e-learning coordinator, Sandra Sousa, at San-dra.Sousa@massmail.state.ma.us.



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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
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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
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Western Mass Police Academy c/o STCC

1 Armory Square, Bldg. 12, Springfield, MA 01102
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We're on the Web!
www.mass.gov/mptc