

**Municipal Police Training Committee**  
**Standards Subcommittee Meeting**  
**MPTC Headquarters – Randolph**  
**February 21, 2024**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

On February 21, 2024, at 9:05 a.m., an in-person meeting of the Standards Subcommittee was called to order at MPTC headquarters in Randolph, MA. Advance notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with the open meeting laws. A quorum of the seven-member Subcommittee was present. The meeting was broadcast over Microsoft Teams.

**Subcommittee Members Present**

- Chair Kevin Coppinger
- Superintendent Nora Baston
- Chief Edward Conley
- Major Jon Provost
- Superintendent Richard Sullivan
- Retired Ofc. Joseph Vieira

**MPTC Staff Present**

- Jim O'Brien
- Gina Masotta
- Felisha Arnold
- Denise Flagg
- Hannah MacKillop
- Lara Thomas

**II. APPROVAL OF SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES**

A motion was made by Chief Conley and seconded by Superintendent Sullivan to approve the Standards Subcommittee minutes from the January 17, 2024 meeting. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

**III. POLICE WAIVERS AND OUT-OF-STATE EXEMPTIONS**

**Temporary Waivers**

There were no temporary waivers on the February agenda.

## **Out-of-State Exemptions**

There were four out-of-state exemptions on the February agenda.

### **1. Joshua D. Pelletier**

#### **Fall River PD**

- Basic Training:
  - Graduated on December 17, 2013 from the 963.5-hour Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy, Class 2013-II.
- Work Experience as a Law Enforcement Officer: (10+ years)
  - December 2013 – July 2023: Fulltime police officer for the Tiverton, RI Police Department, rising to the rank of Detective Sergeant in 2020.
  - July 2023 – present: Fulltime police officer for the East Providence, RI Police Department.
- In-Service/Specialized Training: Yes, in RI.
- Break in Service: No.
- CPR/1<sup>st</sup> Aid Certified: Yes – 1/31/24 (AHA BLS/CPR).
- MPTC Firearms Certified: Yes – 1/31/24.
- MPTC Police Officer Core Competency Exam: Yes – 1/29/24 (82%).

**A motion was made by Ret. Officer Vieira and seconded by Superintendent Sullivan to recommend to the full Committee that Joshua D. Pelletier be granted an exemption from the requirement of completing a fulltime MPTC operated/authorized Police Academy. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **2. Michael R. Jewett**

#### **MassPort Police**

- Basic Training:
  - Graduated on June 28, 2002 from the 469.5-hour 128th New Hampshire Police Academy.
- Work Experience as a Law Enforcement Officer: (21+ years)
  - June 2002 – present: Fulltime police officer for the Newton, NH Police Department, rising to the rank of Chief in July 2016.
- In-Service/Specialized Training: Yes, in NH.
- Break in Service: No.
- CPR/1<sup>st</sup> Aid Certified: Yes – 8/15/23 (AHA BLS/CPR).
- MPTC Firearms Certified: Yes – 1/11/24.
- MPTC Police Officer Core Competency Exam: Yes – 1/22/24 (78%).

**A motion was made by Ret. Officer Vieira and seconded by Superintendent Baston to recommend to the full Committee that Michael R. Jewett be granted an exemption from the requirement of completing a fulltime MPTC operated/authorized Police Academy. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **3. Shane S. Murray**

#### **Webster PD**

- Basic Training:
  - Graduated on May 28, 2021 from the 914.5-hour Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy, Class 2021-I.
- Work Experience as a Law Enforcement Officer: (2.5+ years)
  - May 2021 – present: Fulltime police officer for the Woonsocket, RI Police Department.
- In-Service/Specialized Training: Yes, in RI.
- Break in Service: No.
- CPR/1<sup>st</sup> Aid Certified: Yes – 2/15/24 (AHA BLS/CPR).
- MPTC Firearms Certified: Yes – 2/16/24.
- MPTC Police Officer Core Competency Exam: Yes – 2/12/24 (86%).

**A motion was made by Superintendent Baston and seconded by Superintendent Sullivan to recommend to the full Committee that Shane S. Murray be granted an exemption from the requirement of completing a fulltime MPTC operated/authorized Police Academy. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **4. Matthew C. Edson**

#### **Reading PD**

- Basic Training:
  - Graduated on December 16, 1989 from an MCJTC Reserve/Intermittent Training Program.
  - Graduated August 24, 1990 from a New Hampshire Recruit Academy for fulltime police officers.
- Work Experience as a Law Enforcement Officer: (30+ years)
  - April 1989 – June 1990: Reserve officer for the Reading, MA Police Department.
  - June 1990 – June 1992: Fulltime police officer for the Concord, NH Police Department.
  - June 1992: Reading, MA Police Department applied for an out-of-state exemption.
  - July 1, 1992 – March 3, 2023: Fulltime police officer for the Reading MA, Police Department.
  - March 3, 2023: Retired from the Reading, MA Police Department.
- In-Service/Specialized Training: Yes, through TY22.
- Break in Service: No.
- CPR/1<sup>st</sup> Aid Certified: No in-service beyond TY22.
- MPTC Firearms Certified: No in-service beyond TY22.

**A motion was made by Ret. Officer Vieira and seconded by Chief Conley to recommend to the full Committee that it reconfirm Matthew Edson's exemption from the requirement of completing a fulltime MPTC operated/authorized Police Academy. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **IV. OUT-OF-STATE EXEMPTION ADVISORIES**

The February agenda had one request by MPTC staff for guidance on an out-of-state exemption advisory.

##### **1. Karen LoStracco**

##### **Animal Rescue League**

The Animal Rescue League of Boston is seeking an advisory opinion as to whether Agent Karen LoStracco, who currently works for the FBI, would qualify for an exemption from the requirement of completing a fulltime MPTC operated/authorized police academy. Agent LoStracco graduated from the 17-week FBI Academy in Quantico in 2004. Since then, she has worked continuously as an FBI agent, including for several years in the Boston Field Office. She has completed numerous other trainings during her career as an FBI agent. The Animal Rescue League is interested in hiring her to work as an officer in their Law Enforcement Department upon her retirement from the FBI. Agent LoStracco and Joe King, the Director of Law Enforcement for the Animal Rescue League, were present at today's meeting to provide the Subcommittee with additional information and answer questions.

There was discussion about how, historically, the FBI Academy has not been accepted by the Committee as the equivalent of a fulltime MPTC police academy and working as an FBI agent has been considered an interruption in service for officers who began their careers as municipal police officers in Massachusetts. Agent LoStracco said she obtained a copy of the MPTC's ROC curriculum and compared it to her FBI academy and in-service training over the years. She included that comparison in the Subcommittee's packet for today. She said she believes that, in terms of cumulative hours, motor vehicle stops is one of the only gaps between her training and MPTC training.

Chair Coppinger talked about the amount and importance of training on community-oriented policing in MPTC academies. He asked that MPTC staff conduct a detailed comparison of the MPTC ROC curriculum and Agent LoStracco's academy training. The matter was tabled until next month.

#### **V. BRIDGE HOURS/EXEMPTIONS**

##### **Bridge Exemptions**

The Standards Subcommittee considered Bridge exemption requests for Officers numbered 631 through 633 on the February Bridge Academy A-H Class List.

**A motion was made by Ret. Officer Vieira and seconded by Chief Conley to recommend to the full Committee that it approve the Bridge exemption requests for Officers numbered 631 through 633 on the February Bridge Academy A-H Class List. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

The Standards Subcommittee considered Bridge exemption requests for Officers numbered 417 and 418 on the February Bridge Academy I-P Class List.

**A motion was made by Ret. Officer Vieira and seconded by Superintendent Sullivan to recommend to the full Committee that it approve the Bridge exemption requests for Officers**

**numbered 417 and 418 on the February Bridge Academy I-P Class List. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

The Standards Subcommittee considered Bridge exemption requests for Officers numbered 199 through 229 on the February Bridge Academy Q-Z Class List.

**A motion was made by Ret. Officer Vieira and seconded by Chief Conley to recommend to the full Committee that it approve the Bridge exemption requests for Officers numbered 199 through 229 on the February Bridge Academy Q-Z Class List. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Bridge Hours**

The February agenda had one request by MPTC staff for guidance on whether to count hours for the Bridge Academy.

#### **1. Alfred Wood**

#### **Norfolk Sheriff's Office**

The Norfolk Sheriff's Office recently submitted a request for a Bridge exemption for Deputy Sheriff Alfred Wood. According to the paperwork provided by Norfolk, Deputy Sheriff Wood has held the title of Deputy Sheriff since 1980. Over the years, he has been promoted to various ranks and worked in different divisions within the Sheriff's Office. The hours that Norfolk asked MPTC staff to count toward the 2,400-hour Bridge requirement are hours he worked from 2008 to 2010 in the Operations Division. However, from 2010 to the present, Deputy Sheriff Wood has worked in Norfolk's Civil Process Division. Historically, Civil Process hours have not been counted for Bridge purposes based on guidance that MPTC staff has received from the Committee. The question presented to the Subcommittee today is whether there is an interruption in service issue that would prevent MPTC staff from counting the 2008-2010 hours if Deputy Sheriff Wood's work in the Civil Process Division over the last 13+ years does not constitute the type of law enforcement hours that would be counted for Bridge. Deputy Sheriff Wood and other members of the Norfolk Sheriff's Office were present at today's meeting to answer questions and provide additional information.

There was extensive discussion about Deputy Sheriff Wood's duties and responsibilities in the Civil Process Division. Ret. Officer Vieira initially made a motion to not accept the hours worked by Deputy Sheriff Wood while in the Civil Process Division. However, the motion was withdrawn, and the Subcommittee asked for additional information and documentation about Deputy Sheriff Wood's work in the Civil Process Division, particularly any documentation demonstrating that he has been performing law enforcement duties.

**A motion was made by Major Provost and seconded by Chief Conley to table the issue for a future date, pending receipt of documentation demonstrating that Deputy Sheriff Wood has been performing law enforcement duties since 2010. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

## **VI. UPDATE ON DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS**

A disciplinary dismissal appeal hearing for former student officers David Bosini and William Corbett, who were dismissed from the Holyoke Police Academy, is scheduled for today at 1 p.m.

A disciplinary dismissal appeal hearing for former student officer Matthew Donaldson, who was dismissed from the Holyoke Academy, is scheduled for March 20, 2024 at 1 p.m.

A hearing for the appeal of a recent dismissal from the Worcester Academy needs to be scheduled.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

**At 10:08 a.m., a motion was made by Ret. Officer Vieira and seconded by Superintendent Sullivan to adjourn the Standards Subcommittee meeting. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**