

Municipal Police Training Committee
Standards Subcommittee Monthly Meeting Minutes
MPTC Headquarters, Randolph, MA
November 20, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

On November 20, 2024, at 9:29 a.m., an in-person meeting of the Standards Subcommittee was called to order at MPTC Headquarters, 42 Thomas Patten Drive, 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

- Sheriff Kevin Coppinger
- Superintendent Nora Baston
- Chief Jennifer Gundersen
- Major Jon Provost

MPTC/EOPSS Staff Present

- Jim O'Brien
- Gina Masotta
- Denise Flagg

II. APPROVAL OF SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

A motion was made by Chief Gundersen and seconded by Superintendent Baston to approve the Standards Subcommittee minutes from the meeting on October 16, 2024. A vote was taken, and the motion passed with two abstentions (Sheriff Coppinger and Major Provost).

III. POLICE WAIVERS AND OUT-OF-STATE EXEMPTIONS

Temporary Waivers

There were no temporary waivers on the November agenda.

Out-of-State Exemptions

There were three out-of-state exemptions on the November agenda.

1. Jennifer McNaught Lincoln PD

- Basic Training:
 - Graduated on May 25, 2016 from the 720-hour Washington State Basic Law Enforcement Academy.
- Work Experience as a Law Enforcement Officer:
 - May 2016 – present: full-time police officer for the Auburn, WA Police Department.

- A motion was made by Chief Gundersen and seconded by Superintendent Baston to recommend to the full Committee that Jennifer McNaught be granted an exemption from the requirement of completing a full-time MPTC operated/authorized Police Academy. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

- Basic Training:
 - Graduated on October 17, 2017 from the 770-hour Florida Law Enforcement Academy Basic Recruit Training Program.
- Work Experience as a Law Enforcement Officer:
 - October 2017 – May 2024: full-time deputy sheriff for the Polk County Sheriff's Office in Florida.
- In-Service/Specialized Training: Yes, in FL.
- Break in Service: 6 months.
- CPR/1st Aid Certified: Yes – 10/25/2024.
- MPTC Firearms Certified: Yes – 8/27/2024.
- MPTC Police Officer Core Competency Exam: Yes – 10/19/2024 (78%).

3. Christopher Juhl **Suffolk County Sheriff's Dept.**

- Basic Training:
 - Graduated on February 18, 2006 from the 952-hour Monterey Peninsula College P.O.S.T.-certified Basic Law Enforcement Academy in California.
 - Graduated on December 9, 2009 from the 282-hour Ohio Peace Officer Basic Training Program at the Eastland Police Academy.
- Work Experience as a Law Enforcement Officer:
 - December 2009 – April 2019: full-time deputy sheriff for the Franklin County Sheriff's Office in Columbus, Ohio.
 - December 2019 – present: Deputy Sheriff for Suffolk County Sheriff's Department, Investigative Division (started in August 2019, sworn as a Deputy Sheriff on December 19, 2019).
- In-Service/Specialized Training: Yes, in OH, and in MA with Suffolk County Sheriff's Dept.

- Break in Service: No.
- CPR/1st Aid Certified: Yes – 10/13/2024.
- MPTC Firearms Certified: Yes – 12/15/2023.
- MPTC Police Officer Core Competency Exam: Yes – 8/23/2024 (80%).

A motion was made by Chief Gundersen and seconded by Superintendent Baston to recommend to the full Committee that Christopher Juhl be granted an exemption from the requirement of completing a full-time MPTC operated/authorized Police Academy. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. BRIDGE HOURS/EXEMPTIONS

Bridge Exemptions

There were no Bridge exemption requests on the November Bridge Academy A-H Class List.

The Standards Subcommittee considered a Bridge exemption request for Officer numbered 431 on the November Bridge Academy I-P Class List. Coursework was completed and payroll has been verified.

A motion was made by Chief Gundersen and seconded by Superintendent Baston to recommend to the full Committee that it approve the Bridge exemption request for Officer numbered 431 on the November 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 343 and 344 on the November Bridge Academy Q-Z Class List. Coursework was completed and payroll has been verified.

A motion was made by Chief Gundersen and seconded by Superintendent Baston to recommend to the full Committee that it approve the Bridge exemption requests for Officers numbered 343 and 344 on the November Bridge Academy Q-Z Class List. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. INTERRUPTION-IN-SERVICE, 5+ YEARS

Jack Kelter

Endicott College

Endicott College PD is seeking to hire Jack Kelter, a retired ATF agent. Agent Kelter graduated from a fulltime MCJTC academy in January 1995 and went on to work as a fulltime patrol officer for Lynn PD from that date until January 2002. In January 2002, he became a federal agent with the ATF and worked in that role for more than 20 years before retiring in December 2023. Per our CMRs, officers who have had an interruption-in-service of five or more years where they have not performed police duties and functions must go back to a full-time police academy. Historically, the Subcommittee and full Committee have considered a move to federal law enforcement to be

an interruption in municipal police service. However, Agent Kelter spent his entire federal career working in Massachusetts, beginning in Worcester and later transferring to the ATF's Boston Field Office. His situation is very similar to that of former ATF Agent Peter Murray and former Postal Inspector Richard Tracy, who were recently before the Subcommittee and full Committee on the issue of whether their federal service constituted an interruption-in-service of five or more years. Like Agent Kelter, both Murray and Tracy completed fulltime MCJTC academies, worked for a few years for municipal departments in Massachusetts before transferring to their respective federal agencies, and went on to spend their entire federal careers working in Massachusetts. The Subcommittee and the full Committee voted that neither Murray's nor Tracy's federal service constituted an interruption-in-service because each had attended full-time MPTC academies, spent time working as local police officers in Massachusetts, and as federal agents primarily worked in Massachusetts conducting investigations. The Subcommittee/Committee required that Murray and Tracy pass the core competency exam before working as police officers in Massachusetts again.

Agent Kelter was present at today's meeting with Captain Jeff Ladieu of Endicott College PD to provide the Subcommittee with additional information and answer questions. Agent Kelter spoke about the extensive work he did on Massachusetts criminal cases during his ATF career while working alongside Massachusetts police officers.

A motion was made by Chief Gundersen and seconded by Superintendent Baston that Jack Kelter has not had an interruption-in-service of five years or more. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. UPDATE ON DISCIPLINARY DISMISSAL APPEALS

Hearings for the appeals of two recent student officer (SO) disciplinary dismissals have been scheduled. A hearing for former SO Jermaine Lewis, who was dismissed from the Boylston Academy, is scheduled for December 18, 2024, at 12:30PM. A hearing for former SO Joshua Almestica, who was dismissed from the Plymouth Academy, is scheduled for December 18, 2024, at 2PM.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:40 a.m., a motion was made by Chief Gundersen and seconded by Superintendent Baston to adjourn the Standards Subcommittee meeting. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.