

Municipal Police Training Committee
Standards Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Lynnfield Police Academy
June 15, 2022

Call to Order

At 9:02 AM, Chief Kyes called the Standards Subcommittee meeting to order.

Subcommittee Members Present

Chief Brian Kyes, Chief Thomas O'Donnell, Superintendent Richard Sullivan, Sheriff Kevin Coppinger and Major Dan McGinn.

MPTC Staff Present

ED Ferullo, Denise Flagg, Andrea Nardone, Lara Thomas, John Melander, and Sheila Gallagher.

Guests

Malav Patel, Yessina Gomez, Captain Gianino, Sgt. Lavita, and Attorney Kara Ryan-Segal, Jim O'Brien, and Greg Fraser.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made to approve the Standards Subcommittee Meeting minutes from the May 17, 2022, with one correction. The motion was seconded, and a vote was taken.

The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made to approve the Standards Subcommittee Meeting minutes from the March 14, 2022. The motion was seconded, and a vote was taken.

The motion passed with one abstention from Officer Vieira who was not present at that meeting.

Police Standards and Training

Temporary Waivers

1. Sean Mullins **Manchester by the Sea**
 - Training: Graduated from MLETA Basic Reserve Academy in Topsfield on January 30, 2020.
 - Work Experience as a law enforcement officer:
 - **May 2020- Present**: He has worked as a reserve officer for the Manchester-by-the-Sea Police Department.
 - Exigency: Continuing staffing shortages and hope utilize Sean in the summer before

attending the full-time academy in the fall.

- CPR/1st Responder Certified: Yes
- Firearms Certified: Yes
- Expected Academy: He plans to attend the next Lynnfield Police Academy in November 2022.

2. James Ryan

Hadley Police Department

- Training: Graduated from WMCPOA Basic Reserve Regional Police Academy Western Mass on May 22, 2021.
- Work Experience as a law enforcement officer:
 - 2021-Present: He has worked as a reserve officer for the Hadley Police Department.
- Exigency: Currently have an officer enrolled in the academy and will need James to work due to staffing issues and financial constraints.
- CPR/1st Responder Certified: Yes
- Firearms Certified: Yes
- Expected Academy: He plans to attend the next Western Mass Police Academy.

Officer Vieira made a motion to approve the Temporary Waivers for Sean Mullins and James Ryan. Sheriff Coppinger seconded the motion, and a vote was taken.

The motion passed unanimously.

Permanent Exemptions

1. Michael Strizzi

Adams Police Department

- Training: Graduated from the 917.5- hour Vermont Police Academy on May 27, 2020.
- Work Experience as a law enforcement officer:
 - **May 2020 to the Present**: He began working as a police officer for the Bennington Police Department in Bennington, Vermont, where he is still working.
- Break-in-Service: None
- SSPO: Not applicable
- CPR/1st Responder Certified: Yes
- Firearms Certified: Yes, in Vermont will have to get certified in Massachusetts if the exemption is granted.

Officer Vieira made a motion to approve the Permanent Exemption for Michael Strizzi. Superintendent Sullivan seconded the motion, and a vote was taken.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Benjamin Hoffman

Sturbridge Police Department

- Training: Graduated from the 650-hour Connecticut Police Academy on May 1998.
- Work Experience as a law enforcement officer:
 - **May 1998 -November 2000**: He began working as a police officer for the Groton, Connecticut Police Department.
 - **November 2000- July 2002**: Officer Hoffman had full arrest powers, investigated crimes and enforced local ordinances and state laws while working as a police officer for the Eastern Connecticut State University in Willimantic, Connecticut.
 - **July 2002 to January 2006**: Officer Hoffman remained in Willimantic, Connecticut be he began working as a police officer for City of Willimantic, Connecticut. He worked in the community policing unit and he assisted the FBI with lengthy narcotics investigations.
 - **January 2006 to March 2007**: He worked as a police officer for the City of Homestead in Florida.
 - **February 2008 – July 2012**: He began became a police sergeant for the Borough of Groton Long Point, Connecticut.
 - **July 2012- Present**: since July 2012, he has worked as a police sergeant for the City of Madison, Connecticut Police Department. He intends to retire in June 2022.
- Break-in-Service: Just under a year.
- POST Certified: Yes in Connecticut and his certification will expire on June 30, 2023
- CPR/1st Responder Certified: Yes
- Firearms Certified: Yes, in Connecticut will have to get certified in Massachusetts

Superintendent Sullivan made a motion to approve the Permanent Exemption for Benjamin Hoffman. Officer Vieira seconded the motion, and a vote was taken.

The motion passed unanimously.

3. Robert Young

Dover Police Department

- Training: Graduated from the 892-hour Rhode Island Police Academy on May 26, 2017.
- Work Experience as a law enforcement officer:
 - **May 2017 to Present**: He has worked as a patrol officer for the Pawtucket, Rhode Island Police Department.
- Break-in-Service: None
- CPR/1st Responder Certified: Yes
- Firearms Certified: Yes, and he will have to get certified in accordance with MPTC regulations once he relocates to Massachusetts.

Sheriff Coppinger made a motion to approve the Permanent Exemption for Robert Young. Officer Vieira seconded the motion, and a vote was taken.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Gene Meazell

New Bedford Police Department

- **Training:** Graduated from the 80-hour Louisiana Police Academy on April 3, 2017. He also graduated from the 324-hour training from the State of Oklahoma Council on Education and Law Enforcement Training on September 20, 1995.
- **Work Experience as a law enforcement officer:**
 - **1994-1996:** He worked as a police officer for the Blackwell Police Department in Blackwell, Oklahoma.
 - **2017 - December 2018:** Officer Meazell began working as a Police Officer/Field Training Officer for the Breaux Bridge Police Department in Breaux Bridge, LA
 - **December 2018 to Present:** He began working as a Police Sergeant for the Breaux Bridge Police Department in Breaux Bridge, LA and he is still working there
- **Break-in-Service:** Yes, he had two breaks-in-service. He had almost a ten (10) year break-in-service before returning to work as a police officer. Subsequently, he had nine (9) year break-in-service.
- **POST Certified:** He is a Louisiana POST Peace Officer Certified and was a certified Oklahoma CLEET Peace Officer.
- **CPR/1st Responder Certified:** Yes
- **Firearms Certified:** Yes, and he will have to get certified in Massachusetts

Gene Meazell's break-in-service exceeded more than five years. If he were in Massachusetts, he would have to re-attend a full-time academy. Based on his break-in-service, the Standards Subcommittee made a recommendation to not approve this exemption request.

Officer Vieira made a motion to deny the Permanent Exemption for Gene Meazell. Superintendent Sullivan seconded the motion, and a vote was taken.

The motion passed unanimously.

Sheriff's Eligibility for Bridge Academy

Captain Gianino graduated from the Bridge Academy and is seeking an exemption. Sgt. LaVita would also like to attend the MPTC Bridge Academy. Both of these individuals graduated from the 31st Middlesex Sheriff's /BTA Training Program in 2004, which incorporated courses from the NERPI Reserve Program. In total the training program was 532-hours.

The Standards Subcommittee discussed whether this training program was equivalent to the Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) approved 120-hour Reserve Academy which was offered in 2004. MPTC staff conducted a crosswalk of the 31st MSO/BTA training program and found that the 31st MSO/BTA program was substantially equivalent to the 120-hour MPTC Reserve Program. The classes were similar and the

Middlesex Sheriff's Office used MPTC certified instructors to teach the courses.

Chief Kyes emphasized that the primary issue the Standards Subcommittee had to consider was whether the 532-hour MSO/BTA program would be deemed equivalent to the 120-hour MPTC Reserve Academy in 2004.

Before a vote was taken, Officer Vieira asked whether there were any issues with the 550 Code of Massachusetts Regulations that govern the MPTC. Attorney Melander relayed that this request does not violate the CMRs because current CMRs do not govern sheriffs. ED Ferullo explained that the Middlesex Sheriff's Office took steps to enhance the Middlesex Sheriff's Office/BTA training program in 2004. Additionally, Captain Gianino and Sgt. LaVita were appointed deputy sheriffs after graduating from the 31st MSO/BTA training program.

A motion was made to make a favorable recommendation to approve the Bridge Exemption for Captain Gianino. The motion was seconded, and a vote was taken.

The motion passed unanimously.

Chief O'Donnell made a motion to make a favorable recommendation for Sgt. Lavita to enter into the Bridge Academy. Superintendent Sullivan seconded the motion, and a vote was taken.

The motion passed unanimously.

Bridge Exemption List

A motion was made to make a favorable recommendation to approve the Bridge Exemption List numbers 86-186 with the exception of Myat Aw. The motion was seconded, and a vote was taken.

The motion passed unanimously.

Myat Aw graduated from the Bridge Academy but he has no payroll records. The Chief attested that Myat Aw worked for the past nineteen (19) years unpaid. Chief Kyes recommended tabling this request until the Standards Subcommittee received more information.

At 10:07 AM Office Vieira made motion to adjourn the Subcommittee meeting. Chief O'Donnell seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken.

The motion passed unanimously.