

Municipal Police Training Committee
Standards Subcommittee Monthly Meeting Minutes
MPTC Randolph
February 18, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

On February 18, 2026, at 9:15 a.m., an in-person meeting of the Standards Subcommittee was called to order at MPTC Randolph, 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

- Chief Jennifer Gundersen (Acting Chair)
- Chief Brian Clark
- Deputy Superintendent John Flynn
- Major Jody Greene
- Superintendent Richard Sullivan

MPTC/EOPSS Staff Present

- Gina Masotta
- Denise Flagg
- Tori Koch
- Andrea Nardone

Guests Present

- Brimfield PD Chief William Beaudry

II. APPROVAL OF SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

A motion was made by Chief Clark and seconded by Major Greene to approve the Standards Subcommittee minutes from the meeting on January 21, 2026. A vote was taken, and the motion passed with one abstention (Sullivan).

III. POLICE STANDARDS

Temporary Waivers

There were no temporary waiver requests on the February agenda.

Out-of-State Exemptions

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

1. Ryan Butler Chelmsford PD

- Basic Training:
 - Graduated from the 949-hour 108th Basic Training Class for Police Professionals at the Vermont Police Academy on November 22, 2019.
- Work Experience as a Law Enforcement Officer:
 - November 2019 – September 2024: full-time police officer for the Vermont State Police.
- In-Service/Specialized Training: Yes, in VT.
- Break in Service: Yes – approximately 18 months.
- CPR/1st Aid Certified: Yes – 2/5/2026.
- MPTC Firearms Certified: Yes – 1/22/2026.
- MPTC Police Officer Core Competency Exam: Yes – 2/6/2026 (81%).

2. Marianna Klochan Norwood PD

- Basic Training:
 - Graduated from the approximately 1,240-hour Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training-approved Professional Peace Officer Education Program at Metropolitan State University on August 2, 2022.
- Work Experience as a Law Enforcement Officer:
 - July 2023 – January 10, 2026: full-time police officer for the Hopkins, MN Police Department.
- In-Service/Specialized Training: Yes, in MN.
- Break in Service: No.
- CPR/1st Aid Certified: Yes – 1/27/2026.
- MPTC Firearms Certified: Yes – 1/16/2026.
- MPTC Police Officer Core Competency Exam: Yes – 2/3/2026 (95%).

3. Ross Sudar Rutland PD

- Basic Training:
 - Graduated from the 372-hour MPTC reserve-intermittent training program at Quinsigamond Community College on August 31, 2020.
 - Graduated from the 527-hour FLETC Uniform Police Training Program, Class UPTP-2217, on October 14, 2022.
 - Graduated from the 545-hour United States Capitol Police Academy on January 27, 2023.
- Work Experience as a Law Enforcement Officer:
 - January 2023 – September 2025: full-time police officer for the United States Capitol Police in Washington, D.C.
- In-Service/Specialized Training: Yes, with the Capitol Police.
- Break in Service: Yes – approximately 6 months.
- CPR/1st Aid Certified: Yes – 1/28/2026 to 2/9/2026 (practical + FA years 1, 2, and 3).
- MPTC Firearms Certified: Yes – 1/27/2026.
- MPTC Police Officer Core Competency Exam: Yes – 2/9/2026 (83%).

4. Jarrid Witherspoon Bellingham PD

- Basic Training:
 - Graduated from the 979-hour Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy, Class 2023-II, on December 15, 2023.
- Work Experience as a Law Enforcement Officer:
 - December 2023 – present: full-time police officer for the Central Falls, RI Police Department.
- In-Service/Specialized Training: Yes, in RI.
- Break in Service: No.
- CPR/1st Aid Certified: Yes – 1/7/2026 to 2/10/2026 (practical + FA years 1, 2, and 3).
- MPTC Firearms Certified: Yes – 2/9/2026.
- MPTC Police Officer Core Competency Exam: Yes – 2/6/2026 (79%).

A motion was made by Chief Clark and seconded by Major Greene to recommend to the full Committee that Ryan Butler, Marianna Klochan, Ross Sudar, and Jarrid Witherspoon 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.

Out-of-State Exemption Advisories

1. Christopher Velho

- Basic Training:
 - Graduated from the 408-hour Basic Law Enforcement Training Course at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Tifton, GA on December 11, 2020.
- Work Experience as a Law Enforcement Officer:
 - December 2020 – February 2025: full-time deputy sheriff for the Tift County Sheriff’s Office in Tifton, GA, promoted to the rank of Sergeant.
 - February 2025 – present: full-time deputy sheriff for the Lowndes County Sheriff’s Office in Valdosta, GA.
- In-Service/Specialized Training: Yes, in GA.
- Break in Service: No.
- CPR/1st Aid Certified: N/A.
- MPTC Firearms Certified: N/A.
- MPTC Police Officer Core Competency Exam: N/A.

Officer Christopher Velho is seeking an out-of-state exemption advisory. MPTC Deputy General Counsel Gina Masotta noted that Officer Velho was not in attendance today but advised that he graduated from the 408-hour Basic Law Enforcement Training Course at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Tifton, GA on December 11, 2020. He went on to work as a full-time deputy sheriff doing patrol work for the Tift County Sheriff’s Office in Tifton, GA from December 2020 to February 2025. From February 2025 to present, he has worked as a full-time patrol deputy for the Lowndes County Sheriff’s Office in Valdosta, GA. Since graduating from his academy, Officer Velho has completed an additional 436 hours of in-service training. Deputy General Counsel Masotta explained that he is on the agenda because his academy training consists of significantly less hours than MPTC’s 800-hour ROC curriculum. She noted that she reviewed the curriculum for his academy and found that it did cover all the major topics, just in significantly less hours.

Superintendent Sullivan cautioned against approving an exemption request for an officer whose academy training was only half the hours required by MPTC and said he would be opposed to issuing an exemption in these circumstances. Major Greene asked what the alternative would be for this officer. Deputy General Counsel Masotta advised that if he does not receive an out-of-state exemption, he would be required to complete a full-time MPTC-operated or authorized academy in order to work as a police officer in Massachusetts.

A motion was made by Superintendent Sullivan and seconded by Chief Clark that Officer Velho's out-of-state academy training is not substantially equivalent to an MPTC-operated or authorized academy, and a positive exemption advisory should not be issued. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. INTERRUPTION-IN-SERVICE OF 5+ YEARS

Deputy General Counsel Masotta informed the Subcommittee that Daniel Wicks, who appears on the agenda as an interruption-in-service issue, withdrew his request to appear before the Subcommittee.

V. BRIDGE EXEMPTIONS

The Standards Subcommittee considered Bridge exemption requests for Officers numbered 661 and 662 on the February Bridge Academy A-H class list. Coursework was completed and payroll has been verified.

A motion was made by Chief Clark and seconded by Superintendent Sullivan to recommend to the full Committee that it approve the Bridge exemption requests for Officers numbered 661 and 662 on the February Bridge Academy A-H Class List. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Standards Subcommittee considered a Bridge exemption request for Officer numbered 444 on the February Bridge Academy I-P Class List. Coursework was completed and payroll has been verified.

A motion was made by Chief Clark and seconded by Deputy Superintendent Flynn to recommend to the full Committee that it approve the Bridge exemption request for Officer numbered 444 on the February Bridge Academy I-P Class List. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

A Bridge exemption request for Officer numbered 445, William Penkala, is also on the February Bridge Academy I-P Class List. His coursework was completed and payroll has been verified. Deputy General Counsel Masotta reminded the Subcommittee that Officer Penkala was before them at their last two meetings with a potential interruption-in-service issue. After considering all the information he provided about his work history, the Subcommittee voted at the January meeting that Officer Penkala had not had an interruption-in-service of more than 5 years. The issue is before the full Committee today for consideration.

A motion was made by Chief Clark and seconded by Chief Gundersen to recommend to the full Committee that it approve the Bridge exemption request for William Penkala, Officer numbered 445 on the February Bridge Academy I-P Class List, contingent upon a finding by

the full Committee that he has not had an interruption-in-service of more than 5 years. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Standards Subcommittee considered a Bridge exemption request for Officer numbered 356 on the February Bridge Academy Q-Z Class List. Coursework was completed and payroll has been verified.

A motion was made by Chief Clark and seconded by Major Greene to recommend to the full Committee that it approve the Bridge exemption request for Officer numbered 356 on the February Bridge Academy Q-Z Class List. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Deputy General Counsel Masotta noted that Jonathan Hart-Shuman, Officer numbered 355 on the Bridge Academy Q-Z Class List, was to come before the full Committee today for further consideration of an interruption-in-service issue, but he requested additional time and will be on the March Committee agenda.

VI. STUDENT OFFICER DISCIPLINARY DISMISSAL APPEALS

The decision for former Student Officer Burke Cushman's disciplinary dismissal appeal hearing has been issued. Chief Gundersen will report that decision to the full Committee at today's meeting. There is also one pending disciplinary dismissal appeal by a former student officer at the NECC Academy for which a hearing date needs to be scheduled.

VII. INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION REVOCATION APPEALS

There are pending appeals by seven MPTC instructors whose certifications have been revoked, including: Hannah Greene of Orleans PD; Christopher Bartolomei of Falmouth PD; Armando Feliciano of Barnstable PD; Bryan Derochea of Mashpee PD; Thomas Feraco of Worcester PD; Kyle Kidger of the Essex County Sheriff's Department; and Daniel Rose of Brandeis University PD. Their hearing dates have not yet been scheduled.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:33 a.m., a motion was made by Chief Clark and seconded by Deputy Superintendent Flynn to adjourn the Standards Subcommittee meeting. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.