

**Municipal Police Training Committee**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**September 15, 2021**

**Call to Order**

Chief Jim Hicks called the monthly meeting of the Municipal Police Training Committee to order at 10:09 AM. Chief Hicks welcomed the Committee members and guests. This was an in-person meeting that was also broadcast and recorded via Zoom.

**Attendees: Voting Members**

Secretary Terrence Reidy	Present
Chief Jim Hicks	Present
AAG Jim O'Brien	Present
Chief Frank Frederickson	Present
Chief Jennifer Gundersen	Present
Chief Brian Kyes	Present
Chief Kelly Nee	Present
Chief Thomas O'Donnell	Present
Superintendent Winnie Cotter	Present
Superintendent Richard Sullivan	Present
Sheriff Kevin Coppinger	Present
Sheriff Chris Donelan	Present
Sgt. Det. Lanita Cullinane	Present
Officer Joseph Vieira	Present
Maj. Dan McGinn	Present

**MPTC Staff**

ED Robert Ferullo, John Melander, Brian Merrick, Sheila Gallagher, Andrea Nardone, Shane Rodriguez, Dori-Ann Ference, Denise Flagg, Ariel Perez, Lisa Ann Reich, and Lara Thomas.

**Guests**

Robert Bousquet, Brian Cohoon, Jason Dennien, Francis Fox, Angelo Gomez, Thomas Grenham, Patricia Murphy, Patrick Prendergast, David Quirbach, Peter Roddy, Jeffrey Scott, Richard Sims, Jr., Jessica Szyszka, and Stephen Taranto.

**Review/Approval of Minutes**

**There was a motion to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2021, Committee meeting. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with two abstentions.**

**There was a motion to approve the minutes of the special Committee meeting held on September 2, 2021 with one edit. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with three abstentions.**

## **Police Standards and Training**

### **Temporary Waivers**

There were two temporary waiver requests.

#### **Jordan Kemp**

#### **Middleton PD**

The Middleton Police requested a temporary waiver for Jordan Kemp until he could attend the Bridge Academy, not a full ROC academy. The Standards Subcommittee did not recommend that the Committee grant this request for a temporary waiver.

**A motion to deny the request for a temporary waiver of Jordan Kemp was made. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Anthony DiTomasso**

#### **Holden PD**

Officer DiTomasso is enrolled in the next Boylston Police Academy scheduled to begin on December 6, 2021. The Standards Subcommittee made a favorable recommendation to the Committee to approve this temporary waiver until December 7, 2021.

**There was a motion to approve the temporary waiver request for Anthony DiTomasso until December 7, 2021. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Permanent Exemptions**

The Committee considered five requests for permanent exemptions.

#### **Brendan Cardoza**

#### **Fall River**

Chief Cardoza of the Fall River Police Department requested a permanent exemption for Brenan Cardoza due to personnel shortages. Officer Cardoza graduated from the 892-hour Municipal Police Training Recruit Academy in Rhode Island on May 24, 2019, and began working as a police officer for the Warwick Police Department, where he has worked for over two-years and is currently employed. Prior to attending a full-time police academy, Officer Cardoza also graduated from the 372.5-hour South Suburban Police Institute Reserve Police Academy in Massachusetts in March 2018. After graduation he worked as a reserve police officer for the Westport Police Department from June 2018 until November 2018. He is certified in CPR/1<sup>st</sup> responder and is certified in firearms in accordance with MPTC regulations.

The Standards Subcommittee made a favorable recommendation to the Committee to approve the permanent exemption for Officer Cardoza.

**There was a motion to approve the permanent exemption for Officer Cardoza. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

Chief DelGreco of the Merrimack College Police Department is requesting permanent exemptions for three officers.

**Charles Anderson**

**Merrimack College**

Officer Anderson graduated from the Criminal Justice Training Council Basic Reserve Academy on June 26, 1995, located in Canton, Massachusetts, and on November 20, 1998, he graduated from the 510-hour New Hampshire full-time police academy. After graduation, he began working for the Manchester, New Hampshire Police Department where he remained working until 2019. In December 2019, he joined the Merrimack College Police Department as a campus police officer where he is still currently working. Officer Anderson is certified in CPR/1<sup>st</sup> responder and is certified in firearms in accordance with MPTC regulations.

**Michael Beauchesne**

**Merrimack College**

Officer Beauchesne graduated from the 200-hour part-time New Hampshire Police Academy in May 1992, and worked as a part-time officer for the Plaistow, New Hampshire Police Department from 1992-1996. On March 29, 1996, he graduated from the 510-hour New Hampshire full-time police academy. Upon graduation he worked full time for the Plaistow, New Hampshire Police Department. In 2014, Officer Beauchesne left the Plaistow Police Department to join the Merrimack College Police Department as a campus police officer where he is still currently working. He is certified in CPR/1<sup>st</sup> responder and is certified in firearms in accordance with MPTC regulations.

**Michael Norcross**

**Merrimack College**

Sergeant Norcross graduated from the 510-hour New Hampshire full-time police academy on November 18, 1994, and began working for the Windham, New Hampshire Police Department. In 1998, Sergeant Norcross, transferred to the Salem, New Hampshire Police Department where he rose through the ranks to police sergeant and stayed until 2017. Sergeant Norcross joined the Merrimack College Police Department in April 2017, where he is still currently employed. He also graduated from the 372.5-hour Northeast Regional Police Institute Reserve Police Academy on June 30, 2018. He is certified in CPR/1<sup>st</sup> responder and is certified in firearms in accordance with MPTC regulations.

The Standards Subcommittee made a favorable recommendation to the Committee to

approve all three of the permanent exemption made by Merrimack College.

**There was a motion to approve the permanent exemptions for Officer Anderson, Officer Beauchesne and Sgt. Norcross. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Shawn Boyne**

**Peru**

The Standards Subcommittee determined that a vote on this request was not necessary because Officer Boyne had completed a full time MPTC police academy and there has been no break in service. The Committee agreed that no action was required.

**Disciplinary Appeals Hearings**

There were no disciplinary appeals hearings discussed.

**New Business**

**Request for Instructor Reinstatement for Fran Fox**

Chief Fox came before the Committee last year and was granted an instructor certification that allowed him to instruct at the Sheriff's Department. Chief Fox is requesting that the Committee review and expand his instructor certification. Chief Hicks indicated that this request should go before the Standards Subcommittee for consideration before being heard by the full Committee. Chief Fox will provide a written document clarifying exactly what he is asking of the Committee. This matter will be on the agenda for the Standards Subcommittee meeting in October.

**Executive Director's Report**

**Recruit Officer Training Update**

**Boston:** The current class has 87 student officers with an expected graduation date of January 7, 2022.

**Boylston:** The current class has 43 student officers and is expected to graduate on October 4, 2021. The next class is scheduled to begin on December 6, 2021. There is a waitlist for the next class.

**Cambridge/Northeastern:** The next class is expected to begin on January 17, 2022.

**Cape Cod:** Recently graduated. No other update provided.

**FSU:** This academy graduated on September 10, 2021. The next class is scheduled to begin on May 16, 2022.

**Lowell:** The current class has 29 student officers.

MBTA: The current class has 27 student officers. The next class is expected to begin in January 2022.

Merrimack: The pilot program is in session with 15 student officers.

NECC: The current class has 35 student officers and is scheduled to graduate on November 19, 2021. The next class is scheduled to begin on January 10, 2022.

Plymouth: The next class is scheduled to begin on September 20, 2022, with 54 student officers.

Quinsigamond – the evening pilot program is in session with 20 student officers.

Randolph: The next class is scheduled to begin on November 21, 2021, with 48 student officers. There is a waitlist for the next class.

Reading: The academy is in session and is expected to graduate at the end of October. The next class is scheduled to begin on January 17, 2022, with several seats still available.

Springfield: The next class is expected to begin in December 2021/January 2022.

SPMA: RTT is currently in session.

Western Mass: The next class is scheduled to begin on October 25, 2021, with 48 student officers. There is a waitlist for the next class.

Worcester: The next academy is expected to begin this fall with 20-30 student officers.

The MPTC will be conducting the entry level fitness standards testing for all applicants that are on the waitlist for the academies. The MPTC is closely monitoring the waitlist for the academies and assessing the need to run additional ROC academy classes.

#### Staffing update

ED Ferullo continues to work with HRD to expand the Acadis group. There is also a need to hire an Academy Director for the Bridge Academy.

#### Open Discussion

Officer Vieira recently attended an Emergency Vehicle Operating Course (EVOC) training. He was very impressed with the training and the instructors. He also indicated that the equipment is well cared for so departments should not hesitate sending newer cruisers to these trainings.

## **Old Business**

### **Update on Working Groups**

#### **Academy and Buildings Review Working Group**

Lynnfield: A lease for classroom space is expected to be signed within the next month. This space could accommodate two ROC classes simultaneously. Discussions continue regarding the potential to lease a field house with an indoor track at that same location. This space would allow the MPTC to run training classes for the Coopers test.

Southbridge: Classroom space is expected to be available in January 2022.

Springfield Academy: An RFP has been put out with a due date in October.

Firearm ranges: ED Ferullo is in the process of subleasing a gun range in Springfield which would be available to the MPTC and local departments every night and three days a week. ED Ferullo is looking for three additional ranges.

#### **Campus Police Training Programs Working Group**

The working group will be working with the Massachusetts Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (MACLEA) to address the training requirements for campus police.

#### **Sheriff's Training Programs Working Group**

The working group will be meeting to discuss the training requirements for deputy sheriffs.

### **In-Service training**

The videos for the online annual in-service program are in the final stages of editing and testing before they can be uploaded into the individual Acadis accounts for officers.

Departments that are offering in-person training on any of the MPTC mandated in-service topics are being asked to "opt out" of these online courses. Acadis keeps track of completion rates for in-service training, so it is important to know whether the officers are taking the courses online or in-person. An email has been sent to the departments about the "opt out" process.

### **Use of Force Regulations**

John Melander provided an update. The public hearing on the draft regulations was held on August 27, 2021. There were multiple speakers heard at that time and written submissions were received as well. After reviewing the public input, the joint working group updated the draft regulations. POSTC unanimously approved the updated draft on September 14, 2021. John Melander went over the edits made by the joint working group with the Committee.

**There was a motion to approve the Use of Force by Law Enforcement regulations. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### Bridge Academy

There was extensive discussion about a document drafted after the August 18, 2021, meeting to ensure that it accurately reflected the Bridge Academy plan that was approved by the Committee at that meeting. There was also discussion about clarifying the issue of whether SSPOs who work full-time for law enforcement agencies can continue to work full-time before a permanent exemption is granted. This topic was continued for further discussion at the next meeting so that a legal opinion on the issue could be obtained to assure that the proposal is consistent with the legislation.

**There was a motion to establish January 1, 2027, as a deadline for officers to complete the 2400 hours of work experience required to be eligible for a permanent exemption. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### Adjournment

The next monthly meeting will take place on October 27, 2021.

**There was a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 1:23 PM.