

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

**Call to Order**

Chief James Hicks called the monthly meeting of the Municipal Police Training Committee to order. Chief Hicks welcomed the Committee members and guests. Jim O'Brien introduced AAG Jenner Cotter to the Committee. AAG Cotter has been named the Attorney General's designee to the Committee. This was an in-person meeting and it was broadcast and recorded via Microsoft Teams.

**Attendees: Voting Members**

Secretary Terrence Reidy	Present
Chief James Hicks	Present
AAG Jennifer Cotter	Present
Chief Frank Frederickson	Present
Chief Jennifer Gundersen	Present
Chief Brian Kyes	Present
Chief Kelly Nee	Present
Chief Thomas O'Donnell	Present
Superintendent Winifred Cotter	Present
Superintendent Richard Sullivan	Present
Sheriff Kevin Coppinger	Absent
Sheriff Chris Donelan	Present
Deputy Supt. Lanita Cullinane	Present
Officer Joseph Vieira	Present
Maj. Daniel McGinn	Present

**MPTC Staff**

ED Robert Ferullo, James O'Brien, John Melander, Sheila Gallagher, Andrea Nardone, Shane Rodriguez, Dori-Ann Ference, Denise Flagg, Lia Avelino Ford, Tanya Hardiman, Ariel Perez, and Lara Thomas.

**Guests**

Allan Brooks, Robert DaCosta, Steven DeMarco, Thomas Gammel, Angelo Gomez, Yessenia Gomez, Kevin O'Grady, Jerry O'Rourke, Jeffrey Scott, and Andrew Turco.

**Review/Approval of Minutes**

**There was a motion to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2021, Committee meeting. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed**

**unanimously with 5 abstentions.**

**Police Standards and Training**

Temporary Waivers

The Committee considered the following requests for temporary waivers:

Thomas McCabe	Northampton
Dylan Reney	Bolton
Kadin Shafiroff	Sheffield

The Standards Subcommittee made a favorable recommendation that these temporary waivers be granted.

**A motion was made to approve the temporary waiver requests for Thomas McCabe, Dylan Reney, and Kadin Shafiroff. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

The Committee considered the following requests for temporary waivers:

Jake Newton	Sheffield
Briana Yusko	Hadley
James Ryan	Hadley

The Standards Subcommittee did not make a favorable recommendation for these temporary waivers as each of these officers lacked the 1 year of work experience required by the CMRs.

**A motion was made to deny the temporary waiver requests for Jake Newton, Briana Yusko, and James Ryan. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

Permanent Exemptions

The Committee considered the following requests for permanent exemptions:

John Hoerr	Belmont
Dan Quarantino	Franklin
Ryan McLaney	Northeastern
Julie Connolly	Northeastern
Dan Morrow	College of the Holy Cross

Nicholas Boudreau  
Kevin Kojoian

Boston College  
Rehoboth

The Standards Subcommittee made a favorable recommendation to approve these permanent exemption requests.

**A motion was made to approve the permanent exemption requests for John Hoerr, Dan Quarantino, Ryan McLaney, Julie Connolly, Dan Morrow, Nicholas Boudreau, and Kevin Kojoian. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

There was also a permanent exemption request by Smith College for Eric Sergel. The Standards Subcommittee did not consider this request because additional information is needed.

**There was a motion to postpone consideration of this request until the January meeting. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### Permanent exemptions previously granted by the MPTC

The Committee was provided with a list of over 340 active officers who have previously been granted a permanent exemption by the MPTC. The Standards Subcommittee made a favorable recommendation that the Committee reaffirm the permanent exemptions that had previously been granted to these officers.

**There was a motion to reaffirm the permanent exemptions previously granted to these officers by the MPTC. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with one abstention.**

The list of officers will be attached to the minutes of this meeting. Each officer will also receive a letter confirming that their permanent exemption has been reaffirmed. These letters will be added to the Acadis account for these officers.

#### Permanent exemptions previously granted to Special State Police Officers by the State Police

The Committee was provided with a list of active SSPOs who had previously been granted a permanent exemption by the State Police. It was confirmed by staff that the officers on this list would have qualified for an exemption by the MPTC at the time they received the exemption by the State Police. The Standards Subcommittee made a favorable recommendation that the Committee grant permanent exemptions to these SSPOs.

**There was a motion to grant permanent exemptions to the SSPOs listed on the document entitled “Massachusetts State Police Exemptions” dated December 15, 2021. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

### Instructor Revocation

MPTC General Counsel Jim O’Brien provided the Committee with an update on the appeal filed by Fran Fox regarding his instructor certification revocation. The Standards Subcommittee held a hearing on the appeal. Jim O’Brien participated in the hearing before leaving the Attorney General’s office. It was disclosed prior to the hearing and at the Committee meeting today that both Officer Vieira and Attorney O’Brien served on the MPTC and on the Standards Subcommittee with Fran Fox many years ago. There has been no other connection between any of these individuals since then. There was no objection to Officer Vieira and Attorney O’Brien participating in the hearing. After the hearing, the Standards Subcommittee voted to reinstate all of Fran Fox’s instructor certifications. A written decision has been issued.

### **Executive Director’s Report**

#### Recruit Officer Training Update

Boston: In session with an expected graduation date of January 7, 2022. The next class is expected to begin on April 21, 2022, with 140 student officers.

Boylston: In session with 41 student officers. The next class is expected to begin on April 4, 2022.

Cambridge/Northeastern: Next start date: January 17, 2022.

Cape Cod: Next start date: January 3, 2022.

FSU: Next start date: May 16, 2022, with 24 student officers.

Lowell: Next start date: May 2, 2022, with 55 student officers.

MBTA: In session with 26 student officers with an expected graduation date of December 21, 2021. Next start date: February 7, 2022, with 50 student officers.

Merrimack: In session with 22 student officers.

NECC: Next start date: January 10, 2022.

Plymouth: In session with 52 student officers with a tentative graduation date of February 18, 2022. Next start date: April 4, 2022, with 16 available seats still available.

Quinsigamond – In session with 13 student officers.

Randolph: In session with 48 student officers. Another class is expected to begin on January 17, 2022, with 46 student officers.

Reading: Next start dates: January 17, 2022, with 48 student officers.

Springfield: Next start date: January 10, 2022, with 50 student officers.

SPMA: There are no SPMA classes scheduled at this time as they are running back-to-back RTT classes.

Western Mass: In session. Next start date: April 8, 2022, with 48 student officers.

Worcester: Next start date: April 2022, with 20-30 student officers.

Merrimack and Quinsigamond are both pilot programs this year. They will be on the agenda for the next Committee meeting to provide presentations about the status of their respective programs.

### Bridge Academy

There are currently 610 student officers enrolled in the Bridge Academy of the approximately 1,500 eligible officers. The first 2 graduates of the Bridge Academy, Officer Allan Brooks of Granby Police Department and Officer Robert DaCosta of Lunenburg Police Department were present with their chiefs and were recognized by the Committee.

The MPTC is working on the process to be followed for departments to request exemptions for their officers who complete the Bridge Academy. A proposed process will be submitted for consideration to the Committee at the January meeting.

ED Ferullo confirmed that in-person classes are being offered during the day, at night and on the weekends. The classes are also being offered in all parts of the state.

There is a belief that as many as half of the officers eligible will opt out of the Bridge Academy. It is important for departments to provide the MPTC with this information. The MPTC will continue to reach out to officers and departments with eligible officers regarding upcoming deadlines for enrollment.

The MPTC is aware of the ongoing technical issues student officers are dealing with for the online classes. These issues are now being forwarded directly to the Acadis help desk.

## Staffing Update

The MPTC currently has 9 open positions, including a program coordinator and academy director for the Bridge Academy.

## Update on Working Groups

Academy and Building Review – ED Ferullo intends to conduct site visits for the working group in January.

Campus Police Training Programs – ED Ferullo has met twice with MACLEA in the past month.

Sheriff's Training Programs – there are ongoing discussions with the Sheriff's departments. A follow-up formal working group meeting will be scheduled soon.

## Open Discussion

Andrew Turco, President of MACLEA, asked the Committee about the status of out-of-state exemptions. The Committee recognized that there needs to be a streamlined process by which SSPOs can obtain their SSPO warrant from the State Police, a training exemption from the MPTC, and then certification by POSTC. Clarification on this is expected soon.

## Old Business

### Police Officer Certification

The Committee members were provided with 4 documents in advance of the meeting. The joint working group between the MPTC and POSTC had met several times to go over these documents. POSTC met on December 14, 2021. At that meeting POSTC approved the Background Attestation. POSTC also approved the Law Enforcement Certification Standards document with 2 amendments.

**There was a motion to approve the Background Attestation document. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

**There was a motion to approve the Law Enforcement Officer Certification Standards document with the 2 amendments that were approved by POSTC. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.**

POSTC and the MPTC had several concerns about the draft questionnaire. No vote was taken on the questionnaire. There was discussion about the possibility of the MPTC setting the standard for background investigations and developing trainings in this area.

## Continued Discussion of Unique Law Enforcement Agencies

There are several issues about the process for training and certification for law enforcement agencies and officers that fall outside the scope of agencies the MPTC are required to train under MGL c 6 sec 116. These issues are the topic of ongoing discussions with POSTC.

## New Business

### MACLEA

Andrew Turco, President of MACLEA, raised concerns that many campus police departments have brought to his attention. Among those concerns is the delay in getting medical exams, the costs departments incur when they send officers to the Bridge Academy, and the lack of clarity of officers who have attended a federal police academy and whether they qualify for the Bridge Academy.

### Election of Chair

**There was a motion to elect Chief Hicks to serve as Chair of the MPTC for the upcoming year. The motion passed unanimously.**

### Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned.