



RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Municipal Police Training Academy

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Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell
Commissioner, Department of Public Safety
Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police

Lieutenant Scott N. Raynes
Executive Director
Municipal Police Training Academy

Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training
Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2016

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Chief Anthony Pesare called to order the regular meeting of the Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training (POST) at 10:00 a.m. on **June 9, 2016**.

Chief Pesare asked Donna Lavallee to take a roll call. The following POST members were present: Chief Anthony Pesare, Chief Edward Mello, Chief Palmer, Shawn Brown and Colonel Steven O'Donnell. Also present were, Captain Ann Assumpico, Lieutenant Scott Raynes, David Ricciarelli, Susan Ursa Esq., Mr. Paul Andrews, Esq., Paul Dutra, Donna Lavallee, Chief John Desmarais and Lt. Michael Chalek.

Chief Pesare welcomed Sue Ursa from the A.G.'s office, who is replacing Richard Woolley (recently retired).

2. Approval of the minutes

Chief Pesare asked for approval of the minutes from the last meetings dated February 18, 2016. Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 18, 2016; Colonel O'Donnell seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, the motion carries.

3. Request from Chief John Desmarais, Cumberland PD, to grant a 4th attempt for Firearms testing for his recruit

Lieutenant Raynes explained that Recruit Holleran of the Cumberland PD was a member of the recently graduated Class 2016-I. He has failed 3 attempts for certification for Firearms.

Chief Desmarais thanked the POST for the opportunity to come before them to ask for this last attempt. He has been assigned to their Range Officer and has been on the Range all week and making progress. Colonel O'Donnell asked where he would be tested and Lt. Raynes explained the process that we would set it up at the Cranston Range with our Firearms Instructors when Chief Desmarais feels he is ready.

Colonel O'Donnell asked if there could be any impact down the line and Paul Dutra replied that he didn't think there would be as long as he is certified by the Academy.

Colonel O'Donnell wanted to be sure that he goes through the Academy Firearms Certification course and not just through Cumberland.

Motion was made by Chief Palmer to allow Recruit Holleran a 4th attempt at Firearms Certification. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brown. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

4. Psychological Testing Standards review

Chief Pesare stated that Dr. Gallagher helped him prepare standards and was very helpful and asked for a commitment that we follow IACP guidelines. He further stated that with Sue Ursa just coming on board, he feels she should have time to review so he plans on tabling this for a vote until the August POST meeting.

Chief Palmer asked if there was any discussion related to multiple testing. Chief Pesare replied that it was discussed and Dr. Gallagher explained that the sharing of psychologicals between departments is not a good practice; under IACP guidelines, it is not allowed. The philosophy is that each department has specific needs and cultures. Lt. Raynes asked how do the assessors understand each culture. Chief Mello replied that he asked that question and it is based on institutional knowledge and personal conversations with Chiefs. He suggests that we might add to the policy of how an examiner gets certified and if there are multiple agencies for one candidate, perhaps only the interview portion needs to be repeated and the fees may need to be re-adjusted. Mr. Brown asked how this would impact the Providence PD and Chief Pesare answered that it would apply to all Academies. Lt. Chalek stated that if they are relying on someone else's background check, he would be concerned it is not all inclusive. Mr. Brown made a motion to table this item until the next POST meeting of August 18, 2016; Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

5. Request for an exception of the 3-year Rule – CCRI Police

Lt. Raynes explained that CCRI is looking for an exception of the 3-Year Rule for Sean Collins, retired Major of the Warwick PD, who will be offered the position of Captain at CCRI. He was hired as Chief of Simmons College in Boston, where he worked from 2011-October, 2015. This position is labeled "Special State Police Officer in Massachusetts". Chief Mello asked if he was required to take updated courses at the Academy and Lt. Raynes suggested that would be up to CCRI due to his rank of Captain. Colonel O'Donnell added that if he is a sworn law enforcement officer at the College, he doesn't even need a waiver. Sue Ursa asked if it is because the break occurred while he was out of RI? Paul Dutra stated that as far as the Trust is considered, they defer to the POST to make a determination and never second guess their decision. Chief Mello asked if this is a time sensitive issue and Lt. Raynes said yes, they are waiting for this decision to hire him. Chief Mello asked if he maintained the level of training since he left Warwick PD and Lt. Raynes replied that one of his job positions is overseeing training so he assumes so. Colonel O'Donnell stated that he would feel better knowing if this was a security vs. police job, although it seems very likely he was a sworn officer.

Chief Mello made a motion to approve the exception to the 3-year rule for Sean Collins depending on we have evidence that he was a sworn officer in Massachusetts from 2011 and oversaw sworn personnel. Colonel O'Donnell seconded the motion. With all

in favor, 5-0, motion carries. Under discussion, Chief Mello added that if this evidence cannot be produced, this item will be re-visited.

6. Request for approval – Cranston PD Basic SRT Certification

Lieutenant Raynes explained the Cranston SRT Program, which is a school for new tactical officers. Based on his review, he highly recommends certification. Chief Pesare asked who the instructor is and Lt. Raynes replied the Lead Instructor is Lt. Justin Dutra, whom he has attended several schools and trainings with when he was with the RISP Swat team. Chief Palmer made a motion to certify the Cranston SRT Basic Course and Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

7. Submission of RIMPTA Annual Report for 2015

Lieutenant Raynes presented the Annual Report to Colonel O'Donnell. Colonel O'Donnell asked that on Page 8, NOPE-RI be spelled out on the document. Chief Pesare made a motion to accept the Annual Report with the recommended revision and Colonel O'Donnell seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

8. Request for approval of Firearms Qualification Courses

- Barrington Police Department

- Central Falls Police Department

- Charlestown Police Department

- Lincoln Police Department

- Smithfield Police Department

- West Warwick Police Department

Lieutenant Raynes stated that he, along with Captain Phil Gould, our Lead Firearms Instructor, reviewed the Firearms qualification courses for the above departments and they have met all of the requirements and therefore, he is recommending approval.

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve all of the above-named Firearms Qualification Courses; Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Under discussion, Chief Palmer asked if this needs to be done annually and Lt. Raynes replied yes. Colonel O'Donnell asked legal counsel what happens if there is a gap between certifications. Lt. Raynes suggested it would be fine if there course if filed with us. Paul Dutra stated he would be cautious of that. From a liability stand point, with what is going on these days, the municipality liability may be exposed more. Lt. Raynes added that the POST is certifying the department qualification courses as a

whole, not the individual Firearms certifications. Colonel O'Donnell asked legal counsel to look into it and Sue Ursa said she would.

9. Update on Continuing Education

David Ricciarelli reviewed some of our upcoming Training workshops.

10. Update on Class 2016-I

Lieutenant Raynes stated that the class graduated 41 officers on May 20, 2016. We are in the process of getting ready for the Class of 2016-II. The Orientation and Fitness testing are complete. Colonel O'Donnell thanked the Academy staff across the board. He talked about his decision to once again add a Keynote Speaker to the Graduation exercises. He feels it adds to the Graduation and brings someone else into the picture to show how much work is done at the Academy. He also thanked Captain Assumpico for overseeing the training. Colonel O'Donnell spoke about the Diversity Training that they will be conducting this summer at Providence College in the hopes of recruiting minorities for the upcoming Academy classes.

11. Adjournment

Colonel O'Donnell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 a.m.; Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna M. Lavalley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Donna M. Lavalley
Administrative Assistant