



RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY Municipal Police Training Academy

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Colonel Ann C. Assumpico
Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police
Director, Department of Public Safety

Lieutenant Scott N. Raynes
Executive Director
Municipal Police Training Academy

Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2017

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Chief Anthony Pesare called to order the regular meeting of the Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training (POST) at 10:03 a.m. on **February 23, 2017**.

Chief Pesare asked Donna Lavallee to take a roll call. The following POST members were present: Chief Anthony Pesare, Chief Palmer, Chief Mello, LTC Kevin Barry as appointed designee for Colonel Ann C. Assumpico. Mr. Brown was absent. A quorum has been met. Also present were, Captain Darnell Weaver, RISP; Lieutenant Scott Raynes; David Ricciarelli; Susan Urso Esq.; Mr. Paul Andrews, Esq.; Paul Dutra; Donna Lavallee; R.I. Police Chief's Association Executive Director Chief Sydney Wordell (ret); Christine Crocker, RIPAC; Captain Philip Gould, Lincoln PD; Lt. Michael Chalek, URI Police Department, Major Daniel Barzykowski; Paul Brouillette; Melissa Baldinelli, RI Interlocal Trust.

2. Discussion/Approval of minutes:

Chief Pesare asked for approval of the minutes from the last meetings dated December 8, 2016. Chief Mello made a motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 8, 2016; Chief Palmer seconded the motion. With all in favor, 4-0, the motion carries.

3. Request from Paul Dutra, RI Interlocal Trust, for POST approval on the updated "Use of Force" model Policy.

Paul Dutra explained that in 2004 he was directed by the Board of Directors at the Trust to develop a model "Use of Force" policy. The Trust insures 32 of the 38 Police Departments statewide. That task was done and adopted. The policy was updated in 2012. In 2016, it was time to re-assess and update the policy once again. The project began in September, 2016 and completed in November, 2016. A group was formed to complete this task, which consisted of Christine Crocker (RIPAC), Daniel Barzykowski, Phil Gould and David Bissonnette. He is here today to request approval of the policy so it is in line with the Academy Curriculum. He brought this updated policy to the RI Police Chief's and it was well received. Mr. Dutra then went through the policy and highlighted the updates/revisions made to the policy, which are related to the Use of Force curriculum at the Academy. He stated that he is looking for formal recognition that the policy is consistent with the curriculum used at the Academy.

Chief Pesare applauded the members of the committee for their pro-active measures. LTC Barry asked if there is any consideration to separate on and off duty officers, under Firearms (D), 1 (a). Paul Dutra responded stating that the analysis is at the point you engage as a police officer, you put yourself on duty. Chief Pesare stated this policy incorporates 11 out of 14 guidelines, what 3 are not included? Paul read the 3 and outlined the reasoning. Chief Palmer thanked everyone who participated in this venture. He had a question on Page 3, #7 asking to clarify the word “focus”. Paul Dutra explained it in further detail. Chief Mello questioned Section 6 regarding the burden being on the officer to protect himself and Chris Crocker responded that it says “shall”. He asked about de-escalation and Major Barzykowski responded that this is part of the curriculum from Day 1. Every part of the Academy curriculum, every aspect of their training, deals with de-escalation. Chief Mello asked if under Item G, should b & c be combined and Paul answered that first it is handled by the department and then RISP and the A.G. will be called in. Chris Crocker stated that it was a really good working group.

Chief Pesare made a motion to recognize the updated model “Use of Force” policy as consistent with the training given in the Academy with the RIMPTA curriculum. Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 4-0, motion passes.

4. Discussion of Proposed Legislation (1) 42-28.2-8.4, Crisis Intervention training (2) 42-28.2-8.4, Development disability recognition training

Chief Pesare stated that after he contacted the Legislator proposing these two bills to advise that this training is already part of our curriculum, the bills were withdrawn.

He further stated that he and LTC Barry are working to fund the Mental Health training. Chief Pesare is planning to send two of his officers in May to get their certification. He has also met with the Newport County Mental Health looking to fund 4 clinicians. He spoke with delegates about funding while he was in Washington recently as well. There is also a proposed bill that is asking for \$2 million for police mental health training; however, it excludes Providence PD as it is written. He will meet with Rep. Lou DiPalma.

Lt. Raynes asked if there was any way to let the legislature know what training we do before they introduce legislation. LTC Barry suggested that we set something up 1-2 times a year. Chief Wordell stated he agrees and that some things should stay in policy, not legislation. He stated DEM recently had a day at the State House to introducing their mission and the aspects of their department. Perhaps he can set up a “Law Enforcement Day” to educate everyone.

5. Approval of the Westerly SRT Team Re-certification

Lieutenant Raynes stated that members of RITOA assessed the Westerly PD Tactical team and they unanimously agreed to re-certify them. LTC Barry made a motion to approve the Westerly PD Tactical Team for re-certification for a 3-year period and Chief Palmer seconded the motion. With all in favor, 4-0, motion passes.

6. Request for Approval of Firearms Qualifications Courses

Lieutenant Raynes said he had numerous Firearms courses to present for certification. They have all been reviewed by himself and Captain Gould and he recommends approval.

- Charlestown Police Department
- Cumberland Police Department
- Foster Police Department
- Cumberland Police Department
- Narragansett Police Department
- Smithfield Police Department
- University of Rhode Island Police Department
- Wyatt Detention Facility

Chief Pesare made a motion to certify all the above Firearms courses and LTC Barry seconded the motion. With all in favor, 4-0, motion carries.

Chief Pesare turned the meeting over to Chief Mello and recused himself from this agenda item due to a conflict. Lieutenant Raynes stated that Middletown PD presented its Firearms course for certification. He has reviewed it, along with Captain Gould, and he recommend approval. Chief Palmer made a motion to certify the Middletown Police Department Firearms Qualification Course and LTC Barry seconded the motion. With all in favor, 3-0 and Chief Pesare recusing himself, the motion carries.

7. Update on Continuing Education

Captain Ricciarelli reviewed 3 upcoming trainings that are scheduled as follows:

EVOC School – overview attached, scheduled for March 20-24

Instructor Re-Certification Program – this program requires re-certification every three years of our instructors. It will be set up to complete electronically later this month

Background Investigation – Pawtucket PD articulates our Background Investigation format. They will be hosting a workshop on March 22-23. Also noted that we are working on an electronic model due to the high turnover rate in departments with those conducting background checks.

8. Update on Class 2017-I

Lt. Raynes stated that the current recruit class begin on January 9th with 53 recruits and we are down to 48 currently. They are in Week 7 and all is going according to schedule. Paul Andrews asked why 8 recruits dropped out and Lt. Raynes replied that either they were not mentally/physically prepared and some had injuries that would have put them over the allowable sick days they can use.

9. Adjournment:

LTC Barry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 am and Chief Mello seconded the motion, With all in favor, 4-0, motion carries.

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' and a long, sweeping underline.

Donna M. Lavalley
Administrative Assistant