



Sheriff Michael L. Prozzo, Jr.  
Chairman

**State of New Hampshire  
POLICE STANDARDS & TRAINING COUNCIL  
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Donald L. Vittum  
Director

**Approved Minutes**

**July 22, 2014  
PSTC Council Meeting**

The 444<sup>th</sup> meeting of the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Vice Chairman, Commissioner William L. Wrenn, in classroom one of the Arthur D. Kehas Law Enforcement Training Facility and Campus in Concord, New Hampshire.

Members Present: Vice Chairman, Commissioner William L. Wrenn, NH Department of Corrections; Judge James Carroll, 4th Circuit District Division, Laconia; Attorney General Joseph Foster; Chief Anthony Colarusso, Dover Police Department; Vice Chancellor Ronald Rioux, Community College System of New Hampshire; Exec. Major David Parenteau, New Hampshire State Police; Chief David Cahill, Sunapee Police Department; Chief James Sullivan, Hampton Police Department; and Judge Sawako Gardner, 10th Circuit District Division, Portsmouth.

Members Absent: Chairman Michael J. Prozzo, Jr.; Sheriff David Dubois, Strafford County; and Chief Peter Morency, Berlin Police Department.

Staff Present: Captain Benjamin Jean, Captain Mark Bodanza, and Chief Timothy Merrill.

Guests Present: Chief James Valiquet with Officer Henry Thomas, Bradford Police Department, and Linda Chaney, Herzing University.

**Approval of Minutes**

Chief Colarusso moved for the Council to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2014 Council meeting. Following a second by Chief Cahill, the Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion, 8-0.

**Summary of PSTC activity since June**

Verbal report by Captain Jean. We are currently in week ten of the 164<sup>th</sup> Full Time Academy, with fifty seven recruits in training. The mid point fitness test evaluation was scheduled, however it was canceled due to oppressive heat on the day it was to have been held. The mid point fitness test is run by the staff and it is not reported as an "official test". The question to the Council members was that since this was not an official test, could it be completed as part of a morning workout for the recruits and the results used as an assessment tool for them only?

The 164<sup>th</sup> full time academy graduation will be held in approximately four weeks, at 2:00 p.m. in the academy's Tactical Center. Staff is expecting it to be warm during the graduation ceremony.

Currently there are forty two applications for the 165<sup>th</sup> Full Time Academy, the deadline for receipt of paperwork is August 11<sup>th</sup>. The 165<sup>th</sup> Academy will run from September 8<sup>th</sup> to December 12<sup>th</sup>. There are seventeen applications for the 267<sup>th</sup> Part Time Academy, the submission deadline for documents is July 26<sup>th</sup>, that academy will run from August 23<sup>rd</sup> to November 21<sup>st</sup>. The 98<sup>th</sup> Corrections Academy has eight applicants registered, their deadline to submit paperwork is August 19<sup>th</sup>. The 98<sup>th</sup> Corrections Academy will run from September 15<sup>th</sup> through November 14<sup>th</sup>.

The simulator project is nearly complete, and the plan is to introduce it to the current academy. There is much interest by individual agencies to use the simulator, and staff would like input from the Council on ways to regulate which agency will use it and how the simulator will be used.

#### Financial Report Submitted by Captain Jean

Captain Jean explained that the initial report that was attached to the agenda had been updated with a hard copy, provided to all that morning (attached).

#### Separation of Recruit

Captain Bodanza explained to Council members that there was a separation from the 164<sup>th</sup> Academy of a recruit by the agency. The agency provided a Form B and the individual was withdrawn from the academy, leaving 57 recruits.

#### NOH Michael Milano Walpole Police Department, Pol 402.02 (b) and (c)

Michael Milano had been notified by return receipt mail of the hearing today, he contacted staff via email stating he was aware of the proceedings and consequences, but would not be in attendance.

Captain Bodanza was sworn in by Vice Chairman Wrenn, and then summarized Officer Milano's employment and certification history, ending with Police Standards and Training Council staff receiving the Form G, notice of arrest form, from New Hampshire State Police and the complaint filed for Simple Assault, Domestic Violence.

Motion by Chief Colarusso, seconded by Chief Cahill for the temporary suspension of Officer Michael Milano's certification under Pol 402.02 (b) and (c) until such time that the matter is resolved, the Council feels that this will adversely affect the criminal justice system; furthermore, requiring that Officer Milano come before the Council for a hearing after the disposition of the matter before his certification will be reinstated. Unanimous vote by the Council 8-0.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **Prior Training & Experience Requests**

#### **Officer Andrew Courter, Dover Police Department**

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam, entrance fitness test, and the Full-time Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy.

#### **Officer Gary Duquette, Deerfield Police Department**

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam, entrance fitness test, and the Full-time Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy.

#### **Officer Devin West, Exeter Police Department**

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam, entrance fitness test, and the Full-time Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy, and provide proof of HGN/SFST training or complete that training as part of the law package.

#### **Officer Charles Dennis, Hanover Police Department,**

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam, entrance fitness test, and the Full-time Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy.

### **Requests for Extensions**

Note: Extensions granted until the first council meeting following the fitness testing for the requested Academy, and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested Academy.

**Officer Frank Groeber, Jaffrey Police Department** Will be granted the extension until the first council meeting following the fitness testing for the requested academy, and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that Officer Groeber must remain actively enrolled in the 165<sup>th</sup> academy and may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified officer.

**Officer Joseph Lacasse, Waterville Valley Police Department** Will be granted the extension until the first council meeting following the fitness testing for the requested academy, and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that Officer Lacasse must remain actively enrolled in the 165<sup>th</sup> academy.

**Officer Kevin Raymond, Meredith Police Department** Will be granted the extension until the first council meeting following the fitness testing for the requested academy, and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that Officer Raymond must remain actively enrolled in the 165<sup>th</sup> academy and may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified officer.

**Officer David Olmstead, Winchester Police Department** Will be granted the extension until the first council meeting following the fitness testing for the requested academy, and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that Officer Olmstead must remain actively enrolled in the 165<sup>th</sup> academy.

Officer Zachary Moyland, Thornton Police Department Will be granted the extension until the first council meeting following the fitness testing for the requested academy, and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that Officer Moyland must remain actively enrolled in the 165<sup>th</sup> academy.

Officer James Yazinski, Newport Police Department Will be granted the extension until the first council meeting following the fitness testing for the requested academy, and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that Officer Yazinski must remain actively enrolled in the 165<sup>th</sup> academy.

Officer Alyssa Raxter, Gilford Police Department Will be granted the extension until the first council meeting following the fitness testing for the requested academy, and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that Officer Raxter must remain actively enrolled in the 165<sup>th</sup> academy and may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified officer.

Chief Stephen Sullivan, Dublin Police Department Will be granted the extension until the first council meeting following the fitness testing for the requested academy, and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that Chief Sullivan must remain actively enrolled in the 165<sup>th</sup> academy law package classes and may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified office, unless he has successfully completed his agency's FTO Program, then normal supervision.

Requests for Specialized Training Grant Funds (Balance: \$15,395.51)

Dublin Police Department will be granted the funds for Chief Stephen Sullivan to attend the FBI-Law Enforcement Executive Development Association Executive Leadership Program in Hampton, NH from October 27, to October 30, 2014.

### **Ongoing Physical Fitness Testing**

#### **Requests for Fitness Testing Extension**

An Officer, (2013) will be granted a medical extension for fitness testing.

### **End of Consent Calendar**

**Motion** by Chief Sullivan, seconded by Judge Gardner, to approve the consent calendar. The Council vote was 8-0 in favor of the motion, with Chief Colarusso recused from the vote regarding item #7, a request by the Dover Police Department.

#### **Addendum #2, Officer Henry Thomas, Bradford Police Department**

##### **Request for Prior Training and Experience**

Chief James Valiquet was present with Officer Henry Thomas. Chief Valiquet gave some background information to the Council as to the reason for this prior training and

experience request. The request was due to complications in documentation for the dates between Officer Thomas leaving employment at the Newbury Police Department, and his date of hire by the Bradford Police Department.

Captain Bodanza summarized Officer Thomas's employment and certification history for Council members. The issue at hand was, whether there had been a 30 day lapse between the time that Officer Thomas left the Newbury Police Department, and the time that he had been hired by the Bradford Police Department. The original Form B submitted to Police Standards and Training was not accurate, the Newbury Selectboard had not been made aware of Officer Thomas' status.

Newbury's Selectboard had recently submitted a letter to correct the inaccurate Form B.

Council members discussed the matter further and as presented by Captain Bodanza, discussed "hiring authority" and "lapse in service". If the letter had not been submitted by the Selectboard correcting the original Form B, the request for prior training and experience may have had a different outcome.

Motion by Chief Cahill to use June 1<sup>st</sup> as Officer Thomas' final date at the Newbury Police Department, the motion was seconded by Chief Sullivan. Council vote was unanimous on this motion 8-0.

#### Previous and/or Unfinished Business

##### Herzing University, Linda Chaney

Ms. Chaney was present and addressed Council members about Herzing University and the opportunities it could provide to certified law enforcement officers and corrections officers.

Discussion ensued amongst Council members. Herzing University is not accredited with NEASC, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, which is a requirement for any school doing business in the New England States.

Ms. Chaney thanked the Council for their consideration.

#### Non Consent Items; skipping the 165<sup>th</sup> Academy

##### PPO I Cecilia Stone, New Hampshire Department of Corrections

She will be granted the extension until the first council meeting following the fitness testing for the requested academy, and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that PPO Stone must remain actively enrolled in the 166<sup>th</sup> academy and may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified Probation and Parole Officer.

##### Officer Cristina Paterno, Keene Police Department

She will be granted the extension until the first council meeting following the fitness testing for the requested academy, and, if testing is successful, to the first council meeting following the end of the requested academy with the stipulation that Officer Paterno must

remain actively enrolled in the 166<sup>th</sup> academy and may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified officer.

Motion to approve the extension requests for Cecilia Stone and Cristina Paterno by Chief Sullivan, seconded by Chief Cahill, Council vote was unanimous in favor of the motion 8-0; Vice Chairman Wrenn abstained from this vote.

#### Addendum #1

Donald Laliberte, Lee Police Department Prior Training and Experience Request  
Captain Bodanza provided Council members with a summary of this request

Officer Laliberte had attended the 83<sup>rd</sup> Full time academy and achieved his full time certification in 1988. In 1989, he went from full time employment to part time employment. He has remaining consistently employed as a part time officer since that time.

He was recently hired as a full time officer again. The question for the Council is, now that he is employed as a full time officer, does he automatically get his full time certification back because he was once full time, no matter the length of time that he was out of full time law enforcement employment? Will he be required to take any additional training?

Discussion ensued amongst the Council members, referring to past practice for "part time certification with unlimited hours" which has since been eliminated for those officers who have attended the full time academy and earned their full time certification. In this officer's case, there was no break in law enforcement employment service.

Motion by Chief Sullivan, to grant the request for prior training and experience for Donald Laliberte's full time certification under the circumstances that he was full time certified and remained consistently employed and has a sufficient, at least, minimum number of hours worked in that time. The motion was seconded by Chief Cahill, and voted unanimously in favor by the Council members, 8-0.

#### Addendum #3 Gift Acceptance

Embroidered bags from the Cadet Academy

Motion by Chief Sullivan, seconded by Judge Gardner to accept the gift, Council vote was unanimously in favor of the motion, 8-0.

Judge Carroll exited the meeting at 10:39 a.m.

#### Additional Classes at the Academy Extending it to Sixteen Weeks

A question had been presented to invitees at the last PSTC Strategic Planning Session; should New Hampshire's full time academy be expanded, if so, how long should it be? The general response was that it should be a total of sixteen weeks. The Council has had discussions comparing New Hampshire to the other New England states and the transfer of law enforcement certification between these states. PSTC staff researched the New England states to determine the length of their academy and the training required in their academy sessions. New Hampshire's current academy is fourteen weeks, with five

hundred and ninety eight hours in the residential academy. Vermont has nine hundred three hours in a residential academy, Maine has seven hundred and twenty hours in a residential academy, Connecticut's state police has eight hundred eighteen hours in a residential academy, Massachusetts has eight hundred hours / twenty weeks in their day academy, and Rhode Island state police has eight hundred fifty hours / twenty two weeks in their day academy.

Input from the strategic planning session on which areas in training were critical include mental health, firearms, defensive tactics, scenarios, community policing, simunitions, evidence gathering and technology. The question for the Council was, as an exploration, is the Council going to consider expanding New Hampshire's academy to sixteen weeks, and if so, what classes should be included in the expansion?

Discussion ensued amongst the Council members. Three academy sessions are run per year, and still can continue with the sixteen weeks, more staff may need to be added eventually. Council members voiced that it was imperative to be competitive with the training programs in New England.

Motion by Chief Cahill, to direct PSTC staff to create and organize the sixteen week program, and that the Council adopt the sixteen week residential program which will become effective during the 167<sup>th</sup> Academy, May 2015. The motion was seconded by Chief Colarusso, Council vote on this motion was 7-0 in favor.

Notification will be made to all agencies that are affected by the change with a letter from the staff at PSTC.

Council took a break at 11:33 a.m.

Other New Business

Require part time officers to work a minimum of eight hours per month.

Council members discussed this item at length, hours per year was suggested as well as tiered levels of training for part time officers, and annual proficiency training. The item was tabled due to the request to staff for researching New Hampshire's current part time officer's statistics for hours worked, and also research to New England's states and their part time academy requirements.

Officer Kevin Donnelly, Atkinson Police Department

Officer Donnelly, through his attorney had filed a motion to stay the action from last month's Council meeting. Last month, the motion from Officer Donnelly's hearing was a sixty day suspension and the deduction of hours worked he had gone over 1300 from the past three years from the current year's amount.

Vice Chairman, Commissioner Wrenn will respond to the motion to stay as it is a procedural matter; and deny the motion without prejudice, as the motion is inadequate.

Blue Courage, request by Sheriff Dubois

This is a training program to potentially add to the academy, however instructors must be certified by the company. It is ethics training, [www.bluecourage.com](http://www.bluecourage.com). This item will be discussed next month.

Rule change/ amendment Pol 404.03 and 404.04

These rule changes are regarding firearms reporting and Form F's.

Motion by Chief Cahill, seconded by Chief Sullivan, to approve the initiation of the rule changes on Pol 404.03 and Pol 404.04; by submitting each to Legislative Budget Assistant for the fiscal impact statements and to Office of Legislative Services for the Initial Proposal. Council vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion.

Thank you to Captain Bodanza and Lorelee Ames for their work at the Law Enforcement Memorial.

Council members confirmed with staff that the mid-point fitness evaluation for full time academy recruits is to be a morning work-out, it will not be counted as a test, it is a self-assessment for the recruit only, and not recorded by staff.

Next Meeting Date/Adjournment

The next meeting of the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council (#445) will be held on August 26, 2014 at nine o'clock in the morning.

Upon a motion by Chief Sullivan, seconded by Chief Cahill, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Vice Chairman William L. Wrenn