



*Sheriff Christopher D. Connelly  
Chairman*

# State of New Hampshire

## POLICE STANDARDS & TRAINING COUNCIL

Arthur D. Kehas

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*John V. Scippa  
Director*

Public Minutes  
July 25, 2023  
Police Standards and Training Council

In attendance:

Chairman, Sheriff Christopher Connelly, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office  
Vice Chairperson, Commissioner Helen Hanks, New Hampshire Department of Corrections  
Chief Joseph Hoebeke, Hollis Police Department  
Chief Allen Aldenberg, Manchester Police Department  
Mr. Michael Harrington  
Attorney General John Formella  
Dr. Maureen Sullivan  
Chief Emily Cobb, New London Police Department  
Judge Sawako Gardner, Circuit Court Judge  
Mr. Christopher Stawasz  
Officer Jaqueline Pelletier, Goffstown Police Department  
Judge Melissa Countway, 3rd Circuit District Division, Ossipee  
Dr. Robert Eckstein  
Sheriff Charles Massahos, Rockingham County Sheriff's Office

Not in Attendance:

Mr. Edward Lecius  
Chief Kevin Rourke, Nashua Police Department

Staff Present:

Director John Scippa, Major David Parenteau (ret.); Lieutenant Matthew Terry, Attorney Stacie Moeser, Captain Thomas McCabe, and Anne Paquin, Investigative Paralegal.

Guests: Lt. Eric Benson with candidate Andrew Genese, Portsmouth Police Department; Chief Michael Jewett with Arthur Statezni of Newton Police Department, Richard Fortin of Mason Police Department

Before the meeting convened there was a non-meeting for the Council members with attorney Stacie Moeser.

Motion by Chief Hoebeke and seconded by Dr. Sullivan, to enter a non meeting, the Council's voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

9:03 am Council began a nonmeeting.

9:15 am Motion by Chief Aldenberg, seconded by Chief Hoebeke to exit the nonmeeting, the Council's voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

9:15 am Chairman Connelly called the meeting to order.

Motion by Dr. Sullivan, seconded by Judge Gardner to approve the minutes from the June 27, 2023 Council meeting, the voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion with the exception of Commissioner Hanks who abstained from the vote.

### Director's Report

Director Scippa reviewed his report for the Council members, copy attached.

Financial Report – nothing new to report

### Audit

Director Scippa reviewed information from the Performance Audit observations and the status of each item.

Major Parenteau conveyed that as part of the performance audit there should be amendments to Council forms, there isn't a way to verify whether or not a candidate has had psychological screening or drug screening. These items should be added to the Background Investigation form, "Form I" (psychological) and to the Medical Examination form, "Form D" (drug). Editing of these forms could be accomplished while making changes to PSTC's administrative rules.

Director Scippa commented on the status of the Correction's Advisory Committee, also part of the audit the last meeting was approximately 18 months ago. The Council learned from Commissioner Hanks that some individuals on the committee may have retired. Commissioner Hanks will contact Correction's Advisory Committee members to discuss meeting in the future as well as adding new members to take the place of those that retired.

### Ryan Milligan, formerly of the Merrimack Police Department

Major Parenteau presented this item, it was an agreement made between the New Hampshire Attorney General's office and Ryan Milligan, one of the elements was for Mr. Milligan to voluntarily surrender his police certification.

Ryan Milligan was reported to the Attorney General's Office by the Merrimack Police Department. Mr. Milligan had fabricated handwritten warnings while on a New Hampshire Office of Highway Safety traffic enforcement detail. He fabricated the false warnings by using the State Police Online Telecommunications System ("SPOTS"). The warnings were fabricated on August 18, 2022 and on September 1, 2022.

- Ryan Milligan plead guilty to two class B misdemeanor counts of Tampering with Public Records or Information contrary to RSA 641:7

- He also plead guilty to one violation count of Records and Certification, “the Driver Privacy Act” contrary to RSA 260:14
- He was fined at the Concord District Court
- The Attorney General’s agreement included a stipulation that he voluntarily surrender his law enforcement certification, and that his name will be added to the National Decertification Registry
- He is not to seek further law enforcement employment in any federal, state, county, municipality, university or tribal law enforcement agency.

Major Parenteau explained that there had been a similar agenda item the month before, and that at that time the Council discussed accepting an officer’s voluntary surrender, versus a revocation by the Council. If an officer is revoked, their name is automatically added to the NDI

Motion by Chief Hoebeke, to revoke the certification of Ryan Milligan as a law enforcement officer in New Hampshire, resulting in the placement of his name on the National Registry of Decertified Officers. He cannot seek law enforcement employment in this state or any other state, federal, county, municipality, university, or tribal law enforcement agency. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hanks, the voice vote of the Council was unanimous, with the exception of Attorney General Formella, who abstained from the vote.

#### Portsmouth Police Department

Lt. Eric Benson was in attendance with a candidate, Andrew Genese for the Portsmouth Police Department.

Lt. Benson explained that his agency would like Mr. Genese to participate in the 194<sup>th</sup> academy which begins on July 31<sup>st</sup>. The agency is seeking a waiver due to Mr. Genese’s color blindness.

Major Parenteau summarized the relative sections of the Technical Assistance Manual regarding color blindness for the Council members.

Mr. Genese provide that:

- He wears glasses which assist him with the color blindness.
- He cannot wear the glasses indoors because they are tinted
- He can see color, but it isn’t vibrant
- He can identify colors at a stop light

Motion by Commissioner Hanks, seconded by Chief Hoebeke to approve the vision waiver for the Portsmouth Police Department for their candidate. The voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion.

### Salem Police Department

Deputy Chief Shane Smith was in attendance with Ron Peddle, Salem Police Department's candidate for a part-time position.

Deputy Chief Smith explained that Mr. Peddle had retired in 2015 but wished to return as a part time officer for Salem. They were asking for a waiver of the prior training experience criteria that Mr. Peddle attend the part-time academy due to the length of the lapse in time of eight years from being a certified officer.

Deputy Chief Smith provided testimony about the positions that Mr. Peddle had held between retiring from Salem Police Department in 2015 and currently. He worked for NH Department of Safety, Homeland Security and for Manchester Community College as Director of Safety.

The tasks that he would participate in as a special officer for Salem were the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and the Christmas parade.

Motion by Chief Hoebeke, seconded by Sheriff Massahos to grant the waiver to Salem Police Department for Mr. Peddle with the same considerations that were applied to last month's request in a similar situation. (He must complete a medical exam, take the law package and mental health classes). The voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion.

### Mason Police Department

Sergeant Richard Fortin, a part time officer with the Mason Police Department was present to request a waiver to change his status to full time for that agency.

Sgt. Fortin retired from law enforcement in 2007 and returned to work for Mason Police Department as a part time officer in 2016. He was required to attend a part time academy; the 272<sup>nd</sup>.

After his retirement in 2007 he worked in computer technology, software to be used for emergencies, to install, configure and to train people to use it.

He enjoys police work, the Mason Police Department is understaffed, Sgt. Fortin would like to have his full-time certification reinstated. He is prepared to deal with the NH Retirement system. The Mason selectboard and the chief of Mason Police Department are in support of his request.

The full-time certification is necessary for him to be able to work more hours.

Major Parenteau advised that he had received an email in support of Sgt. Fortin's waiver to return to full time status from Chief Rourke of Nashua Police Department.

Discussion ensued amongst Council members and PSTC staff. It was a concern that if the Council agrees to a waiver, it is setting a precedent for future requests for waivers.

Motion by Chief Hoebeke, seconded by Commissioner Hanks, to table this matter and allow PSTC staff to research past practice. The voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion.

At 10:51 a.m. the Council took a break

At 11:03 they were back in session.

#### New Hampshire Division of Liquor Enforcement

Director Scippa explained that the Division of Liquor Enforcement had donated numerous bottles of alcohol that had been confiscated as evidence of a crime. The donation was made to assist with the “wet labs” in recruit academies and in-service training.

Motion by Commissioner Hanks, seconded by Officer Pelletier to accept the donation. The voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion.

#### NOH Arthur Statezni, Newton Police Department

Mr. Statezni was present with Chief Michael Jewett of the Newton Police Department

Major Parenteau presented the case to the Council, he included exhibits which he handed out to them that detailed Mr. Statezni's:

- employment and certification information.
- Arrest by the Kingston Police Department on December 10, 2022 for DWI
- PSTC's notice of arrest from the Kingston Police Department
- PSTC's notice of hearing for temporary suspension pending resolution January 9, 2023
- Mr. Statezni's January 19, 2023, request to voluntarily surrender his certification temporarily pending resolution of the matter
- PSTC's letter agreeing to the voluntary temporary surrender of certification
- March 28, 2023, details of a plea agreement to nol pros the DWI charge and agree to plead no contest to Negligent Operation
- March 28, 2023 Mr. Statezni was found guilty of Negligent Operation, he was fined \$350 with another \$84 to penalty assessment. His driver's license was suspended for 30 days beginning March 28, 2023

When explaining the facts of this case Major Parenteau gave a detailed description of the reason why Mr. Statezni's vehicle was stopped by the Kingston Police officer, drifting over white lines, stopping over the line in the middle of an intersection, not engaging the directional when turning and driving off the road itself.

Major Parenteau further explained details why the Kingston officer placed Mr. Statezni under arrest for DWI; the stumbling when exiting his truck, during the walk to the Kingston cruiser, and the staggering, stumbling while entering and exiting the police department. Mr. Statezni told the officer he had a disability, two broken ankles and PTSD. He refused to participate in field

sobriety testing, refused to submit to a blood test, and signed an ALS form as a refusal. He was bailed and a sober person picked him up at the police station.

Evidence gathered by Kingston Police Department, while inventorying Mr. Statezni's vehicle revealed an unopened can of Michelob Ultra located in the center console. The Kingston officer's asked where Mr. Statezni was coming from and learned that Mr. Statezni was at the Saddle Up Saloon in Kingston. Kingston Police Department acquired a copy of Mr. Statezni's tab on December 10, 2022. He was at Saddle Up Saloon from about 7:00 pm, he paid his bill at 10:00 pm, and at 11:34 he left the Saddle Up Saloon. While he was there, he consumed three Michelob Ultra's, and order of chicken wings, and three drinks made with Tito's Vodka. He was stopped by the Kingston officer at 11:40.

Chief Michael Jewett addressed the Council. He had no information about the incident itself but was present to speak about Mr. Statezni's character and his value to the town of Newton. Newton Police Department has had difficulty staffing the agency and has experienced the loss of officers due to retirement; there will be a new officer attending the full time academy next week. Mr. Statezni is important to the agency for his skills in public relations with the community.

(Judge Countway left the meeting at 11:26 a.m.)

Arthur Statezni was sworn in by Chairman Connelly.

Mr. Statezni addressed the Council and stated that the date of the incident made ten years since he was deployed to Afghanistan, and he regrets his actions from that night.

- His career began 32 years ago, he has never been in trouble
- December 10, 2022 was the tenth anniversary of his deployment to Afghanistan
- He regrets his mistake
- The court heard his case, he was charged with negligent operation
- He was fined and he lost his license, the license will be reinstated on August 8, 2023.
- He had been injured in Afghanistan, his ankles were broken
- He has PTSD

Council members questioned the PTSD, is he being treated for it currently? Mr. Statezni's response was that he'd had counseling when he came back from Afghanistan, he is a VA member and has their services available.

Motion by Chief Hoebeke that Mr. Statezni's certification be reinstated effective August 8, 2023 when his driver's license is reinstated. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, the voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion.

## PT&E Requests

Troy Ashmore Rindge Police Department (DOH: 05/21/2023) Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (done June 25, 2023) and entrance fitness test with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Timothy Beers, Franklin Police Department (DOH: 07/06/23) Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Jose Delacruz, Nashua Police Department (DOH: 07/17/23) Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (done June 9, 2023), entrance fitness test, and the Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Eric Foulds, New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council (DOH: 07/14/23) Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (done May 18, 2023), entrance fitness test, and the Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Nathan Hamilton, Franconia Police Department (DOH: 06/22/23) Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (done July 10, 2023), and entrance fitness test with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Tyler Hazel, Pittsfield Police Department (DOH: 07/25/23) Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (done July 12, 2023), entrance fitness test, and the Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Nathan Leahy, Windham Police Department (DOH: 08/14/23) Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (done June 15, 2023), entrance fitness test, and the Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Megan McDevitt, NH DOS Fire Marshall's Office (DOH: 08/11/23) Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (done July 5, 2023), entrance fitness test, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

John Peracchi Portsmouth Police Department – Part-time (DOH: 05/30/23) Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (done June 19, 2023), with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency’s FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Addendum to Consent Calendar

Chelsea Hakker, Madbury Police Department (DOH: 06/06/23) Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (done July 20, 2023) and entrance fitness test, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency’s FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

9. 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.

\*Full Time Academy

|              |                                    |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Class Number | 193                                |
| Dates        | June 12, 2023 – September 29, 2023 |
|              | 194                                |
|              | July 31, 2023 – November 17, 2023  |

\* More detailed information about each academy session can be found in Benchmark. This will include the dates of the session, the fitness testing date and number of available seats.

\*Part Time Academy

|              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| Class Number | 283 |
| Dates        | TBD |

\* More detailed information about each academy session can be found in Benchmark. This will include the dates of the session, the fitness testing date and number of available seats.



\*Corrections Academy

|              |                                     |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Class Number | 121                                 |
| Dates        | October 11, 2023 – December 8, 2023 |

\* More detailed information about each academy session can be found in Benchmark. This will include the dates of the session, the fitness testing date and number of available seats.

Peter Forgione, Litchfield Police Department (DOH: 12/28/22) Will be granted an extension with the stipulation that the officer may continue working only in the direct presence of a certified officer, unless the officer completes the agency’s FTO program, then the officer may work under normal supervision.

Six Month Medical Extensions (expire 12/31/2023) for Fitness Testing were granted to the following officers:

Justin Agraz, Merrimack

Timothy Charbonneau, Lancaster

Ross Desmet, Nashua

Sarah Drake, Raymond

Herbert Dresser, Madbury

Joshua Fisher, Newbury

Joseph Hileman, Jaffrey

Hattie Johnson, Rochester

Michael Lambert, Merrimack

James MacKenna, Grantham

Jason Mazza, Plaistow

Christine Maille, Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office

Vinny Scarnici, Colebrook

Suzanne Kelley-Scott, Conway

Bradley Wheeler, Newbury

End of Consent Calendar

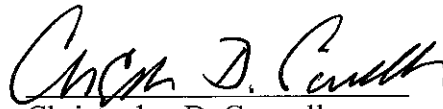
Motion by Chief Hoebeke, seconded by Commissioner Hanks to approve the Consent Calendar, including the addition of the addendum prior training and experience request for Chelsea Hakker, and the deletion of the prior training and experience request for Billy Inn. The voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion with the exception of Chief Cobb abstaining from the Grantham Police Department item.

Director Scippa asked that the Council be prepared to review the "Adjunct Instructor" item at next month's meeting.

Motion by Chief Hoebeke, seconded by Commissioner Hanks to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

August 22, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,



Christopher D. Connelly  
Chairman

To: All NHPSTC Council Members  
FROM: Director John Scippa  
DATE: July 25, 2023  
RE: Director's Monthly PSTC Council Report

**Bureau of Recruit Training:**

1. 193<sup>rd</sup> Full Time Police Academy began on June 12<sup>th</sup>.
2. 194<sup>th</sup> Full Time Police Academy is set to begin on July 31<sup>st</sup>.
3. 122<sup>nd</sup> Corrections Academy began July 24.
4. 283<sup>rd</sup> Part-Time Police Academy was scheduled to begin July 29, 2023, but we only have 9 completed applications. Request permission to roll the session start date until we receive enough applications.
5. With all the required LEACT classes, increase in scenario training and adding CIT to the schedule, the council will need to discuss extension of the length of the academies, (FTA and PTA). Position paper and model schedule to follow.

**Bureau of Professional Development:**

1. Court Security Officer Training and Certification program was passed as part of HB 2 which included 2 part time LETS to support the program. The legislation requires the Chief Justice to request PSTC to run the program.
2. RFPs for In-service Training contracts have been vetted. Contracts are being prepared.

**Bureau of Standards and the Conduct Review Committee:**

1. Conduct Review Committee (CRC) has its last meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
2. CRC staff has had meetings with the AG PIU, AG Civil Rights Bureau and with the Director of the NH HRC to refine workflow.
3. The part time investigator position is advertised, and we have several excellent applicants. Interviews to follow.

**NH Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission:**

1. The program has been launched and we are receiving applications.

2. All accreditation standards been approved and are now posted on the NH PSTC website.

### **PST Budget:**

1. In an effort to accommodate the rolling corrections academy, we have expended some resources to re-purpose the Morton Room to create a 25-person classroom. The equipment we purchased will still allow for reconfiguration of the room for meetings as needed.
2. Capital Projects for Firearms Range and AC replacement projects have begun with engineering proposals. Unknown when the projects will begin.
3. We have presented Aladdin Food Services with a contract extension for a modified dining services contract for one year. The modifications include that lunches will be the only meal covered by the contract and that the price for lunch was increased from 7 dollars per meal to 15 dollars per meal. We are waiting for Aladdin to respond to our contract extension. This contract will need to be finalized and then presented to the Governor and Council for final approval.

### **Outreach, Education and Legislation:**

1. We are prepared to host a visit from Girls Inc. to introduce participants to possible career opportunities in law enforcement.
2. We hosted the Northern NE Police Accreditation Coalition monthly meeting on July 14<sup>th</sup>.
3. NH Association of Chiefs of Police have issued a position paper to the legislature on the proposed legislation to eliminate the 3-year fitness test for incumbent officers.
4. NH PST and NHFEMS are about to receive a grant from DHHS to help us jointly develop a state-wide First Responder training program for PTSD.

### **Staff and Operations:**

1. We are excited to welcome Lt. Eric J. (EJ) Foulds as the new full-time investigator for the CRC. EJ comes to us from the North Andover Ma Police Department where he just retired as a detective lieutenant after 32 years of service.
2. We have three LETS registered to attend Scenario Instructor Training with Simmunitions in October of this year.

3. We are waiting to have DAS approve the SJDs and post the positions for the following new authorized positions:
  - a. Full time Instructional Designer
  - b. Full time Program Coordinator to assist with accreditation and active shooter training.
  - c. Two Part time LETS positions to support CSO training and augment overall academy and in-service training efforts.

**Open Action Items:**

1. **Administrative Rules Committee:** Chapters 100 to 400 have been amended and are being prepared for final council review and approval.

**Discussion Items:**

1. Request the council to review of proposed changes to Chapter Three of the Technical Assistance Manual regarding a standardized certification process for academy and in-service instructors. (Amended with newest version sent out)