



# NEWSLETTER

## Commission Membership

**Robert Evanchick – Chair**  
Commissioner  
Pennsylvania State Police  
Dauphin County

**William C. Barrett**  
City Official  
Luzerne County

**Richard M. Bosco**  
Chief, Lincoln Borough P.D.  
Allegheny County

**Jason D. Brinker**  
Noncommissioned Police Officer  
Dauphin County

**Bart E. Burne, Ed.D.**  
Law Enforcement Educator  
Luzerne County

**Madra L. Clay**  
Local Government Policy Manager  
Dept. of Community & Economic Dev.  
Dauphin County

**Anthony C. Clements**  
Noncommissioned Police Officer  
Dauphin County

**Kristen L. Denne**  
Township Official of the First Class  
Chester County

**Vincent J. DiCenzo, Jr.**  
FOP Representative  
Allegheny County

**Beth Dombrowsky**  
Director Certified School  
Dauphin County

**Barry J. Jozwiak**  
PA House of Representatives  
Berks County

**John Kitzinger**  
Office of Attorney General  
Dauphin County

**Richard W. Long, Esq.**  
Representative, Public at Large  
Cumberland County

**Corey B. Meyer**  
Township Official of the Second Class  
Lancaster County

**Joseph M. Pizano**  
Borough Official  
Luzerne County

**Senator Mike Regan**  
Senate of Pennsylvania  
Dauphin County

**Guy A. Salerno**  
Chief, Blakely Borough P.D.  
Lackawanna County

**Christopher M. Werner**  
Chief Inspector, Philadelphia P.D.  
Philadelphia County

**Vacancy**  
Police Department Chief

**Vacancy**  
Police Department Chief

## Act 4 of 2022 (House Bill 930)

by Lt. David Devitt, MPOETC Assistant Director

In May, MPOETC disseminated information and documents regarding the Act 4 of 2022 (HB 930) amendments to agency Chiefs/Administrators via email in the Training and Certification System (TACS).

If you are a new Chief/Administrator or did not receive the email and would like a copy, send an email request to [mpotraining@pa.gov](mailto:mpotraining@pa.gov), with the subject line: "ACT 4 of 2022, Info Request". Read on to learn more about the recent changes and impact on DNA collection and submission process.

Act 4 of 2022 (HB 930) became effective April 4, 2022 and amended Titles 18 (Pennsylvania Crimes Code) and 44 (Law and Justice) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes. Under the Act, Pennsylvania law enforcement agencies and coroners are mandated to collect and submit DNA samples to the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs), in investigations regarding missing persons and unidentified human remains. The Act also designates the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) as the submitting agency for all Pennsylvania law enforcement agencies and coroners.

To read the amendments and requirements, visit <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/>; enter "HB 930" in the "Legislation Quick Search" field; click "Search"; click on the "4" next to "Last Action".

As part of the DNA submission process, each Municipal Police Department and Coroner is encouraged to create a professional user account by registering with NamUs at <https://www.NamUs.gov>. Upon collecting a DNA sample, decide which agency will submit the DNA sample based on your agency protocol. Log in to the user account and complete electronic entry forms. Print and include a copy of the electronic entry with your DNA sample submission. Contact your NamUs regional coordinator to obtain the designated NamUs testing laboratory and required shipping labels. For a list of NamUs regional coordinators, visit <https://www.NamUs.gov>, and select "Contact Us" at the top of the webpage. Questions pertaining to registering for a professional user account or completing electronic entry forms can be emailed to [NamUs@usdoj.gov](mailto:NamUs@usdoj.gov).

Coordinate the DNA sample delivery to the PSP Troop Headquarters in your area. To confirm the proper location for delivery, visit <https://www.psp.pa.gov>

- Select "PSP Troop Directory"
- Select the Troop Letter tile for your region
- Read the section titled, "Coverage" (Troop headquarters listed first)
- Call and coordinate drop off between the hours of 0800-1600 with a Troop Forensic Services member

MPOETC will also be including this information in the 23-201 Legal Update training.

## Quarterly Legal Updates

The Commission recognizes that both statutes and case law can change frequently and throughout the year. While officers take mandatory Legal Update training, many times the officers would have benefitted from knowing about the changes when they happened rather than waiting months to attend the class. To help reduce the time it takes for officers to hear about recent changes to the law, the Commission’s quarterly newsletter now includes a synopsis of the most significant recent changes.

### PSP Bureau of Forensic Services Marijuana Delta 8 and Delta 10 Guidance

The PA State Police Bureau of Forensic Services (BFS) tests, reports, and schedules cannabis and cannabis products in accordance with the PA Drug Act, the PA Medical Marihuana Act, the PA Farm Bill, and the PA Department of Agriculture Regulations. The following information provides clarification for some common misconceptions regarding reported test results.

The permissible concentration of THC in industrial hemp plants and products is not more than 0.3% by dry weight. Any cannabis sativa vegetable matter or product containing THC above 0.3% is legally considered marihuana, a Schedule I substance. To account for the uncertainty of any measurement, the BFS has set a conservative testing threshold to 0.60% ± 0.23% delta 9 THC by weight to determine appropriate scheduling.

### Vegetable Matter Definitions

Marihuana (Schedule I) -Any cannabis vegetable matter with a delta 9 THC concentration greater than 0.6% by weight will be reported as marihuana, a schedule I substance.

Cannabis (Not Scheduled) - Any cannabis vegetable matter with a delta 9 THC concentration less than 0.6% by weight will be reported as cannabis. The vegetable matter may be considered hemp; further testing by another lab would be required to determine any delta 9 THC concentration below 0.6%.

### Cannabis Products

Greater than 0.6% THC (Schedule I) - Any cannabis product with a delta 9 THC concentration greater than 0.6% by weight will be reported as containing delta 9 THC, a schedule I substance.

Less than 0.6% THC (Not Scheduled) - Any cannabis product with a delta 9 THC concentration less than 0.6% THC by weight will be reported as containing delta 9 THC but will not be scheduled by the laboratory. Testing by another lab is required to determine any delta 9 THC concentration below 0.6%.

### Delta 8 THC and Delta 10 THC (Schedule I)

THC isomers other than delta 9 THC, including but not limited to delta 8 THC and delta 10 THC, are schedule I substances according to the PA Drug Act and will be reported as Schedule I substances by the PA State Police Bureau of Forensic Services.

If you have further questions regarding the reporting and scheduling of cannabis vegetable matter and products, please contact your local regional laboratory as listed below:

#### Bethlehem Regional Laboratory

2932 Airport Road  
Bethlehem, PA 18017-2106  
Tel: 610-861-2103  
Email: RA-BethEvidenceLog@pa.gov

#### Harrisburg Regional Laboratory

1800 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9718  
Tel: 717-783-5554  
Email: RA-HbgEvidenceLogin@pa.gov

#### Erie Regional Laboratory

4310 Iroquois Avenue  
Erie, PA 16511-2135  
Tel: 814-899-8447  
Email: RA-ErieEvidenceLogin@pa.gov

#### Lima Regional Laboratory

350 N. Middletown Road  
Media, PA 19063-5505  
Tel: 610-891-6360 Fax: 610-891-6369  
Email: RA-LimaEvidenceLogin@pa.gov

#### Greensburg Regional Laboratory

425 Willow Crossing Road  
Greensburg, PA 15601-9122  
Tel: 724-832-3299  
Email: RA-GbgEvidenceLogin@pa.gov

#### Wyoming Regional Laboratory

1400 Sathers Drive  
Pittston, PA 18640-9405  
Tel: 570-654-5921 Fax: 570-654-5941  
Email: RA-WyoEvidenceLogin@pa.gov

## Highlights from the June 2022 Commission Meeting

On June 8-9, 2022, the Commission held its regular quarterly meeting in Gettysburg, PA. On Wednesday afternoon, June 8, 2022, the Commissioners held committee meetings to discuss the business of the Commission. On Thursday morning, June 9, 2022, the Commissioners met in an Executive Committee meeting followed by the formal meeting of the full Commission where they took the following actions.

The Commission approved new officer, instructor, and academy director applications and revoked several certifications. One officer was decertified for conviction of domestic violence, which is a disqualifying offense. Another officer was decertified for knowingly and intentionally submitting false firearm qualification to the Commission while serving as the chief of the department. Finally, one academy instructor was decertified for violating the Commission's instructor code of conduct by engaging in activities and socialization with cadets outside of normal academy business.

The Commission discussed but took no action regarding the status of annual Legal Update training, which officers were required to complete by June 30, 2022. The Commission also discussed issues related to cadets who are expelled from police academies for various reasons and will explore in future meetings what authority the Commission has to limit a cadet from returning to an academy for certain offenses. The Commission discussed options for conducting an alternative basic training course that would replace the current waiver process for out of state, federal, and military law enforcement officers who pursue certification in Pennsylvania. Because further legal review was required, the Commission scheduled a special meeting to discuss training course options at a later date.

On July 13, 2022, the Commission held a special meeting at the MPOETC office in Harrisburg, PA to discuss options for an alternative basic training course. After discussion, the Commission voted to develop a second, condensed basic training course that will teach the same objectives as the full basic training course, but in less time, and will be intended for out of state, federal, and military law enforcement officers. The Commission directed training staff to begin collaboration with the police academy at Harrisburg Area Community College to develop a pilot version of the condensed basic training course. More discussion on eligibility criteria and assessment processes will be discussed at the next regular quarterly meeting.

## Information Regarding the September 2022 Commission Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission is on September 14 and 15, 2022 at the Genetti Hotel and Suites, 200 West Fourth Street, Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701. Phone: 570-326-6600. Further information about the meeting, including a topical agenda, will be available at <https://mpoetc.psp.pa.gov/Pages/about-us.aspx>. *Please note that a public notification will be made if this meeting is rescheduled.*

- Committee meetings begin on Wednesday, the 14th at 12:30 P.M.
- Executive Committee meeting begins on Thursday, the 15th at 9:00 A.M.
- Full Commission meeting begins on Thursday, the 15th at 10:00 A.M.

The Commission encourages attendance by police chiefs, law enforcement officers, police academy directors, instructors and other interested parties. If you have further questions concerning the meetings, please feel free to contact the Executive Director.

The Executive Committee will hear reports from all committees. In addition, the Executive Committee will also open their meeting to comments from the audience. If you would like to make a presentation to any committee, please contact the Executive Director in order to be placed on the agenda for the appropriate committee. This is your opportunity to have your concern or suggestion heard by the Commission.

The office of the Municipal Police Officers' Education & Training Commission will be closed on the following dates for the purpose of transacting public business:

**Labor Day: September 5, 2022**

Regular office hours are from 8:15 A.M. to 4:15 P.M.  
Monday through Friday



Questions, comments and information for inclusion in the *Newsletter* are always welcome. This is your opportunity to submit your concerns or suggestions to the Commission. To do so, please contact the Executive Director, Major Michael Gaines or the Editor, Mr. Craig L. Hevalow, by calling toll-free at 1-800-342-0858. The Commission can be contacted using the email addresses on page 4. You may also write to:

**MPOETC Newsletter**

***Municipal Police Officers' Education & Training Commission***

8002 Bretz Drive  
Harrisburg, PA 17112-9748

The Municipal Police Officers' Education & Training Commission was established in 1974 to set hiring and training standards for police departments in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through strict certification procedures and standardized basic and continuing professional in-service training for police officers. The Commission needs the support of the entire law enforcement community, state and local government officials, and the general public to be successful. Please circulate this Newsletter throughout your agency and to the government officials in your municipality. The quarterly newsletter is also available on the MPOETC website at [www.psp.pa.gov/MPOETC](http://www.psp.pa.gov/MPOETC), under About Us > Quarterly Newsletters.

# New Agency Executives

Chief Jennifer K. Brubaker

East Hempfield Township PD  
Lancaster County

## Congratulations!

## Happy Labor Day

### Areas of Responsibility and Contact Information for Commission Staff

The following resource accounts are provided to allow your questions and concerns to reach the Executive Director, Staff Member, or Members of the Commission.

#### ADMINISTRATION AND CERTIFICATION

##### Act 120 Applications and Certification, Act 120 Instructor Application and Certification

Email: [mpocertification@pa.gov](mailto:mpocertification@pa.gov)  
 Telephone: (717) 346-4086  
 Fax: (717) 346-7781 or (717) 346-7782

#### TRAINING

##### Basic Training Curriculum, Mandatory In-Service Training, Instructor Training, Retired Law Enforcement Identification Act

Email: [mpotraining@pa.gov](mailto:mpotraining@pa.gov)  
 Telephone: (717) 346-4086  
 Fax: (717) 346-7781 or (717) 346-7782

#### GRANT REIMBURSEMENT

##### Continuing Law Enforcement Education Reimbursement (Mandatory In-Service Training), Basic Training Tuition and Salary

Email: [RA-SPMPOFSS@pa.gov](mailto:RA-SPMPOFSS@pa.gov)  
 Telephone: (717) 346-4086  
 Fax: (717) 346-7781 or (717) 346-7782

#### PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND INSPECTIONS

##### Regulatory Compliance, School Inspections

Email: [mpostandards@pa.gov](mailto:mpostandards@pa.gov)  
 Telephone: (717) 346-4086  
 Fax: (717) 346-7781 or (717) 346-7782