



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 PD
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

Altovise Love-Craighead
Chief Inspector, Philadelphia PD
Philadelphia 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 PD
Lackawanna County

Donald E. Sedlacek
Chief, Hopewell Township PD
Beaver County

Vacancy
City Police Department Chief

2022 Holiday Message

As we approach the end of 2022, I'm confident that we will be prepared to meet the challenges of law enforcement as we enter into a new year. It has been a privilege and pleasure to be the Executive Director of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission. There are many moving parts involved in providing the best training for law enforcement officers throughout the Commonwealth, to ensure outstanding service is provided to the citizens and visitors of Pennsylvania.

Commission members and Training Commission staff have consistently shown professionalism, dedication, and commitment, which is greatly appreciated. Their efforts ensure Pennsylvania's law enforcement officers are administering police services in a professional and unbiased manner.

MPOETC will continue to strive to ensure the education and training of law enforcement officers includes the most advanced technology and information available. Therefore, the citizens and visitors of Pennsylvania can be assured that our law enforcement officers are well-trained and more than capable of providing excellent service.

Major Michael Gaines
Executive Director



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.

New Law Supports Justice for Crime Victims

Crime victims in the Commonwealth will have better access to investigative information about their cases under a new state law.

Act 134 of 2022, formerly House Bill 2525, makes it easier for crime victims to obtain relevant information learned by law enforcement during the investigation of a crime to possibly use that information in subsequent civil actions to recover damages.

It creates a simple process by which crime victims can request dissemination of criminal history investigative information which is relevant to a civil action arising out of the crime, provided the victim swears under penalty of law that the information is material and necessary to the civil action. The information can then only be used for the civil lawsuit; any harassing, intimidating or threatening use of the information would be punishable as a crime.

The measure will take effect May 2, 2023 and is the latest effort by state lawmakers to stand up for victims of crime and fight back against perpetrators and those who choose not to enforce the Commonwealth's laws.

Protecting Police from Assaults

Pennsylvania police officers now have a new level of protection if assaulted with bodily fluids.

Act 99 of 2022, formerly House Bill 103, makes it a criminal offense to assault a police officer with bodily fluids, such as saliva. The law outlines an assault must be deliberate, rather than a case of accidental spitting that could occur during a heated exchange.

Typically, when officers are assaulted with spit or bodily fluids, they must undergo medical testing to see if they contracted a virus, such as HIV. Such assaults take police officers off the street, preventing them from fully doing their jobs and protecting people in their communities.

The law takes effect January 2, 2023.

MPOETC Staff Updates

Theresa A. Moore has assumed the position of Administrative Assistant 1 with MPOETC. Theresa has been with the Pennsylvania State Police since 2001, where she was a Clerk Typist 2 in the Administrative Division, Bureau of Training and Education. In 2005, she was promoted to Clerical Supervisor 1 of the Administrative Division, Bureau of Training and Education. In 2011, after the Recruitment Section was transferred to the Bureau of Training and Education, she was promoted to Administrative Assistant 1 where she was responsible for all clerical and administrative duties for the Recruitment Section. In 2016, the Recruitment Section was transferred back to Department Headquarters and she transferred with them to oversee all clerical and administrative responsibilities of the newly created Equality and Inclusion Office, which consisted of the EEO, Heritage Affairs, and Recruitment Sections.

Suzanne M. Williams is the new Police Training Education Specialist for MPOETC, transferring from the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs, Fort Indiantown Gap Police Department, where she served for eight years. Suzanne has been a Commonwealth employee since 2011. Suzanne has over 20 years in law enforcement starting her police career in the City of Harrisburg. She also worked for Penbrook Borough part time, and finished her municipal police career with Paxtang Borough, where she was promoted to Chief. After leaving law enforcement and obtaining her bachelor's degree, she was hired by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Pennsylvania as a Forensic Education and Training Specialist, where she developed training on mental health issues, and taught police officers from multiple agencies and Pennsylvania's Magisterial District Judges about mental illness, de-escalation, stigma and suicide by cop.

Welcome aboard, Theresa and Suzanne!

2023 Mandatory In-Service Training (MIST)

The MPOETC Training Unit has finished conducting the instructor training workshops for certified police trainers who will be teaching the following Commission-approved 2023 MIST courses.

23-201 Legal Update (Required)

A three-hour course highlighting pertinent court decisions and significant pieces of legislation that affect police operations and investigations. Lessons will address changes and updates to the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, Vehicle Code, and Rules of Criminal Procedure as well as decisions from Pennsylvania's Commonwealth, Superior and Supreme Courts, various Federal Courts, and the United States Supreme Court. A final segment of the course will focus on topics such as the issue of excessive charging by police officers and the different jurisdiction and authority of the various law enforcement agencies and officers throughout the Commonwealth. The course will also take a thorough look at issues officers have faced which either helped or hindered court decisions and the outcomes concerning such decisions.

Note: When taking the 23-201 Legal Update eLearning version on pavtn.net, both Parts 1 and 2 must be completed in order to receive credit.

23-301 Tactical Communications (Required)

A three-hour course that will help officers recognize and identify components of a crisis event. Lessons will focus on officer responses that help initiate safe resolution and de-escalation of aggressive actions, as well as communication methods and techniques which have proven effective in bringing a crisis event to a safe conclusion through voluntary compliance.

23-401 Criminal Investigations (Elective)

A three-hour course, structured as three independent sections, that will provide an overview of investigations, including the concept of investigative sufficiency, evidence collection, report writing, and courtroom testimony, as well as an in-depth look at burglary and death investigations.

23-501 Officer Wellness (Elective)

A three-hour course exploring the effects of trauma experienced by police officers in the line of duty, with a focus on identifying successful coping strategies that can be incorporated into a personalized wellness plan and highlighting available resources. The course will take a close look at various obstacles impacting officers' ability and willingness to seek help when it is needed. Themes throughout the course will be the responsibility officers have to themselves, as well as to notice when their fellow officers are exhibiting signs of trauma and the appropriate intervention strategies they can use to help.

Continuing Law Enforcement Education (CLEE) Courses

MPOETC will be resuming CLEE approval for our Act 120 municipal police officers in 2023.

In the new year, the CLEE webpage (<https://mpoetc.psp.pa.gov/training/Pages/Continuing-Law-Enforcement-Education.aspx>) will be updated with the current MPOETC Approved CLEE courses and the required submission process for training providers to follow when requesting CLEE approval.



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

- Christmas Day: December 26, 2022**
- New Year's Day: January 2, 2023**
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: January 16, 2023**
- President's Day: February 20, 2023**

Regular office hours are from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Monday through Friday

Highlights from the December 2022 Commission Meeting

On December 7-8, 2022, the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission held its regular quarterly meeting in Harrisburg, PA. On Wednesday, December 7, the Commissioners held committee meetings to discuss the business of the Commission. On Thursday morning, December 8, 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 certifications for municipal police officers and police academy instructors and revoked the certification of one officer for failing to complete in-service training requirements, one officer who was separated from the department after testing positive for controlled substances, and six officers for disqualifying offenses including Inference with Custody of Children, Simple Assault, Theft, Distribution of Fentanyl, Possession with Intent to Manufacture or Deliver a Controlled Substance, Unlawful Restraint, Possession of Instrument of Crime, Recklessly Endangering, Coercive Threats, and Terroristic Threats.

The Commission voted to require all certified officers to complete 23-201 Legal Update and 23-301 Tactical Communication in 2023 and designated 23-401 Criminal Investigations and 23-501 Officer Wellness as elective courses that can be replaced with approved continuing law enforcement education courses. The approved reimbursable tuition rate is \$25 for each of the four 2023 MIST courses.

The Commission voted to require all police departments to conduct the 2023 Use of Force and Control Tactics training for each certified police officer in calendar year 2023. The training will be published on the Commission's website along with guidance regarding approved instructors and reporting requirements in TACS.

Finally, the Commission voted to approve Canine Training and Certification Standards developed in response to Act 60 of 2022. The standards will be published in the PA Bulletin and all police canine units will be required to comply with the standards to conduct police canine operations.



Information Regarding the March 2023 Commission Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission is on March 22 and 23, 2023 at the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission (MPOETC), 8002 Bretz Drive, Pennsylvania 17112. Phone: 717-346-4086. Further information about the meeting, including an 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 22nd at 12:30 P.M.
- Executive Committee meeting begins on Thursday, the 23rd at 9:00 A.M.
- Full Commission meeting begins on Thursday, the 23rd 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.

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 5. 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, under About Us > Quarterly Newsletters.

New Agency Executives

Chief Ryan T. Emerich	Coplay Borough PD Lehigh County
Chief Donald R. Sabo, Jr.	Salisbury Township PD Lehigh County
Chief Joseph M. Sparich	Lehighon Borough PD Carbon County
Chief Christopher L. Storm	Hollidaysburg Borough PD Blair County
Chief John H. Urbanski	Weissport Borough PD Carbon County

Congratulations!

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
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
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
Telephone: (717) 346-4086
Fax: (717) 346-7781 or (717) 346-7782

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND INSPECTIONS

Regulatory Compliance, School Inspections

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

2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR