



# NEWSLETTER

## Commission Membership

**Christopher L. Paris – Chair**  
Commissioner  
Pennsylvania State Police  
Dauphin County

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

**Richard M. Bosco**  
Chief, Latrobe Borough PD  
Westmoreland County

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Yvonne J. Lemelle**  
Local Government Policy Manager  
Dept. of Community & Economic Dev.  
Dauphin County

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

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

**Kevin F. Mahoney**  
Director Certified School  
Lackawanna County

**Richard L. Mendez**  
Chief, Lancaster City PD  
Lancaster 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**  
Township Official of the First Class

## Mandatory In-Service Training – Legal Updates by Jeanne Crawmer, MPOETC Director of Training & Curriculum

MPOETC staff has been working diligently to find a way to release impactful information to our officers as quickly as possible. We believe that information such as: new law, statute changes, relevant court cases that have an immediate effect on your job, and information that may impact officer safety should be released to you as soon as possible.

To this end, starting in January of 2024, MPOETC will be releasing timely legal update notifications to officers' emails from TACS. We will need your help to make this work! **Please go into your TACS account and make sure the email listed in your profile is correct. If it is not, edit your profile and save the corrected email.**

How the notifications will work:

- You will receive an email notification. This email will contain a link within the message.
- \*Click\* on the link which will take you to an area in TACS.
- You will be asked specific information to gain entry into your profile.
- Once in your profile, \*Click\* on a box which will open the information we are sharing with you.

There will be a tab in your TACS account that will show if you have active notifications.

There will also be a tab in your Department's TACS account which will show your Chief if you're up-to-date with your notifications.

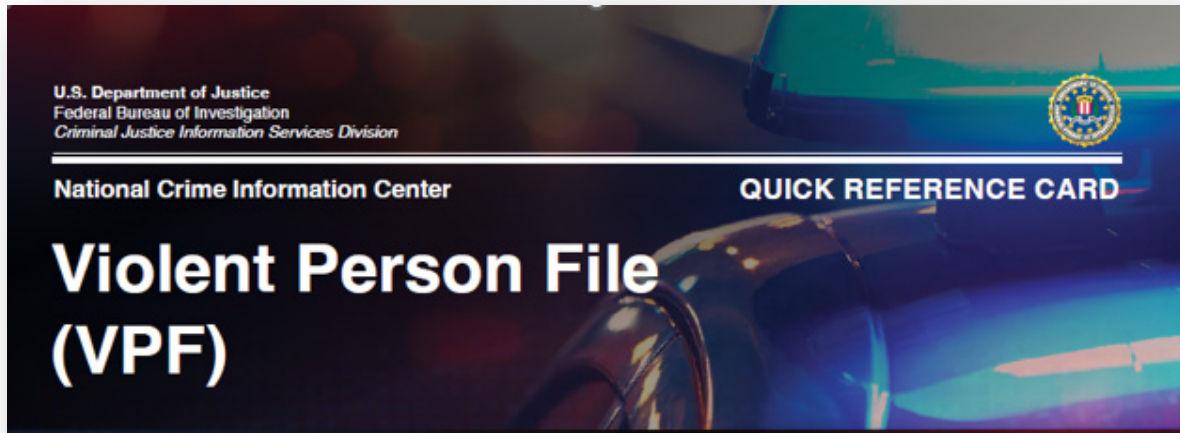
These notifications do **NOT** take the place of the annual MIST Legal Update course. There still will be a Legal Update course which must be completed by the end of the year, just like any of the other MIST courses. **Starting in 2024, MIST Legal Update will no longer need to be completed by June 30th of the year it is presented in.**

If you need assistance getting into your TACS account, please send an email to [ra-mpocertification@pa.gov](mailto:ra-mpocertification@pa.gov) and staff will assist you.

## 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.

## Violent Person File (VPF)



The Violent Person File (VPF) within the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) was designed to alert law enforcement that an individual they are encountering may have a propensity for violence against law enforcement. The VPF is automatically checked as part of an NCIC inquiry into the Wanted Person File and the Vehicle File when vehicle related information is entered into the base record.

An agency may enter a person into the VPF, if the appropriate criteria established by the NCIC is met. There are four (4) criteria options that allow for entry into the VPF. The four (4) criteria options are explained below. If any of the four criteria options are met, the NCIC allows for the person to be entered into the VPF.

Previously in Pennsylvania, a restriction was in place that prohibited agencies from entering someone into the VPF using solely criteria #4. That restriction has been lifted and Pennsylvania agencies are now permitted to use criteria #4 as a basis for entering someone into the VPF. As they always have been in the past, criteria #1-3 may continue to be used by Pennsylvania agencies as a basis for entering someone in the VPF.

- Criteria #1: Offender has been convicted for assault or murder/homicide of a law enforcement officer, fleeing, resisting arrest, or any such statute which involves violence against law enforcement.
- Criteria #2: Offender has been convicted of a violent offense against a person to include homicide and attempted homicide.
- Criteria #3: Offender has been convicted of a violent offense against a person where a firearm or weapon was used.
- Criteria #4: A law enforcement agency, based on its official investigatory duties, reasonably believes that the individual has seriously expressed his or her intent to commit an act of unlawful violence against a member of the law enforcement or criminal justice community.

VPF entries are non-expiring.

There are no NCIC hit confirmation, locate, or clear procedures for the VPF; however, NCIC validation procedures are required to be followed.

Questions may be directed to [RA-CLEAN@pa.gov](mailto:RA-CLEAN@pa.gov).

### MPOETC Staff Updates

During the month of July, the MPOETC Training Unit welcomed two new Police Training Education Specialists: Joseph Eishenhour and Jonathan Schuhart.

Joe served as a municipal police officer in Lancaster County for over 31 years. He began his law enforcement career with Millersville Borough in 1991. In 1997 Joe transferred his employment to the West Lampeter Township Police Department, retiring in December of 2022. Joe has served in several roles throughout his career; they included: Bicycle Patrol Officer, D.A.R.E. Officer, Field Training Officer, Patrol Supervisor, and Departmental Firearms Instructor.

Jonathan is originally from Pennsylvania and gained his law enforcement experience in Virginia and the Federal Government. Jonathan began his law enforcement career with the Newport News Police Department in Virginia where he was fortunate to be a part of a street crimes team, the Gang Enforcement Unit, and the Tactical Operations Unit as a breacher and sniper. He continued his passion for the tactical world by accepting a job with the Pentagon Force Protection Agency (Pentagon Police), Emergency Response Team (ERT), Virginia (DC). As a member of ERT, Jonathan was in charge of the firearms program, lead firearms instructor, sniper and sniper team leader. Finally, Jonathan chose to return to patrol and was hired as a deputy sheriff with the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office in Virginia. Jonathan has almost 15 years of law enforcement experience and feels fortunate to have worked for three excellent agencies.

Also this past summer MPOETC said our farewells to:

Police Training Education Specialist, Scott Curley who accepted a position with the McSherrystown Police Department as a patrol officer. Good luck, Scott.

MPOETC Receptionist, Marie Shadle. Marie joined the Commission staff as a Clerical Assistant when Major Richard C. Mooney was the Executive Director. She worked under ten Majors with her nearly 21 years of service. She was not only the receptionist, but she helped with many recertification periods mailing all the certification cards out to the police departments. We wish Marie well in her retirement.

Pictured below left to right: Major John M. Gallaher (Ret.), Lt. George E. Peach (Ret.), Major Steve J. Ignatz (Ret.), and Major William A. Brown; center: Marie Shadle



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

**Veterans Day: November 11, 2023**  
**Thanksgiving Holiday: November 23 and 24, 2023**

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

## Highlights from the September 2023 Commission Meeting

On September 13 -14, 2023, the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission held its regular quarterly meeting in Radnor, PA. On Wednesday afternoon, September 13, 2023, the Commissioners held committee meetings to discuss the business of the Commission. On Thursday morning, September 14, 2023, the Commissioners met in an Executive Committee meeting, which was followed by the formal meeting of the full Commission, where they took the following actions:

- The Commission approved certifications for municipal police officers and police academy instructors and revoked the certifications of eight officers: one officer for psychological impairment and seven officers for convictions of the following disqualifying offenses: official oppression, simple assault, theft concerning programs receiving federal funding, recklessly endangering another person, and unsworn falsification to authorities.
- The Commission approved the Guidelines for Agencies Certifying Police Canine Teams. Agencies wishing to Certify Police Canine Teams should complete and submit an application found on the MPOETC website. The application will then be reviewed for submission to the Commission. The Commission approved Jordan Detection Canine as a Certifying Agency for Police Canine Teams.
- The Commission approved the following as the 2025 MIST courses to be developed by the training unit: Legal Updates (Required), Law Enforcement Response to Homeless Persons (Required), Tactical Response (Elective), Elder Abuse and Exploitation (Elective). Each course would be reimbursable to Police Academies at \$25.00.
- MPOETC staff will begin making timely legal update notifications to all hired Act 120 officers through TACS via email in 2024. Considering this change, the Commission approved a change in the way MIST Legal Updates is delivered. Legal Updates online will no longer have a Part 1 and Part 2 section; but will be shown as one course in January of 2025. Also, the yearly completion deadline of June 30th is suspended. Officers will have until the end of the year to complete all their MIST requirements starting in 2024.

## Information Regarding the December 2023 Commission Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission is on December 6 and 7, 2023 at the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission, 8002 Bretz Drive, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 17112. Phone: 717-346-4086. 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 6th at 12:30 P.M.
- Executive Committee meeting begins on Thursday, the 7th at 9:00 A.M.
- Full Commission meeting begins on Thursday, the 7th 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 William A. Brown or the Editor, Leah M. Napoli, 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](http://www.psp.pa.gov/MPOETC), under About Us > Quarterly Newsletters.

# New Agency Executives

<b>Chief Joseph F. Greenwalt</b>	Southern Chester Co. Regional PD Chester County
<b>Chief Kyle A. Lewis</b>	Parks Township PD Armstrong County
<b>Chief Roger C. Peacock</b>	Blair Township PD Blair County
<b>Chief Michael D. Stefanucci</b>	Meadville City PD Crawford County
<b>Chief Richard A. Tornielli</b>	West Reading Borough PD Berks County
<b>Chief Brian A. Turack</b>	Harrison Township PD Allegheny County
<b>Chief Cristyn M. Zett</b>	Ross Township PD Allegheny County

# 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

# Congratulations!



— ★ ★ ★ —  
 HONORING ALL WHO SERVED  
**VETERANS**  
 — DAY —