



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

John Kitzinger
Office of Attorney General
Dauphin County

Charles F. Layton III
Chief Inspector, Philadelphia PD
Philadelphia County

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

Brian Munroe
PA House of Representatives
Bucks County

Steven J. Plaugher
Borough Official
Chester County

Senator Mike Regan
Senate of Pennsylvania
Dauphin County

Guy A. Salerno
Chief, Blakely Borough PD
Lackawanna County

Samuel M. Sanguedolce, Esq.
District Attorney, Public at Large
Luzerne County

Donald E. Sedlacek
Chief, Hopewell Township PD
Beaver County

Vacancy
Township Official of the First Class

Training Director's Corner

Use of Force/Control Tactics

As a reminder, Use of Force and Control Tactics is required annually and must be completed through the police department. Departments are required to use a MPOETC-approved Control Tactics instructor for the annual training.

In 2022, the MPOETC Commission approved changes to the control tactics program for municipal officers. At that time, instructors who had completed an instructor development course and an approved control tactics instructor course were granted status as "Temporary MIST Instructors" with the intent of training department officers. In 2023, the temporary MIST instructors were "grandfathered" in and permitted to continue training department personnel. Since that time, a considerable amount of "temporary instructors" have been approved as department level instructors.

If you are still operating as a Temporary MIST Instructor and would like to be approved as a certified instructor, simply submit the MPO-239 form (Certified Law Enforcement Control Tactics Instructor) and a copy of your previous training certificates from the MPOETC approved control tactics instructor course you attended. You can find the form and list of approved courses on the MPOETC website at:

<https://www.pa.gov/en/agencies/mpoetc/programs/training/use-of-force-and-control-tactics.html>

Submit these documents to ra-mpotraining@pa.gov for review and approval. You can also submit any questions regarding the control tactics program to the same email address.

Lastly, the control tactics program is currently undergoing a full review by MPOETC, and updates will be published once the review is completed.

Be safe,

Michael Corricelli

MPOETC Director of 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.

DUI Actual Physical Control

Bold v. [PennDOT], ___ Pa. ___, ___ A.3d ___ (8/20/204)

On January 25, 2020, Lower Allen Township Police Officer Thomas Gelnett found Thomas E. Bold, Jr., unconscious behind the wheel of a car that was legally parked in a mall parking lot near a bar. It was a dark and cold evening. The car’s engine was running and the headlights were on. When roused, Bold appeared to be very intoxicated. He admitted to drinking at the bar nearby, and he had explained that he had intended to sleep in his car until he was fit to drive home safely and legally.

Bold was arrested for driving under the influence, (“DUI”), and taken into custody. Bold was driven to a nearby medical facility, where Bold refused to consent to a blood test. In keeping with §1547, Bold was notified that his driving license would be suspended due to the refusal.

Issue: Did the officer have reasonable grounds to believe that the defendant was in actual physical control of the vehicle?

Ruling: **No.** The officer in question admitted he had no reason to suspect that the defendant had driven his vehicle while intoxicated.

Significance: In determining whether an officer had reasonable grounds to believe that a motorist was in actual physical control of a vehicle, the court must consider the totality of the circumstances, including the location of the vehicle, whether the engine was running and whether there was other evidence indicating that the motorist had driven the vehicle at some point prior to the arrival of the police.

Conferences and Training

The semi-annual JNET Conference will be held on Thursday December 5, 2024, and Friday December 6, 2024, at the Penn Stater Conference Center in State College, PA. This free two-day training session is being presented by JNET and The Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association. New and expanded training and information sessions are scheduled for this training. Keep an eye out for registration for this free training on the JNET portal. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Did you know that officers can receive free training on The Pennsylvania Virtual Training Network (PAVTN)? There are currently 91 training courses on a variety of topics (including MIST and CLEE courses) that an officer can take in an on-demand manner. Department administrators can also view and monitor the training records of the department’s officers on the site. Training can be accessed by visiting www.pavtn.net. Stay informed, stay prepared, and keep up the great work!



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

Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day: October 14
Veterans Day: November 11
Thanksgiving Holiday: November 28 & 29

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

MPOETC Staff Updates

The Training Unit welcomed two new Police Training Education Specialists, Dianne Carter and D.J. Keiser.

Dianne has over 20 years of experience in emergency services and education. She began her career as an Emergency Medical Technician and then became an instructor for the EMT program at HACC. In 2000 Dianne became a Law Enforcement Officer. In her law enforcement career, she was a certified Federal Motor Carrier inspector and later became a K9 handler, specializing in patrol and narcotics detection. She was a MPOETC certified instructor at the academy level, and for updates. Dianne also has over four years of compliance experience in the firearms industry and manufacturing.

D.J.'s previous experience includes employment with the York County Probation and Parole Office, where he served as the York County Gang Resource Officer. In this role, he was assigned to both the York City Police Street Crimes Unit and the York County Sheriff's Criminal Response Unit. Additionally, D.J. worked as a U.S. military contractor with Alutiq, specializing in intelligence and training operations at the Northeast Counterdrug Training Center, Regional Counterdrug Training Academy, and Temple University. Post his LEO career, he worked as a private security contractor and School Resource Officer.

Highlights from the September 2024 Commission Meeting

On September 25 and 26, 2024, the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission held its regular quarterly meeting at the Omni Bedford Springs Resort in Bedford. On Wednesday afternoon, September 25, 2024, the Commissioners held committee meetings to discuss the business of the Commission. On Thursday morning, September 26, 2024, 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 revoked the certifications of five officers for convictions of the following disqualifying offenses: Theft Concerning Programs Receiving Federal Funds, Theft by Unlawful Taking or Disposition, Official Oppression, Stalking, Transporting an Illegal Alien, and Conspiracy to Distribute and Possess with Intent to Distribute Cocaine, Marijuana, 400 Grams or More of Fentanyl, and 500 Grams or More of Methamphetamine.
- The training staff provided an update on cadet enrollments throughout the Commonwealth.
- The Commission approved the following Mandatory In-Service Training courses for 2026: Legal Updates, Crisis Intervention Training, Trauma Informed Policing and Responding to Child Abuse Allegations.
- The Commission approved the Certification Test and Partial Waiver Test score to be lowered from 72% to 70% for a passing score.
- The Commission approved the relocation for IUP Police Academy satellite campus from Pittsburgh Technical College that is now closed to the CNX Corporation building in Canonsburg, Washington County.
- Allegheny County Housing Authority Chief Michael Vogel, who is also the President of the Chiefs of Police Association, attended the meeting and thanked MPOETC for all the support that is provided throughout the Commonwealth from the MPOETC staff.
- Former MPOETC Commission member Kristen Denne, who is now the Municipal Manager for Bethel Park, attended the meeting and received a letter of recognition and a plaque from her time on the Commission from PSP Commissioner Christopher Paris.
- Commission Counsel Kevin Klinkner has been promoted to Deputy General Counsel and will be leaving the MPOETC Commission position. Commissioner Paris presented Attorney Klinkner with a letter of recognition and a plaque for his time as Commission Counsel.

Information Regarding the December 2024 Commission Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission is on December 11 and 12, 2024 at the MPOETC Office, 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 11th at 12:30 P.M.
- Executive Committee meeting begins on Thursday, the 12th at 9:00 A.M.
- Full Commission meeting begins on Thursday, the 12th 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.

Announcement from the Department of Justice

Law enforcement plays a critical role in our response to elder abuse. Interviewing victims and witnesses is an important aspect of an investigation, and yet there has been little training available on forensic interviewing with older adults.

The 2-Day SAFE Training is designed for elder justice professionals to improve their communication and interviewing skills with older victims of abuse. The course covers the basics of elder abuse, its dynamics, and the SAFE Model of interviewing, with interactive practice sessions included. Communities interested in hosting the training:

- Must recruit 50 participants from law enforcement and related fields (e.g., Adult Protective Services, Medicaid Fraud Control Units)
- Provide a suitable venue with a space large enough to accommodate 50 seats and audio/video equipment for the trainers (e.g., PPT projection, internet).

For more information or to request training, contact Shelly Jackson at shelly.l.jackson@usdoj.gov or 202-531-5194. Additional details are available on the Department's Elder Justice Website: <https://www.justice.gov/elderjustice>



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, Suzanne M. Williams 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 Richard Appel	Somerset Borough PD Somerset County
Chief James Baitinger	Borough of Hellertown PD Northampton County
Chief Brendan Brazunas	Downingtown Borough PD Chester County
Chief Robert Davis	Mercer Borough PD Mercer County
Chief Bryan DeWick	Northern Regional PD Allegheny County
Chief Bradley Getz	Lancaster Township PD Lancaster County
Chief Jason Jay	West Hempfield PD Lancaster County
Chief Scott Lowden	East Mckeesport PD Allegheny County
Chief Zeke Reed	Jackson Township PD Butler County
Chief Cory Ruditis	Oil City PD Venango County
Chief Thomas Stauffer	Swatara Township PD Dauphin County
Chief David Villotti	Cochranton Boro PD Crawford County
Chief Kelley Warner	Solebury Township PD Bucks 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