



**MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS'
EDUCATION AND TRAINING
COMMISSION**

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

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Introduction

The Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission (hereafter referred to as “the Commission”) was statutorily created by Act 120 (hereafter referred to as “Act 120”) of 1974 (53 P.S. 740-749) in response to a federal study urging improved standards and goals in police training. The Commission was charged with establishing and administering the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Program, and responsibility for administration of the program was given to the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP).

Commission Composition

The Commission is comprised of 20 members, as required by Act 120. Six seats on the Commission are ex officio positions while the remaining members are appointed by the Governor for a term of three years. Notwithstanding the reimbursement of essential expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, Commission members serve without compensation. The Commission is required to meet at least four times annually and may hold special meetings as necessary. Special meetings are called by the Chairman or at the request of at least five Commission members. The Commission has committees comprised of Commission members that usually meet prior to each regular Commission meeting, to address specific areas of the Commission’s business.

As required by Act 120, the Commission members shall consist of:

- The Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police (Chairman). *
- The Attorney General of the Commonwealth. *
- The Secretary of the Department of Community and Economic Development. *
- The Police Commissioner of Philadelphia. *
- One member of the PA Senate, appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate. *
- One member of the PA House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. *
- Four elected officials, appointed by the Governor, including one from a borough, a second class township, a first class township, and a city.
- Four incumbent chiefs of police, appointed by the Governor, including one chief from a borough department, a township department, and a city department.
- One Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent-In-Charge, appointed by the Governor.
- One educator qualified in the field of law enforcement, appointed by the Governor.
- One member representing the public at large, appointed by the Governor.
- Two non-commissioned police officers, appointed by the Governor.
- One director of a certified municipal police training school, appointed by the Governor.

* Denotes Ex Officio Positions

Commission Staff

The PSP is responsible for the administration of the program. The Commission, by statute, elects an Executive Director who is responsible for the day-to-day Commission responsibilities. The Executive Director and Commission staff are assigned to an office within the PSP and report to the Deputy Commissioner of Administration and Professional Responsibility. The Commission produces an annual report concerning the administration of its programs and provides recommendations for executive or legislative action necessary for the improvement of law enforcement and the administration of justice. The Commission receives legal services from an Assistant Counsel assigned to the PSP from the Governor's Office of General Counsel. The Commission office is located at 8002 Bretz Drive, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and consists of 18 staff members, including enlisted and civilian PSP personnel. The Commission has an annual budget of approximately two million dollars to cover personnel, general operating expenses, curriculum development, and fixed asset expenses.

The Commission staff oversees the training and certification requirements of municipal police officers under Act 120. Officers require certification by the Commission prior to enforcing the Crimes Code, moving violations of the Vehicle Code, or carrying a firearm. Certification is granted by Commission vote when all criteria of the attendant regulations are met and upon successful completion of the municipal police officer certification exam, which is administered by the Commission staff. To verify that all Act 120 certified police officers continue to meet certification standards, the Commission staff conducts a biennial recertification.

The Commission staff also oversees the development, presentation, and documentation of the basic municipal police officer training curriculum, which currently consists of 754 hours of classroom and practical training conducted by Commission-certified academies and instructors. In addition, the staff reviews and approves various waivers of training for qualified law enforcement officers as provided for in Act 120 and Act 165 of 2012, conducts annual inspections of certified academies, and conducts investigations of academies failing to comply with regulatory standards.

Act 180 of 1988 requires Act 120 certified police officers to obtain 12 hours of in-service training annually to maintain their certification. Each year the Commission staff develops 12 hours of in-service training which can be taken in the classroom or on-line. The Commission decides which training is "required" (essential training; for example, changes to the law and application of case law or legislatively mandated training) and which training/hours are elective. The Commission staff also reviews, approves, and tracks over 600 additional Continuing Law Enforcement Education (CLEE) courses which can be used as credit toward the elective training requirement for recertification.

Act 235 of 1974, commonly referred to as the Lethal Weapons Training Act (LWTA), requires anyone carrying a lethal weapon (as defined in the Act) in conjunction with his or her employment, unless exempted, to receive training and meet certification requirements. The PSP oversees the LWTA program and the Commission staff administers the program on their behalf. The Commission staff approves new applications, renews certifications, and when applicable, suspends certifications for the Commonwealth's 15,000 lethal weapons agents.

The Commission staff performs annual inspections of the certified schools conducting basic and renewal LWTA classes, approves or declines applications for new schools, approves or declines applications for new instructors, and suspends or decertifies schools failing to comply with regulations.

Act 79 of 2005, the Retired Law Enforcement Officers Identification Act (RLEIA), established Pennsylvania's program responsive to the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA) of 2004, as amended, regarding the authorization for qualified active and retired law enforcement officers to carry firearms if they meet specific criteria. Act 79 requires Commission staff to administer aspects of RLEIA including certifying firearms instructors, managing qualification cards, tracking annual qualifications, processing money orders, and logging Instructor and Sheriff Office reports.

Recommendations

In recognition of the importance of municipal police training, the General Assembly passed Act 89 of 2013. Act 89 allocated five million dollars of funding to the Commission, each fiscal year, to reimburse municipalities for municipal police training. This reimbursement is limited to expenses which are consistent with Article VIII, § 11 of the Pennsylvania Constitution and therefore only provides for the reimbursement of police training that directly relates to safety on bridges and highways. The Commission recommends that this appropriation be re-structured to establish a restricted receipts account within the General Fund, similar to that of the County Probation Officers' Firearm Education and Training Fund. It is further recommended that the parameters of the restricted receipts account be expanded beyond strictly police training that relates to safety on bridges and highways. Additionally, as is customary with many grant reimbursement programs, the Commission recommends that a nominal percentage of the total allocated funding is provided for administration and expenses associated with this reimbursement program. These actions will allow the Commission to more fully reimburse municipalities for municipal police training and other training law enforcement education programs.

Act 120 Officer Certification

The Commission staff administers certification of municipal police officers employed by certified municipal police departments. To be certified, municipal police officers must pass the state certification exam. Applicants can apply to take the certification exam if they have successfully completed the basic police academy or if they are granted a waiver based on previous training and employment. Applicants who are currently or conditionally hired by a police department are referred to as “hired” candidates while those who are still seeking employment are referred to as “pre-service” candidates. As noted below, there are currently 23,082 certified municipal police officers employed in Pennsylvania. The following data reflects Act 120 certification actions from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016:

Active Police Departments: **1,095**

Total Certified Officers: **23,082**

Revoked Certifications: **1**

Certification Examinations: **1,308**

--Hired Candidates taking the Certification Examination: **571 (44%)**

--Pre-Service Candidates taking the Certification Examination: **737 (56%)**

New Certifications: **1,101**

--Basic Applications: **374 (34%)**

--Waiver of Training: **727 (66%)**

Act 120 Instructor Certification

The Commission staff administers certification of municipal police instructors authorized to provide basic and in-service instruction at certified police training schools. As noted below, there are currently 1,116 certified municipal police instructors working at 24 certified police training schools. The following data reflects instructor certification actions from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016:

Total Certified Academies:	<u>24</u>
Total Certified Instructors:	<u>1,116</u>
--General Instructors:	<u>933</u>
--CPR/AED:	<u>97</u>
--Firearms:	<u>413</u>
--Physical Training:	<u>154</u>
--Defensive Tactics:	<u>186</u>
--Driving/EVOC:	<u>128</u>
New Certified Instructors:	<u>156</u>

Act 120 Basic Training

Candidates for certification as municipal police officers must meet the training requirements of the act. Those who have not previously completed a basic municipal police academy must do so. Cadets who are hired by a police department before attending the academy are referred to as “hired” cadets while those who are still seeking employment are referred to as “pre-service” cadets. Individuals meeting certain criteria related to previous military or federal law enforcement training are eligible for partial waivers of the basic academy. The following data reflects the numbers of individuals applying for and receiving basic police officer training at certified academies from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016:

Total Applicants Processed: 2,191

--Hired Applicants: 796 (36%)

--Pre-Service Applicants: 1,395 (64%)

Total Cadets Enrolled: 1,187 (54% of applicants)

--Hired Enrolled: 432 (54% of applicants enrolled)

--Pre-Service Enrolled: 755 (54% of applicants enrolled)

Total Cadets Graduated: 988 (83% of enrolled, 45% of applicants)

--Hired Graduates: 413 (96% of enrolled students graduated)

--Pre-Service Graduates: 575 (76% of enrolled students graduated)

Partial Training Waivers: 50

--Military LEO: 38

--Federal LEO: 12

Act 180 In-Service Training

The following data reflects in-service and CLEE courses developed and/or approved by the Commission from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016:

MPOETC Courses Developed: 4

Instructors Trained: 491

--17-001 Legal Updates: 3 hours (*Required Course*)
(137 Instructors Trained)

--17-002 Procedural Justice: 3 hours (*Required Course*)
(111 Instructors Trained)

--17-003 Handling Drug Overdoses: 3 hours (*Optional Course*)
(122 Instructors Trained)

--17-004 Intelligence Policing: 3 hours (*Optional Course*)
(121 Instructors Trained)

Approved CLEE Providers: 131

Elective CLEE Courses: 614

Act 235 Lethal Weapons

The following data reflects Lethal Weapons (LW) training activity from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016:

Total Certified LW Agents: 15,192

Certifications Issued: 2,954

--Initial Certifications: 1,542

--Renewals: 1,412

Certifications Revoked: 1

Total Certified LW Academies: 38

Total Certified LW Instructors: 1,131

--Academic Instructors: 616

--Skills Instructors: 277

--Firearms Instructors: 704

New Instructors Certified: 32

Act 79 Retired Law Enforcement Officer Identification

The Commission staff completed the following activities related to the RLEIA program from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.

Individuals who wish to be recognized as Certified Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors (as defined in Federal and State statutes) may submit an application to the Commission staff for approval. Those who wish to conduct qualifications for retired officers under the RLEIA program can elect to have their contact information posted on the Commission's website. There are currently over 1,000 Certified Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors, 585 of whom have elected to participate as firearms instructors for retired officers. In 2016, these instructors issued 4,388 qualification cards purchased from the Commission.

RLEIA Instructors: **585**

Cards Issued: **4,388**

Officers are given a qualification card upon completion of the qualification course of fire and must present the card to their County Sheriff's Office for a background check. Upon completing the background check, the Sheriff's Office annotates it on the qualification card and provides a log of all checks to the Commission staff. The Commission staff processed 978 separate Sheriff's Office logs documenting background checks of retired law enforcement officers.

Sheriff's Logs Received: **978**

Commission Membership

Colonel Tyree C. Blocker, State Police Commissioner, Chairman

Ronald L. Stern, Department of Community & Economic Development

Christopher M. Werner, Chief Inspector, City of Philadelphia

Senator Stewart J. Greenleaf

Representative Barry J. Jozwiak

William J. Kelly, Represents Attorney General
(Resigned: Lawrence Cherba)

Jacob A. Bierling, Jr., Township Official of the First Class (Upper Darby Township)

Sonia Stopperich Sulc, Township Official of the Second Class (North Strabane Township)

Chief James W. Adams, Upper Allen Township Police Department (Cumberland County)

Chief Keith R. Sadler, Lancaster City Police Department (Lancaster County)

Richard W. Long, Esq., Public at Large (Cumberland County)

Dr. Bart E. Burne, Educator (West Side Career and Technical Center)

Christopher J. Delozier, Harrisburg Police Department,
Non-Commissioned Police Officer

Robert J. Carroll, Media Boro Police Department, Non-Commissioned Police Officer
(Resigned: Todd Naylor)

Patricia B. Dombrowsky, Certified School Director (HACC Police Academy)

Vacant: City Official (Resigned: Dr. Gabriel Campana)

Vacant: Borough Official (Resigned: Mayor Robert "Bo" Fean)

Vacant: Borough Police Chief (Resigned: Chief Stephen Margeson)

Vacant: Other Police Chief (Resigned: Chief Mark Hall)

Vacant: Special Agent in Charge, FBI

Commission Committee Assignments

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Jacob A. Bierling, Jr. (CHAIRMAN)
James W. Adams
Mark E. Hall (*Resigned*)
Keith R. Sadler

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Bart E. Burne (CHAIRMAN)
James W. Adams
Gabriel J. Campana (*Resigned*)
Robert J. Carroll
Lawrence M. Cherba (*Resigned*)
Christopher J. Delozier
Patricia B. Dombrowsky

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Bart E. Burne (CHAIRMAN)
James W. Adams
Jacob A. Bierling, Jr.
Lawrence M. Cherba (*Resigned*)
Mark E. Hall (*Resigned*)
Richard W. Long

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Richard W. Long (CHAIRMAN)
Christopher J. Delozier
Barry J. Jozwiak
Keith R. Sadler
Ronald L. Stern

RULES AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

Lawrence M. Cherba (CHAIRMAN) (*Resigned*)
Bart E. Burne
Robert "Bo" Fean (*Resigned*)
Mark E. Hall (*Resigned*)

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mark E. Hall (CHAIRMAN) (*Resigned*)
Jacob A. Bierling, Jr.
Christopher J. Delozier
Barry J. Jozwiak
Ronald L. Stern

TRAINING COMMITTEE

James W. Adams (CHAIRMAN)
Gabriel J. Campana (*Resigned*)
Patricia B. Dombrowsky
Christopher J. Delozier
Todd E. Naylor (*Resigned*)
Ronald L. Stern
Sonia Stopperich Sulc

Commission Staff Positions

- (1) Executive Director (PSP Major)
- (1) Assistant Director (PSP Lieutenant)
- (1) Professional Standards Investigator (PSP Trooper)
- (3) Administrative Officers
- (3) Administrative Assistants
- (3) Clerk Typists
- (1) Police Training Curriculum Specialist
- (5) Police Training Education Specialists
- (1) Attorney to the Commission (PSP Attorney)

Certified (Act 120) Police Training Academies

Allegheny County Police Training Academy

Allison Park, PA 15101
Inspector Wayne E. Gaffron

Community College of Beaver County

Beaver Falls, PA 15010
Robert G. Grimm, Director

Delaware County Community College

Media, PA 19063
William Davis, Director

Gerald M. Monahan Sr. Police Academy

Allentown, PA 18103
Assistant Chief Glen Dorney, Director

Greater Johnstown Career & Technology Center Police Academy

Johnstown, PA 15904
William Richards, Director

Harrisburg Area Community College

Harrisburg, PA 17110
Patricia Dombrowsky, Director

Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP)

Indiana, PA 15705-1000
Dennis Marsili, Director

IUP California University

California, PA 15419
Dennis Marsili, Director

IUP Carnegie Mellon University

Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Dennis Marsili, Director

Lackawanna College at Hazleton

Hazleton, PA 18201
Maryann Grippo, Esq., Director

Lackawanna College at Scranton

Scranton, PA 18509
Maryann Grippo, Esq., Director

Mansfield University

Mansfield, PA 16933
Christine Shegan, Director

Mercyhurst University
North East, PA 16428
Walter W. Hale, Director

Montgomery County Community College
Conshohocken, PA 19428
Jude McKenna, Director

Philadelphia Police Department Recruit Training Division*
Philadelphia, PA 19136
Captain William Maye, Director

Pittsburgh Police Training Academy*
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
Lieutenant Matthew Lackner, Director

Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) Academy**
Hershey, PA 17033
Captain Jonathan Mays, Director

PSP Northeast Training Center**
Forty-Fort, PA 18704
Captain Jonathan Mays, Director

PSP Northwest Training Center**
Meadville, PA 16335
Captain Jonathan Mays, Director

PSP Southeast Training Center**
Schwenksville, PA 19473
Captain Jonathan Mays, Director

PSP Southwest Training Center**
Greensburg, PA 15601
Captain Jonathan Mays, Director

Reading Police Academy
Reading, PA 19601
Andrew Winters, Director

Temple University
Ambler, PA 19002
Robert Deegan, Interim Director

Westmoreland County Community College
Youngwood, PA 15697
Franklin Newill III, Director

* These academies only accept hired students.

** These academies do not currently offer basic municipal police officer training.