



Volume 49, Issue 4  
December 2024

Major William A. Brown, Executive Director  
Suzanne M. Williams, Editor and Designer

# 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

**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**  
Senate of Pennsylvania  
Dauphin County

**Vacancy**  
Township Official of the First Class

## Happy Holidays!

Dear Law Enforcement Friends:

As 2024 comes to an end and the holiday season approaches, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued partnership and dedicated service to the law enforcement profession and the communities we serve throughout the Commonwealth.

On behalf of all the staff of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission, may your holiday season and the new year be filled with much joy and happiness for you and your loved ones.

We look forward to working with you in the coming year. Together, and through your continued support, we will achieve success in 2025 and beyond.

Our best wishes to all of you, and your families, for a safe and happy holiday season and the most joyous and prosperous New Year.

Best Wishes,

Major William A. Brown  
Executive Director

## Training Director's Corner

Back in the September 2024 MPOETC Newsletter, I discussed the Use of Force and Control Tactics Instructor Certifications. Thankfully, we've received many applications and were able to turn those around fast. However, there are still over 200 instructors who were initially appointed as "Temporary MIST Instructors" that haven't yet upgraded.

Department level CT instructors still teaching under the 2022-2023 Temporary MIST Instructor certifications will have until June 1, 2025 to update their certifications. After that time, you will no longer be recognized as a CT instructor and will not be able to train department officers. To upgrade your certification, simply send us an updated MPO-239 and a copy of your original training certificate to [ra-mpottraining@pa.gov](mailto:ra-mpottraining@pa.gov). You can find the form on our MPOETC website.

Speaking of training, we get a high volume of calls from officers scrambling to get their MIST hours in by the end of the year. We realize many people take their MIST training through the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association's PAVTN.net. Did you realize PAVTN has a lot of other free training opportunities and not just the mandatory MIST courses? We encourage all officers to look at all the training opportunities available for a wide range of topics. Not only are they convenient and available 24 hours a day, but they are also FREE!

As we head into the holiday season, we wish you a safe and healthy New Year!

Best wishes,

Michael Corricelli,  
Director of Training



**Congratulations** to the 128th class at the Allegheny County Police Training Academy which graduated on 12/14/24!

This class of 36 graduates represents the **largest class** at the Allegheny County Police Training Academy since 2014. Best of luck to all the graduates as they begin their service to their communities!

Copy the link into your browser to see the video: <https://www.facebook.com/reel/560425576845896>



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 25**

**New Year's Day: January 1**

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day: January 20**

**Presidents' Day: February 17**

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

## Guidance from the PSP Bureau of Forensic Services

The Pennsylvania State Police Bureau of Forensic Services operates a system of six regional forensic laboratories and one DNA laboratory strategically located throughout the Commonwealth.

The mission of the Pennsylvania State Police Bureau of Forensic Services is to serve the citizens of the Commonwealth with competence and professionalism in providing the criminal justice community with testing services and technical and investigative support in the pursuit of justice. This mission is executed with foremost attention to quality, impartiality, timeliness, and adherence to forensic testing standards that foster excellence.

Regional laboratories are located in Bethlehem, Erie, Greensburg, Harrisburg, Lima, and Wyoming. The Forensic DNA Division is located in Greensburg. Regular business hours are: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Testing services vary by laboratory. Please contact the laboratory for details.

Within the Bureau, the following forensic disciplines are performed:

- AFIS (Automated Fingerprint Identification Section)
- Biology (Body Fluid Identification, Bloodstain Pattern Analysis, DNA)
- Drug Chemistry (Controlled Substances, Clandestine Laboratory Analysis, Alcohol Beverage Analysis)
- Firearms and Tool Marks (including Serial Number Restoration)
- Latent Prints (including Impression Evidence/Footwear & Tires)
- Toxicology (Blood Alcohol, Blood-Drug Analysis)
- Trace Evidence (Paint, Fiber/Textiles, Gunshot Residue, Hair, Explosives, Fire Debris, General Physical and Chemical Analysis)

Training videos and notices regarding evidence submission can be accessed through CLEAN via the CJIS Launch Pad. Once logged into CLEAN open the Links folder on the left menu bar. Select CJIS Launch Pad. Click on CJIS Training. Click on the PSP Crime Lab Info Training folder.

The following instructions for properly sealing evidence were published in October 2024, and can be accessed via CLEAN by logging into your JNET account.

### Is your evidence properly sealed?

If not:

- Your evidence may be identified as non-compliant with accreditation requirements.
- The non-compliance will be documented in the case file and be discoverable.
- Details of the non-compliance will be provided to court officials as requested.

To properly seal evidence:

- Place evidence tape to ensure complete closure of envelope/bag/box.
- There should be no openings where contents could escape.
- Evidence tape must be used; regular tape is not acceptable.
- The officer's mark must be on the seal.
- Follow instructions on self-sealing bags by folding in the correct area.
- Do not rely on hospital staff to seal blood kits and sexual assault kits.



## Highlights from the December 2024 Commission Meeting

On December 11 and 12, 2024, the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission held its regular quarterly meeting at MPOETC, 8002 Bretz Drive, Harrisburg, PA. On Wednesday afternoon, December 11, 2024, the Commissioners held committee meetings to discuss the business of the Commission. On Thursday morning, December 12, 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 certifications of 4 officers. The revocations were due to convictions for disqualifying offenses which included: Sexual Assault, Theft by Unlawful Taking or Disposition, Official Oppression, and Unsworn Falsification to Authorities.
- The Commission approved two Act 60 applications submitted by the Eastern Police Canine Association and the Keystone Police K-9, LLC. This will allow these organizations to conduct police K-9 certifications under the Act 60 program. The Commission also denied two applications due to failure to meet the required standards.
- The Commission voted to approve the creation of a new Act 120 police academy at Elizabethtown College, Lancaster County, PA.
- The Commission voted to allow the submission of new Act 120 police training academy applications from four colleges which previously submitted letters of interest. These colleges are not guaranteed to open their own academy but will have the opportunity to submit a full application for consideration.
- The Commission voted to modify the existing Retired Law Enforcement Officers Identification Act (RLEIA) firearms qualification course. **This modification reduced the total rounds fired from 50 to 30 rounds and changed distance to three stages with the maximum distance of 10 yards. The modified course will now also accommodate revolvers.**

## Information Regarding the March 2025 Commission Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission is on **March 12 and 13, 2025** at the Sheraton Pittsburgh Hotel at Station Square, 30 W. Station Square Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15219. Phone: 412-261-2000. 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 12th at 12:30 P.M.
- Executive Committee meeting begins on Thursday, the 13th at 9:00 A.M.
- Full Commission meeting begins on Thursday, the 13th 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, 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](http://www.psp.pa.gov/MPOETC), under About Us > Quarterly Newsletters.

# New Agency Executives

Chief Brian L. Barnhart	Butler Township PD Butler County
Chief Jason Batistig	Greencastle Boro PD Franklin County
Chief Scott Bendig	Upper Moreland Township PD Montgomery County
Chief Daniel Embeck	Buffalo Valley Regional PD Butler County
Chief Ken Hinton	Ridgeway Borough PD Elk County
Chief Oscar Horajecykj	Rockledge Boro PD Montgomery County
Chief Shanee Mitchell	Collingdale Borough PD Delaware County
Chief William Peoples	Montgomery Township PD Montgomery County
Chief Francis Petrovich	Selinsgrove Borough PD Snyder County
Chief William Witmer III	Bellefonte Borough PD Centre County
Chief Charles Zeigler	Doylestown 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-spmfoss@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