



NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 50, ISSUE 6 JUNE 2025

MAJOR WILLIAM A. BROWN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SUZANNE M. WILLIAMS- EDITOR & D.J. KEISER- DESIGNER

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EDUCATORS EDGE

It's been a busy month here at MPOETC! In addition to developing 2026 MIST, we conducted 13 separate Certification exams throughout the Commonwealth. The exam is now fully computerized, and we've had tremendous success delivering it via our web-based platform.

About 80% of all officers in the Commonwealth have completed most, if not all of their required 2025 MIST training. If you haven't completed it yet, set a goal to get it done by the end of the summer. Last year, we had over 250 officers that did not finish their MIST by the end of the year and were not certified after December 31st.

MPOETC is actively revising and enhancing its Control Tactics training program to ensure compliance with Act 120 standards. Per Commission policy, only Act 120-certified officers or approved Academy Instructors are authorized to deliver Control Tactics training to municipal police officers. Departments utilizing non-approved instructors risk non-compliance, exposing agencies and officers to significant legal and operational liabilities.

As of June 1, 2025, the deadline for Temporary MIST Control Tactics Instructors to transition to permanent certification has passed. Over 300 individuals have yet to respond to this requirement. If you missed the deadline and wish to be considered as a certified CT instructor, please submit **current, unexpired CT/DT certificates and an updated, signed MPO-239** to the MPO training account at rapottraining@pa.gov. A list of approved instructors will be published on our website shortly.

OFFICER SPOTLIGHT

In March 2025, City of Johnstown police officers Jared Lefevre and Eric Allen demonstrated exceptional life-saving bravery during a house fire on Steel Street in Old Conemaugh Borough. Responding to heavy smoke around 11 p.m., Officer Lefevre forcibly entered the burning home after noticing a light on the second floor and hearing a woman's voice indicating she couldn't walk. With Officer Allen's assistance, they carried her from the second floor through a back exit as flames spread, ensuring her survival as fire crews and EMS arrived. Deputy Chief Mark Britton praised their courage, noting she "most certainly would have lost her life" without their actions, a sentiment echoed during a City Council recognition on May 15, 2025. Well done gentlemen!



OFFICER LEFEVRE

OFFICER ALLEN



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Changes to the Fingerprint Process

Beginning July 1, 2025, all Act 120 officer and training applicants, to include basic training, waivers, pre-service, academy instructors and directors will be required to use an IdentoGO location for fingerprints to determine eligibility of MPOETC certification.

The change is due to FBI requirements that applicants be provided a privacy notice and a challenge to records notice, as well as an FBI fee requirement. MPOETC does not have the ability to provide these required notices and collect the required necessary fees. IdentoGO centers currently comply with these FBI requirements.

The fingerprint requirements through IdentoGO are only for the purpose of MPOETC to determine if applicants are eligible for certification. Police departments should still print applicants for the purposes of a background investigation to determine suitability for employment as a police officer.

We ask that applicants contact the IDEMIA customer service at 844-321-2101 for any fingerprint issues with IdentoGO. Any other questions can be directed to MPOETC at 717-346-7748.

Commission Meeting Highlights

On June 10-11, 2025, the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission held its regular quarterly meeting in Bedford, PA at the Omni Bedford Springs Resort. On Wednesday afternoon, June 10, 2025, the Commissioners held committee meetings to discuss the business of the Commission. On Thursday morning, June 11, 2025, the Commissioners met in an Executive Committee meeting, which was followed by the normal meeting of the full Commission, where they took the following actions:

- The Commission voted to fully reimburse Act 120 Academies for MIST conducted during July through December 2024 and January through June 2025.
- The Commission voted to approve a Mandatory Rifle Qualification Course and a Mandatory Shotgun Qualification Course for officers who carry either or both of those weapons. These new courses will be effective starting January 1, 2026.
- The Commission voted to restrict department level Control Tactics annual training to only current Act 120 certified officers and current Act 120 academy instructors approved by the Commission to conduct Control Tactics instruction.
- The Commission revoked certifications of four officers for convictions of the following offenses: one for theft and forgery; one for possession with intent to deliver, obstruction, hindering apprehension and reckless endangering another; one for institutional sexual assault; and one for strangulation and simple assault.
- The Commission voted to suspend the Act 120 instructor certification of an approved instructor for a period of six months for aggressive and reckless behavior in violation of MPOETC standards.

NEXT MEETING:

SEPTEMBER 10-11, 2025

**THE INN AT
VILLANOVA
UNIVERSITY**

**601 COUNTY LINE RD
RADNOR, PA 19087**

610-519-8000



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QUARTERLY LEGAL UPDATES



TYPE: Legal Update

TITLE: PA License to Carry, while being prohibited from possessing firearms.

Content: *Pennsylvania State Police v. Drake*, 304 A.3d 801 (Pa. Commonwealth Court. 2023)

FACTS: In *Pennsylvania State Police v. Drake*, 304 A.3d 801 (Pa. Commonwealth Court. 2023), the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court held that where an applicant for a Pa. license to carry firearms (LTC) has only a federal firearms prohibition, or the state law firearms prohibition applies based solely on the application of federal law (18 Pa. C.S. 6105(c)(6) and 18 Pa. C.S. § 6105(c)(9)), in order to deny a background check, PSP must also present evidence that a firearm has moved in interstate commerce. There is no identifiable firearm related to an LTC, and PSP may be required to issue an approval for the LTC-related Pennsylvania Instant Check System (PICS) background check in such matters, despite the applicant being subject to a firearms possession prohibition. However, the issuing authority in each county retains its discretionary authority whether to approve the issuance of the LTC.

The *PSP v. Drake* ruling has significant implications for how the PSP will process LTC-related PICS background checks, in situations where an individual is prohibited from acquiring an LTC solely due to a federal firearms prohibition and/or the state law prohibition applies based solely on the application of federal law. As a result, LTCs may be issued by the County Sheriff's Office or Philadelphia Gun Permit Unit when a federal or state firearms prohibition is based on the following federal statutes:

- a. § 922(g)(4) – Mental health commitments reported out of state in NICS.
- b. § 922(g)(5)(b) – Non-immigrant visa holders.
- c. § 922(g)(7) – Individuals who have renounced U.S. citizenship.
- d. § 922(g)(8) – Out-of-state domestic violence protection orders.
- e. § 922(g)(9) – MCDV convictions where the underlying offense is not punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year.

LTCs issued to federally prohibited persons will be designated within the Concealed Weapons Query (CWQ) of the Commonwealth Law Enforcement Assistance Network (CLEAN), with a note stating “**LTC Issued - Individual may be prohibited from possessing firearms - Contact PICS for more information (or PACIC after hours)**”. This change will be available for all METRO connections and will require METRO vendors to parse the “Federally Prohibited” field to display on a user's Mobile Data Terminal/Computer screen. For questions regarding the MDT changes, contact the Commonwealth Law Enforcement Assistance Network Administrative Section at RA-CLEAN@pa.gov.

Agencies may obtain additional information regarding the firearm prohibition by contacting the Pennsylvania Instant Check System (PICS) Operations Section at 717-720-5199 between 0800 hours and 2200 hours, or after hours through the Pennsylvania Criminal Intelligence Center (PACIC) at 877-777-6835.

PSP v. Drake does not impact the PSP's ability to deny individuals during PICS background checks related to the purchase, transfer, and return of a firearm. It also does not specifically preclude enforcement of the Pennsylvania Uniform Firearms Act, when a federally prohibited person, who has been issued an LTC under the *PSP v. Drake* ruling, is in possession, use, control, sale or transfer of a firearm and is also prohibited from possessing the firearm under state law, in particular 18 Pa. C.S. § 6105(c)(6) and 18 Pa. C.S. § 6105(c)(9).

[235CD22 10-30-23.pdf](#)



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NEW AGENCY EXECUTIVES

CHIEF ROBERT GLENNY JR- MECHANICSBURG BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT (CUMBERLAND COUNTY)

CHIEF DEVON MORAN- LOGAN TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT (BLAIR COUNTY)

CHIEF MICHAEL FOSSE- SOUTH BLOOMSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT (COLUMBIA COUNTY)

CHIEF RICHARD POLLINO- RICHLAND TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT (CAMBRIA COUNTY)

CHIEF BRIAN SMYTH- CHRISTIANA BORO POLICE DEPARTMENT (LYCOMING COUNTY)

CHIEF KEVIN HERRING- POINT TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT (NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY)

CHIEF JASON NOTHSTEIN- WALNUTPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT (NORTHAMPTON COUNTY)

CHIEF ANDREW YAKUBIK- CARBONDALE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT (LACKAWANNA COUNTY)

WHAT'S NEW AT MPOETC?

Lauren Clift was recently promoted from temporary clerk to Clerical Assistant 2 where she will continue digitizing MPOETC's records. In the past, Lauren has worked as a technical writer with experience writing a variety of documentation, including policy manuals for Pennsylvania public schools and ship specifications for the U.S. Navy. She holds a bachelor's degree in English from Millersville University.

Jane Carberry is a new Administrative Assistant 1 here at MPOETC. She recently transferred from the Bureau of Communications and Information Services. She has had varied careers from being a New Employee and Staff Development Trainer at PA Blue Shield to working as a school bus driver and a special needs aide and library aide. She started her career with the State at Labor and Industry working for the PA Labor Relations Board in 2019.

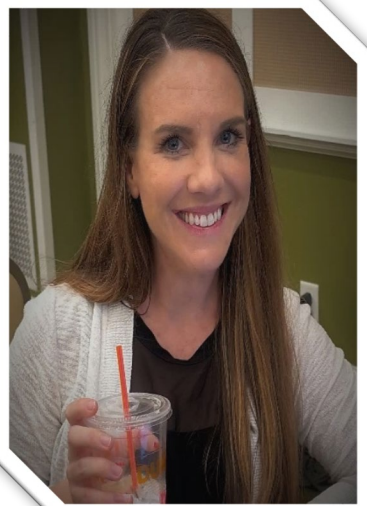
Lieutenant Nathan Trate recently left MPOETC to return to his "Home Troop" Reading. Lt. Trate was at MPOETC for two years and he will be dearly missed. MPOETC was much improved under his leadership, and we thank him for his service!

Lieutenant Zachary Ryland Lt. Zachary Ryland joined MPOETC on May 24th, 2025. He has been a Lieutenant since September of 2023 and is currently in his 19th year with the Pennsylvania State Police. Lt. Ryland has worked across the state from Troop B- Pittsburgh to Troop K- Philadelphia and various locations in between. He is driven to see the continued success and progression of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission.

Jourdan Knapp will be leaving MPOETC July 2, 2025, to be a full time Mom to her beautiful daughter Nora. Jourdan has been with MPOETC as the Bureau Administrative Manager since February of 2024. Jourdan had worked as the Business Manager for the Bureau of Driver Licensing for PennDOT and previously worked for MPOETC as the Certification Unit Supervisor from September 2018 to November 2021. Jourdan has worked for the Commonwealth for over 18 years, and 16 years with the PSP. Jourdan will be missed immensely for her professional abilities and talents, but most of all for her bubbly personality and positive outlook that she brought into the MPOETC office. We will miss you Jourdan and wish you and your family the best!



Thank you Jourdan!



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Did you know?

Pennsylvania has more police departments than any other state in the country.

58% percent of the municipal police departments have less than ten officers.



DEPUTY DIRECTOR CIFRULAK RETIRES, CONGRATULATIONS BOB!

Deputy Director Cifrulak began his public safety career in 1976 as a professional firefighter with the McKees Rocks Fire Department. In 1978, he entered law enforcement with the Green Tree Borough Police Department, where in 2004, he was appointed Chief of Police.

Following his retirement in 2008, Cifrulak was appointed Chief of Police of the McKees Rocks Police Department, where he served until 2015, when he was appointed to his current position at the Allegheny County Police Training Academy.

During his years as a chief, Cifrulak served as a member on several committees of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association; the Allegheny County Police Academy Chief's Advisory Board; and had served as president of both the Allegheny County and Western Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Associations.

Cifrulak, a University of Pittsburgh graduate, resides with his family in Kennedy Township.

"Thank you for being such a wonderful friend and colleague, and I am so glad we had the chance to work together. You've had an amazing professional journey, and we will not forget everything you have done for our academy. Congratulations on your retirement!"
- Lt. Brett Whittenberger, Allegheny County Police Training Academy Director.



POLICE ACADEMY OF THE QUARTER

Delaware
County
Community
College



The Delaware County Community College Municipal Police Academy has served the community since 1977 and continues to this day.

DCCC was one of the first schools to conduct police academy training for the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission in accordance with Legislative Act 120. It now serves as a leader in providing local and regional departments with qualified and prepared candidates.

The Police Academy provides the basic training (Act 120) curriculum that is required for every municipal police officer in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Upon successful completion of the program, students are eligible to work as police officers in Pennsylvania.

The Academy is certified by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission in Harrisburg, Pa. The faculty includes active chiefs of police, police supervisors, Assistant District Attorneys from Delaware County, and many others in the law enforcement field. Training and coursework are conducted at the College's Marple Campus (901 South Media Line Road, Media, Pa. 19063). In addition, they also conduct mandatory (Act 180) in-service training for current municipal police officers. This training is provided at locations across Delaware and Chester Counties.

For nearly 50 years, the Delaware County Community College Municipal Police Academy has produced 95 percent of all police officers in Delaware County, and 75 percent of the Chester County police force.

The Delaware County Community College Police Academy is led by **Director Bill Davis**, who has served in this role since January 1991. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Davis completed a distinguished 25-year career as a Pennsylvania State Police Trooper, including service on the Major Crimes Task Force in the Delaware County District Attorney's Office, where he contributed to resolving two cold case murder investigations. He holds a Master's Degree in Administration of Justice from West Chester University.

On July 8, 2025, Mr. Davis will commence his 123rd class as Director with the start of Class 174. His leadership has been instrumental in training nearly every active municipal police officer in Delaware County. Additionally, Mr. Davis secured two virtual reality simulator machines to enhance cadet training at the Police Academy.

We express our gratitude to Mr. Davis for his unwavering dedication over 34 years as Director and his remarkable 59 years of service to the law enforcement community.



Director Bill Davis



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**MPOETC WILL BE CLOSED ON THE
FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS FOR THE PURPOSE
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS:**

JULY 4, 2025 (INDEPENDENCE DAY)

SEPTEMBER 1, 2025 (LABOR DAY)

ADMINISTRATIONS/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, 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 (MIST) BASIC TRAINING
TUITION/SALARY

EMAIL: RA-SPMPOFSS@PA.GOV

TELEPHONE: (717) 346-4086

FAX: (717) 346-7781 OR (717) 346-7782

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS/INSPECTIONS

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE/SCHOOL
INSPECTIONS

EMAIL: MPOSTANDARDS@PA.GOV

TELEPHONE: (717) 346-4086

FAX: (717) 346-7781 OR (717) 346-7782

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 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 <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/mpoetc/resources/newsletters-and-annual-reports.html>



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In Other News...



Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a \$2.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) through the FY24 National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (NSAKI). This critical funding will support the enhancement of Pennsylvania's processes for handling, tracking, and testing sexual assault kits (SAKs) across the Commonwealth and aligns with the mandates of [Act 122 of 2024](#), which directs PCCD to implement a statewide SAK tracking system.

Project Oversight and Stakeholders

The grant is administered by PCCD's Office of Victims Services (OVS), which has convened a multidisciplinary team (MDT) to guide project implementation. This team includes representatives from law enforcement, forensic laboratories, healthcare providers, victim service agencies, and other key stakeholders. The MDT plays an essential role in ensuring effective interagency coordination, system integration, and accessibility for both survivors and professionals.

Participating organizations include:

- Pennsylvania State Police
- PA Chiefs of Police Association
- Local Law Enforcement Agencies
- Forensic Laboratories
- Office of the Attorney General
- Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association
- Pennsylvania Department of Health
- Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners
- PA Coalition to Advance Respect
- Rape Crisis Center
- Child Advocacy Center

For more information regarding this announcement please follow the link: [PAcast](#)



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LOOKING FOR NEW HIRES?



Below is a list of Academies and the number of pre-hire officers available for hire.

Allegheny County Police Training Academy- **12**

Allentown Police Academy- **1**

Community College of Beaver County- **12**

Delaware County Community College- **25**

Harrisburg Area Community College- **2**

Indiana University of Pennsylvania/CNX- **9**

Lackawanna College- **24**

Mansfield University- **9**

Montgomery County Community College- **15**

Pennsylvania Highlands Community College Police Academy- **6**

Temple University- **16**

Westmoreland County Community College- **25**

156 Cadets are available for hire. Please reach out to any of these academies for more information.



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