

Commission Meeting Number 335

State of New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety
Division of Criminal Justice

POLICE TRAINING COMMISSION

Minutes of Commission Meeting

August 13, 2020

Location: Virtual Meeting

Commission Members Present

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Attendee(s)/Representative(s)</u>
Office of the Attorney General, State of New Jersey	John F. Cunningham
New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association	Kevin Lyons
New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police	James Abbott
New Jersey State Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police	James Sharrock
County Prosecutors' Association of New Jersey	Fredric Knapp
Sheriffs' Association of New Jersey	Robert A. Nolan
Police Academy Director's Association	Daniel Colucci (Thomas DePaul)
Commissioner-Department of Education	Carl Carabelli
Commissioner-Department of Corrections	Aaron Erven
Federal Bureau of Investigation	Jason DeMartino
New Jersey Juvenile Detention Association	Thomas Pollio
New Jersey State Parole Board	Samuel Plumeri, Jr.
National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives	Jiles Ship (Keith Stith)
Citizen Member—Governor's Appointment	James Polos
Citizen Member—Governor's Appointment	Vacant

New Jersey League of Municipalities

Samuel DeMaio

New Jersey Jail Wardens Association

Oscar Aviles

New Jersey State Police

Christopher Vozzo

Division of Criminal Justice Staff Present

Special Assistant to the Attorney General, Joseph F. Walsh

Acting Deputy Director, Attorney General Robert Czepiel

Deputy Attorney General Louis Lester, Counsel to PTC

Deputy Attorney General Stephen Wenger, Prosecution Supervision and Training Bureau

Deputy Attorney General Jeffrey Barile, Deputy Chief, Prosecution Supervision and Training Bureau

Deputy Attorney General Emily Anderson, Prosecution Supervision and Training Bureau

Academy Coordinator Pat Jones, Police Training Commission

Academy Coordinator Forest Kairos, Police Training Commission

Analyst Tykeria T. Lockhart, Police Training Commission

Field Representative Dion Feltri, Police Training Commission

Field Representative John Janowiak, Police Training Commission

Police Training Commission Meeting Minutes for August 13, 2020

Administrator John F. Cunningham called the 335th meeting of the Commission to order at 11:25 am.

Administrator Cunningham led the Commissioners in the flag salute. Commissioner Cunningham asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of the Law Enforcement and military personnel who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Analyst Tykeria T. Lockhart announced that “notice of the Commission meeting has been publicized in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law by notification to the Secretary of State and five newspapers. The notifications included a copy of the meeting agenda.”

Administrator Cunningham asked the Commissioners to consider the minutes of the June 24, 2020 Commission meeting. Commissioner James Sharrock made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Frederic Knapp seconded the motion. The Commissioners voted to approve the motion.

Administrator Cunningham explained that the minutes of the February 3, 2020 meeting are still tabled to a future date because they are still under revision due to COVID-19 and staff not being able to access the office for meeting materials.

Administrator Cunningham asked Chairperson Carabelli to report on the business of the Appeals and Legislation Committee.

1. Commissioner Carabelli reported the following appeals were received since the June 24, 2020 PTC meeting;

Robert Keenan v. Monmouth County Police Academy
Recruit appeals from a dismissal based on the firearms qualification test.

Commissioner Carabelli, on behalf of the Appeals and Legislation Committee, moved and seconded a motion to uphold the dismissal. The Commissioners voted to approve the motion.

John T. Walsh v. Monmouth County Police Academy
Recruit appeals from a dismissal based on the firearms qualification test.

Commissioner Carabelli, on behalf of the Appeals and Legislation Committee, moved and seconded a motion to uphold the dismissal. The Commissioners voted to approve the motion.

2. Commissioner Carabelli reported the following appeal was referred to the Office of Administrative Law and required to action:

David Araujo v. Mercer County Police Academy

Recruit appeals from a dismissal based on the results of a drug screen.

3. Commissioner Carabelli reported the following appeals were closed since the June 24, 2020 PTC Meeting:

Jazmine Morales v. Passaic County Police Academy

Desiree Cuadra v. Passaic County Police Academy

Rowan Mahgoub v. Passaic County Police Academy

4. Commissioner Carabelli reported the following Initial Decision was issued since the June 24, 2020 PTC Meeting:

Jason Martin v. Mercer County Police Academy

The Administrative Law Judge ruled that the items in question did not constitute contraband and rescinded the dismissal. Commissioner Carabelli, on behalf of the Appeals and Legislation Committee, moved and seconded a motion to accept the Judge's decision. The Commissioners voted to approve the motion.

5. Commissioner Carabelli reported the following Final Decisions were issued since the June 24, 2020 PTC Meeting:

Ruth Y. Henriquez v. Monmouth County Police Academy

Jennifer Schelmetty v. Essex County Police Academy

Lashea Graham v. Essex County Police Academy

Amani Davis v. New Jersey Department of Corrections

6. Commissioner Carabelli reported that **Agenda Item 3A** was Assembly Bill 4366- Requires Police Training Commission to contract with NJ Crisis Intervention Team Center for Excellence to provide mental health training to local police officers.

Commissioner Carabelli reported that **Agenda Item 3B** was Assembly Bill 4417- Expands Police Training Commission membership to include legislative appointees.

Commissioner Carabelli reported that **Agenda Item 3C** was Assembly Bill 4392- Requires law enforcement officers and recruits to undergo self-defense training; appropriates \$250,000 to Police Training Commission.

Commissioner Carabelli, on behalf of the Appeals and Legislation Committee, moved and seconded a motion to have the Appeals and Legislative Committee draft a letter for review by the full Commission to be presented to the Legislature regarding the proposed bills. The Commissioners voted to approve the motion.

7. Consideration of **Extensions of Training Time** for County Corrections Officers, Humane Law Enforcement Officers and Juvenile Detention Officers
 - 4A Consideration of a Request for an Extension of Training Time for County Corrections Officer, Desiree M. Vazquez (Burlington County Department of Corrections).
 - 4B Consideration of a Request for an Extension of Training Time for County Five Corrections Officers, (Salem County Correctional Facility)
 - 4C Consideration of a Request for an Extension of Training Time for Juvenile Detention Officer, Tristen J. Sharp (Sussex County Juvenile Detention Center).
 - 4D Consideration of a Request for an Extension of Training Time for Special Law Enforcement Officer II, Hunter J. Palmer (Sea Girt Police Department).

Commissioner Carabelli, on behalf of the Appeals and Legislation Committee, moved and seconded a motion to combine Agenda Items 4A- 4D as a consent agenda and to approve the extensions of training time requests with the caveat that this will be the third and final extension granted for County Corrections Officer, Beth Rhodes of the Salem County Correctional Facility. Commissioners Sharrock, Erven and Colucci opposed the motion. The motion carried and was approved.

Commissioner Carabelli concluded the Appeals and Legislation Committee Report

Administrator Cunningham asked Chairman James Sharrock to report on the business of the Standards Committee.

Commissioner Sharrock stated he had no business to report from the Standards Committee.

Administrator Cunningham reported that **Agenda Item 8A was a Report** of the Law Enforcement Officers Training and Equipment Fund (LEOTEF).

LEOTEF Chairperson, Daniel Colucci, reported all quarterly expense reports for the 1st quarter and 2nd quarter of 2020 are being reviewed and processed. Due to the current situation with Covid-19 and office closures, not all reports have been received. Technical assistance in preparing quarterly expense reports has been provided. Supplemental academy requests for LEOTEF purchases also have been reviewed and approved.

All police academies received their executed contracts for SFY 2019 LEOTEF Funds (31th distribution). There is currently no information available on the amount of funding that will be available to academies for the 32nd LEOTEF distribution.

Administrator Cunningham announced **Agenda Item 9A** was the PTC's Computer System Update. Administrator Cunningham reported that PTC staff is still currently working in the Acadis system there are no new updates at this time. He reported in the future, Tykeria T. Lockhart will be working with the academies to bring academy staff on board to use the Acadis system via an online portal.

Administrator Cunningham announced the next meeting is Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Administrator Cunningham asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 am. Commissioner Nolan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Colucci seconded the motion. The Commissioners voted to approve the motion.