

VERMONT CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING COUNCIL
June 15, 2017
PITTSFORD, VERMONT
9:00 AM

Members in Attendance

Chief Christopher Brickell, Chair, Vermont Association of Chiefs of Police
Major William Sheets, Vice Chair, Proxy for DPS Commissioner, Vermont State Police
Executive Director Richard Gauthier, Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council
Colonel William Elovirta, Proxy for Commissioner Robert Ide, Vermont Dept of Motor Vehicles
David Scherr, Vermont Attorney General's Office
Heather Simons, Proxy for Commissioner Lisa Menard, Vermont Department of Corrections
Gary Moore, Public Seat
George Scribner, Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife
Timothy Gould, Vermont Trooper's Association
Gwynn Zakor, Vermont Leagues of Cities and Towns
Silas Loomis, Vermont Constables Association
Mike Major, Vermont Police Association
Erica Marthage, States Attorneys and Sheriffs Association

Other Attendance

Gail Williams, Vermont Police Academy
Matthew Birmingham, Vermont State Police
Commissioner Tom Anderson, Vermont State Police

Chief Brickell: Called the meeting to order at 9:13.

Introductions: Chief Brickell asked for introductions to be made.

Committee Reports:

- Committee reports and Training report - Motion was made by Gary Moore to accept, second by Mike Major.
- Executive Director Gauthier gave an overview of the domestic violence training curriculum that was handed out. He asked Council members to take it with them to look over and asked they get back to him by June 30th if they accept this training for 2018. It was asked that Rick send the electronic version that includes a list of the committee members to the Council and send an electronic reminder a few days before it is due. Heather Simons asked the Council to revisit past conversations on getting away from approving content of a training but rather looking at the outcome and how the successful completion will be measured, and feels it is important to see the performance objectives.

Executive Director's Report:

- A copy of the rules was handed out. Richard Gauthier explained the rules are out of date and need to be updated. Jacob Humbert is working with the Academy on what is a Legislative rule and what can be changed by the Council through APA. Two topics were discussed: 1) raising the minimum required hours of Rule 13 annual training to 30 hours for all certification levels, and 2) Going from the 3-5 year standard for recertification to one standard of 3 years.
- Rick discussed with the Council the recommendation that an out-of-state waiver officer should have three years of road experience to qualify for a waiver. There was discussion on the reason for the three-year requirement. This topic will be on the September agenda for the Council to take action on.
- Level II-E ratification: There were two officers one was from Wilmington PD who has since resigned. The second is an officer from Fair Haven PD. His application was denied as he did not meet the three-year requirement. Council delayed final decision to September meeting, to allow Chief Humphrey an opportunity to appeal.
- H308 (Fair and Impartial Policing Policy) was discussed as an informational as to where we are now and the Council's role in this going forward. It was decided a subcommittee should be formed. Council members were asked to respond to Richard Gauthier by June 30th if they are interested in being on this subcommittee to work on meeting the deadlines and making the policy clear and understandable to all law enforcement. The first meeting of this subcommittee will meet by July 14th.

Break from 10:40-11:00

- H22 (Professional Regulation Bill) Richard Gauthier gave a broad overview of the bill and the deadlines, explaining the bill introduces hiring standards to reduce bad officers from agency hiring. He talked about the hiring process changes. Beginning July 1, 2017, non-employed officers must sign a waiver for a background check. The hiring agency must contact previous employers in which are required to provide all the information on the past employee and the reason they left. An employing agency will continue with any internal investigation on going. The Council is obligated to work with OPR. OPR may not use the language the Council uses for decertification's and may only use their own language. OPR may maintain the decertification registry. If OPR regulates licensing it will have to be funded by charging officers \$125-\$150 annually for their licenses. Any action taken against an officer will be against their license to practice, not their certification. The Council would no longer conduct decertification hearings they would be conducted by OPR. Thursday the 22nd is Ricks first meeting with POR.

Some of the other deadlines include: The Council has until January 1, 2018 to develop a model internal investigation policy. By April 2018 agencies must insure they have adopted the Council policy or have a policy that meets and exceeds the Council's policy. This bill will kick into gear on July 1, 2018.

New Business:

- Richard Gauthier suggested subcommittees meet regularly and report to the Council.
- William Elovirta recommended standardizing hiring applications and the PHQ's so an applicant would be able to use them at multiple agencies.

Break for lunch 11:30

Sam Hill came and spoke to the Council about the DV training and its progress. The DV committee has been trying to build on the mandatory baseline training that all officers must take. The committee is looking for approval on the 2018 DV training talked about earlier in the Council meeting so they can begin hosting train-the-trainer classes in preparation of being ready start the trainings in the beginning of 2018. They are anticipating the training to be three hours and they would like to put the slides on the Academy's website.

The Council discussed Sam's proposal for the training and are concerned how the training will only be three hours.

Motion to adjourn was made at 12:10 by William Elovirta and second by Silas Loomis.