Location: Physical Location – VT Police Academy, Pittsford, Vermont

and Online Meeting (via Teams)

**Committee Members Present:**

Chair:Sgt. Jason Covey, Middlebury Police

Vice-Chair: Chief George Merkel, Vergennes Police

Sheriff Jennifer Harlow, Orleans CSD

Sgt. Fred Whitcomb, Stowe Police

Maira Tungatarova, Governor Appointee to the CJC

Brian Searles, Governor Appointee to the CJC

Sgt. Andrew Bent, Washington CSD

**Others Present:**

Ken Hawkins, Director of Training VCJC

**Absent:**

Commissioner Jennifer Morrison, DPS

Chief Derrick Tienken, Winhall Police  
Chief Montgomery

Captain Randall

Warden Schmid

Lt. Mozzer

Lt. Dan Delgado

Lt. Robert Giolito, Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles

**Call to order** at 12:34pm by Chair Sgt. Jason Covey.

**Level II Pathway to Level III (Process) –** *Chair, Sgt. Jason Covey*

Chair Covey utilizing a copy of the 2022 (Alternate Path Proposal) project, reviewed the basic requirements for a respondent to apply for a Level II to Level III alternate path, starting with the basic requirements of:

* Years of experience,
* 1500 hours of work shown,
* Requirement for polygraph
* Final practical scenarios and exams
* Act 56 Category A disqualification and B review
* Cost associated with application
* Requirement of Subject Matter Experts to attest

Chief Merkel discussed the need to maintain the integrity of the Level III process as current and to not attempt to lessen the process by creating a pathway that was “less”. Discussion from Brian Searles and Chief Merkel around the validity and current use of the polygraph. Discussion around the cost of an application by Mr. Searles to ask the opinion of the VCJC Council to determine what if any cost should be assessed. Chair Covey brought up the agency heads responsibility to endorse the candidate versus the need for Subject Matter Experts. Discussion by Chief Merkel, Sheriff Harlow about the accountability of the process when an agency puts forth an application and not relying on the Academy to be the screening body.

Discussion by Chair Covey related to the anticipation of applications once approved by the Council. Chief Merkel asked about the review process on the Academy end and who would be responsible for that portion.

Brian Searles asked about the timeliness of the project and if the Council was aware of the work by the TAC surrounding the Alternate Pathway. Chair Covey spoke to the direction given by DD Brickell as the requirement was 2021.

**Motion made by Chair Covey to adjourn at 1:4; seconded by Sheriff Harlow. All in favor. Motion passed.**

*Next meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2022 at 12:30.*