



Level II Review Working Group August 26, 2024 (10:00 AM – 11:00 AM)

Meeting #2 Date and Time: August 26, 2024, 10:00am – 11:00am

Meeting Physical Location: 317 Academy Rd., Pittsford, VT

Meeting Remote Location: Via Teams

Members in attendance: Chief Loretta Stalnaker, Chief Jason Covey, Sheriff Mark Anderson, Trevor Whipple, Robert Schell VT JUD, Commissioner Jennifer Morrison, Chief Anthony Cambridge, Chief Jennifer Frank

Staff in attendance: ED Brickell, TC Dan Pennington, and Staff Attorney Kim McManus.

No members of the public were present.

Call to Order -

1. Shrf. Mark Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM with a quorum present.
2. There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.
3. The August 12th, 2024 minutes were accepted as submitted (J. Morrison / J. Covey 2nd)
4. Extensive discussion on the Level II certification and training requirements occurred. Topics discussed included -
 - a. Committees work should focus on a solution for the Level II training and scope of authority, operational liability should be the responsibility of the officer's agency.
 - b. The utilization of a training portfolio approach for Level II to III transition. There are existing mechanisms for assessment of prior training and coursework with test-out options.
 - c. There is a need for a future deadline to be established that specifically defines new Level II scope of authority and practice. Existing level IIs could be grandfathered to Level III status based on the VCJC waiver process.
 - d. Other states have existing processes, one example discussed was Massachusetts which has a variety of transitions based on state and local training academies.
 - e. While transition training should be as uniform as possible, there are vast differences in law enforcement roles and expectations in urban and rural environments for example.
 - f. The department's expectation of a level II capability/performance could change significantly based on agency affiliation.
 - g. The existing VCJC level IIE to Level III transition mechanism does not support level IIE officers who have been certified for years.
 - h. If there was an established goal to train as many officers to the highest levels (transitioning Lvl IIs > III), it would in part require -
 - i. Increasing the number of VCJC certified instructors.
 - ii. Creating greater statewide accessibility to training and certification sessions.
 - iii. Stratify the training curriculums to create an equal baseline of training for all officers and then define levels and training structures leading to certification capability (i.e I/II/II).
 - iv. Securing budgetary and administrative support.
 - i. Recommendations should be established for specialty training (Lvl I for example) and for baseline training requirements such as a patrol school.
5. There were no members of the public present.
6. Meeting adjourned at 10:59 (J. Covey, L. Stalnaker 2nd).
Next meeting: Monday, 10AM 9/9/24.