

**Connecticut General Assembly**  
**Logistics**  
**Subcommittee**  
**Police Transparency & Accountability Task Force**

Rep. Joshua Hall, Chairperson



c/o Judiciary Committee, Room 2500  
Legislative Office Building  
300 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, Ct 06106

**Minutes**

Tuesday, October 13, 2020  
5:00 p.m., via Zoom

*Attendees: Joshua Hall (Chair), Chief William Wright, Tanya Hughes, Ken Green, John Szewczyk, Mel Medina, Shafiq Abdussabur, Stephen Saloom, Cheryl Sharp*

*Others: Ken Barone (CCSU), Deb Blanchard (Judiciary Committee), Andrew Clark (CCSU), Renee LaMark Muir (CCSU), Sharad Samy (Guest), Patrick Hulin (Governor's Office)*

*Presenter: Chief Keith Mello (Milford Police Department, and POSTC Chairman)*

- I.** Convene meeting and welcome
  - a. Chair Hall convened the meeting at 5:05 p.m.
- II.** Approve September 22, 2020 meeting minutes
  - a. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved.
- III.** Presentation: draft recommendations being considered by POSTC regarding the decertification process
  - a. Chief Mello provided a presentation on the proposal being considered by the POST Council which would update the process for revocation, cancellation and suspension of police officer certification. Public Act 20-1 tasked the POST Council with (1) developing reporting procedures by the Law Enforcement Unit, (2) defining conduct that "undermines the public confidence", (3) define discriminatory conduct, and (4) define misconduct when not acting in your capacity as a police officer. Chief Mello highlighted the current decertification process and offenses that could lead to decertification prior to Public Act 20-1. In addition to the previous offenses, the new offenses under consideration include (1) use of force that is deemed excessive, (2)

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*use force in a manner that is not justified, and (3) conduct that undermines the confidence of the public (which include discriminatory conduct, falsification of records, or violation of the Alvin W. Penn act.) Chief Mello outlined how the council is defining conduct that “undermines public confidence in law enforcement.” POSTC developed criteria for departments to use when determining if the conduct should come before the council for revocation. They are also considering four mandatory areas when a department must report the conduct to the council. The mandatory reporting includes (1) if an officer uses excessive force that causes death or serious physical injury or is likely to cause serious physical injury, (2) if an officer fails to intervene in the use of excessive force that causes death or serious physical injury or is likely to cause serious physical injury, (3) if an officer was found to have intentionally intimidated or harassed another person based upon an actual or perceived membership in a protected class, and (4) and officer was terminated, dismissed, or resigned pursuant to 7-291c. Lastly, Chief Mello outlined the due process procedures being considered by the council.*

*Members engaged in a question and answer period with Chief Mello. Rep. Hall requested information on the number of officers decertified versus the number recommendations that POSTC has considered. Ken Barone reminded subcommittee members that the legislative mandate of the committee is to make a recommendation on whether any offenses should require a mandatory decertification. Chief Mello again highlighted the four areas where police departments will be required to report for decertification, but due process procedures would still apply. Chief Mello continued to provide clarification about the revocation process and changes being considered by POSTC. Members engaged in a brief discuss about mandatory revocation, but no recommendations were considered at this time. Rep. Hall thanked Chief Mello for the helpful background information and anticipates further discussion and recommendations by the subcommittee to be considered at a future meeting.*

**IV. Short-Term Priority Updates**

- a. *Ken Barone informed members that the CEO of CIRMA would present to the subcommittee on October 27<sup>th</sup> and anticipates sharing responses to our questions at that point.*

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*b. The Insurance Law Center at UCONN was interested in collaborating with the subcommittee. They are waiting for approval from the Dean to proceed and hope to have an answer within a few days.*

**V.** Announcement of time and date of next meeting.

*a. The next meeting is scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Members of the CBA Policing Task Force will be discussing Qualified Immunity with the subcommittee.*

**VI.** Adjournment

*a. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.*