

**Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association  
Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission**

**Regular Commission Meeting  
March 31, 2010**

**Call to Order**

The Regular Commission meeting of the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission was called to order on Wednesday, March 31, 2010 at 10:32 a.m. at the Harrisburg Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center, New Cumberland, PA. Chairman Robert Ruxton presided.

**Members Present**

Chief Dorney, Chief Eshbach, Chief Gross, Dick Hammon, Assistant Chief Holl, Accreditation Manager Jarsocrak, Director Johnson, Chief Kelly, Chief King, Frank Lavery, Chief Lesko, Chief Mastroianni, Chief Miller, Chief Murphy, Chief Ogden, Chief Polnar, Chief Ruxton, Chief Seefeld, Sean Brennan (Representing Representative Shapiro), Chief Sokoloski, Ron Stern, Andrea Sullivan, Chief Walker and Donald Way.

Chief Jolley was absent.

Also present were guests from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department which included Acting Chief Alfred Ricci and Sergeant/Accreditation Manager Allen Stewart. From Lower Merion Township Police Department were Superintendent Michael McGrath, Captain John Dougherty, Captain William Boegly, Lieutenant Chris Polo, Lieutenant Francis Thomas and Officer/Accreditation Manager James McMenamin. From Upper Saucon Township Police Department were Chief Robert Coyle, Detective Thomas Nicoletti and Officer/Accreditation Manager Michael Fritts. From Somerset Borough Police Department were Chief Randolph Cox, Officer in Charge/Accreditation Manager Stephen Borosky and Officer/Accreditation Manager Phil Staib.

Chairman Ruxton welcomed all to the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**

Ron Stern made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 15, 2010 Regular Commission meeting. Chief Polnar seconded the motion. All agreed.

**Assessment Reports**

*Montgomery County Sheriff's Review* – Assistant Chief Holl reported that the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department is a well organized department and the first of its kind to pursue accreditation. They are dedicated to delivering quality services to their community. It is without hesitation that he and the assessment team strongly recommend that the Commission grant full accreditation to the Montgomery County

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Sheriff's Department. Chief Murphy made a motion to accept the recommendation for the accreditation of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department. Chief King seconded the motion. Assistant Chief Holl and Jerry Jarsocrak abstained from voting. All agreed.

Sergeant Stewart said that Sheriff John Durante was a good friend and Sergeant Stewart was happy to see Sheriff Durante accomplish this before passing. Acting Sheriff Ricci also agreed that Sheriff Durante would have been very happy.

Chairman Ruxton congratulated them on their accomplishment.

*Lower Merion Township Review* – Assistant Chief Holl reported that the Lower Merion Township Police Department is a well organized, professional police agency. The assessment team fully supports, recommends and endorses the Lower Merion Township Police Department for re-accreditation. Chief Kelly made a motion to accept the recommendation for the re-accreditation of the Lower Merion Township Police Department. Chief Ogden seconded the motion. Assistant Chief Holl abstained from voting. All agreed.

Superintendent McGrath and Accreditation Manager McMenammin thanked everyone for their assistance.

Chairman Ruxton congratulated them on their accomplishment.

*Upper Saucon Township Review* – Sergeant Bird reported that the Upper Saucon Township Police Department is a well organized, trained, effective and progressive police agency. Sergeant Bird and the assessment team recommend provisional re-accreditation for the Upper Saucon Township Police Department. Dick Hammon reported that this was written as a provisional accreditation by no fault of the Chief or the agency. The provision has been lifted seeing that the agency has since complied with the standard in question. The agency is now being recommended for full re-accreditation. Chief King made a motion to accept the recommendation for the re-accreditation of the Upper Saucon Township Police Department. Assistant Chief Holl seconded the motion. All agreed.

Chief Coyle thanked the mock and assessment teams and his Accreditation Manager, Officer Fritts. Officer Fritts thanked the assessment team for providing very good guidance to get through this process.

Chairman Ruxton congratulated and thanked them.

*Somerset Borough Review* – Chief King reported that the Somerset Borough Police

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Department has a high amount of leadership within their agency which provides quality and professional police services. He and the assessment team unanimously recommend without any reservation that the Somerset Borough Police Department receive accredited status. Ron Stern made a motion to accept the recommendation for the accreditation of the Somerset Borough Police Department. Jerry Jarsocrak seconded the motion. Chief King abstained from voting. All agreed.

Chief Cox indicated that he was pleased that his whole mock team was present at the meeting. He said the assessment team had been gracious. He thanked Dick, Andrea and Chairman Ruxton. He said it is a very happy day for Somerset Borough. Accreditation Manager Borosky said the department has come a long way and thanked all.

Chairman Ruxton congratulated them on a job well done.

*Assessor Committee* – Chief Gross reported there were seven applications for new assessors. The seven applicants are: Sergeant Jason Hendershot from Carnegie Mellon University Police; Lieutenant Michael S. McLaughlin from Upper Allen Township Police; Patrolman Melanie Readler from Bloomsburg Police; Police Officer Dave Ryan Bethlehem Township Police; Sergeant Roger F. Van Loan from Bloomsburg Police; Patrol Officer Rachel Williams from Upper Gwynedd Township Police and Sergeant Brian Zimmerman from Swatara Township Police. Chief Gross indicated that all of the applicants should be approved for assessor training. Chief Kelly made a motion to have the applicants accepted for training. Chief Eshbach seconded the motion. All agreed.

*Standards Committee* – Accreditation Manager Jarsocrak said there was nothing new to report.

*Administrative Committee* – Chief Murphy indicated there was nothing new to report.

*Strategic Planning Committee* – Assistant Chief Holl informed the Commission there would be a meeting scheduled in the near future.

**Coordinator's Report**

Dick Hammon reported on the number of individuals who attended the accreditation conference. There was a tremendous response with 235 attendees representing 111 departments. Target Corporation sponsored the conference and donated \$4,600. The PaPAC paid for Gordon Graham and for two nights in the hospitality room. Chairman Ruxton thanked the PaPAC for their generosity.

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Dick Hammon reported at this point there are four departments schedule for re-assessment and two new departments scheduled for assessment prior to the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Annual Conference in July.

**New Business**

Dick Hammon informed the Commission that Carnegie Mellon University Police and Warwick Township Police have requested extensions. Chief Mastroianni made a motion to grant these extensions. Assistant Chief Holl seconded the motion. All agreed.

Dick Hammon opened the floor for nominations for officer elections. Chairman Ruxton was nominated for Chairman and Chief Kelly was nominated for Vice Chairman. There were no other nominations and nominations were closed. All cast votes in the affirmative for the two candidates.

**Old Business**

Dick Hammon reported there was no old business.

**For the Good of the Order**

Chief Kelly reported that Representative Josh Shapiro provided an opportunity for he and Dick Hammon to appear before the House Judiciary Committee and legislation has been drafted regarding accredited agencies' use of radar and a portion of the fines being appropriated for the accreditation program. Chief Kelly thanked Representative Shapiro and Sean Brennan, who was at the meeting representing Mr. Shapiro.

A plaque was presented to Chief Garipoli for serving on the Commission over the years. Chief Garipoli has retired from the Warwick Township Police Department and will be replaced on the Commission. Chief Garipoli thanked everyone and said he has learned so much from the PLEAC members.

**Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, July 10, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the Lancaster Host Resort, Lancaster, PA.

**Adjournment**

At 11:30 a.m., a motion was made by Chief Miller to adjourn; seconded by Chief King. All agreed and the meeting adjourned.

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Respectfully submitted,

*Andrea N. Sullivan*

Andrea N. Sullivan, Administrative Assistant  
Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association