

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

**Regular Commission Meeting
June 2, 2026**

Call to Order

The Regular Commission meeting of the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission was called to order on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the Valley Forge Casino Resort, King of Prussia, PA. Chief Benson presided.

Members Present

Coordinator Adams, Chief Benson, Captain Clark, Chief Cortazzo, Chief Dyroff, Assistant Feaser, Deputy Chief Ford, Chief Haberman, Chief Hendershot, Chief Hettinger, Chief Kerecman, Chief Kitzinger, Chief Lash, Chief Lauth, Esquire MacMain, Chief Peoples, Chief Splain, Chief Wagner

Executive Director Bohn, Chief Kilgore, Chief Liparela, Sergeant Ross, and Chief Swartz were absent.

The commission stood, recited the Pledge of Allegiance, introduced themselves.

There was a moment of silence for fallen Officer Kristen Yeager of the Central Berks Regional Police Department.

Approval of Minutes

Chief Hendershot made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 23, 2026, Regular Commission meeting. Chief Lash seconded the motion. All agreed.

Introduction of Guests

Also present were representatives from the following agencies: Chief John Laufer, III, Lieutenant Rodger Ollis, Jr., Sergeant Brenden Boyle, Corporal Samuel Snyder, Coatesville City Police; Chief Matthew Brannen, Deputy Chief Thomas Douglas, East Norriton Township Police; Chief Anthony Kuklinski, Administrative Officer Dana McGarvey, Hamburg Borough Police; Chief John Krimmel, Jr., Lieutenant Gerald Scott, Detective Sergeant Douglas Heiduk, Lower Southampton Township Police; Officer Terry Ketchem, Sergeant Matthew Gerst, Mahoning Township Police; Chief Carter Mook, Millcreek Township Police; Chief John String, Sergeant Michael Vernacchio, Borough Manager Maggie Dobbs, Narberth Borough Police; Lieutenant Braxton Ditty, Sergeant Taylor Nauman, Sergeant Jonathan Taylor, Newberry Township Police; Chief Matthew Deichert, North Coventry Township Police; Chief Michael Sitoski, Office Manager Keri Diehl, Upper Macungie Township Police; Lieutenant Steven Heinly, West Lampeter Township Police; Chief Chris Ward, Lieutenant Amanda Johnson, Whitemarsh Township Police

Assessment Reports for Consent Agenda

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Castle Shannon Borough Police Department
Dublin Borough Police Department
East Norriton Township Police Department
Lower Southampton Township Police Department
Mahoning Township Police Department
Newberry Township Police Department
North Coventry Township Police Department
Quakertown Borough Police Department
Upper Macungie Township Police Department
West Lampeter Township Police Department
Whitemarsh Township Police Department
York County Regional Police Department

On a motion by Chief Cortazzo, seconded by Chief Haberman, the consent agenda was approved, and all agencies were granted Accredited Status for an additional 3 years. Chief Benson abstained from Lower Southampton Township Police Department. Chief Dyroff abstained from Mahoning Township Police Department. Deputy Chief Ford abstained from Castle Shannon Borough Police Department. Chief Hendershot abstained from Dublin Borough Police Department and Quakertown Borough Police Department. Chief Hettinger and Chief Splain abstained from East Norriton Township Police Department.

Premier Agency Recommendations

The following agencies have successfully completed five or more reassessments and are eligible for Premier Status:

East Norriton Township Police Department
Newberry Township Police Department
North Coventry Township Police Department
Quakertown Borough Police Department
Whitemarsh Township Police Department.

On a motion made by Chief Hettinger and seconded by Chief Peoples all five agencies were granted Premier Status for 2026-2029. Chief Hendershot abstained from Quakertown Borough Police Department. Chief Hettinger and Chief Splain abstained from East Norriton Township Police Department.

Assessment Reports

Coatesville City Police Review – Presented by Team Leader Chief Murphy

Chief Wagner noted a typo on the report that read “City of Chester” as opposed to “City of Coatesville”.

Chief Benson questioned if the department had recognized their low fingerprint compliance rate before or during the assessment.

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Chief Laufer said that they had noticed when preparing for the assessment. They had identified several error points and fixed them accordingly. The department's most recent rates are: April 2026 – 93%; May 2026 – 98%.

On a motion by Deputy Chief Ford and seconded by Chief Kerecman, the Coatesville City Police Department was granted accredited status. Chief Hettinger and Chief Splain abstained.

Hamburg Borough Police Review – Presented by Team Leader Captain McGarr

On a motion by Chief Lash and seconded by Chief Zeigler, the Hamburg Borough Police Department was granted accredited status. Chief Hendershot abstained.

Millcreek Township Police Review – Presented by Team Leader Chief Sproveri

Chief Sproveri noted a typo on the report. On page five, two files are listed as non-compliant. This is incorrect. There were no non-compliant files.

On a motion by Chief Haberman and seconded by Chief Hettinger, the Millcreek Township Police Department was granted accredited status. Chief Hendershot abstained.

Narberth Borough Police Review – Presented by Team Leader Chief Murphy

Chief Murphy noted that the assessment team was thoroughly impressed by the agency, having found 0 file maintenance/non-compliant files.

On a motion by Chief Splain and seconded by Chief Peoples, the Narberth Borough Police Department was granted accredited status.

Committee Reports

Assessment Committee

Committee Chairwoman Deputy Chief Ford had no report.

Standards Committee

Committee Chairman Chief Hendershot had presented the Commission with a report from the Standards Committee meeting on May 26th. He also presented a list of tentative changes to the Standards Manual. He discussed the changes, noting that the committee has since made changes to 4.17.1 and will push it out to the Commission shortly.

Chief Murphy questioned if “Hazardous material” would be defined in 3.6.3. Chief Hendershot confirmed that it is.

Chief Hendershot asked the Commission to review the revisions and provide feedback to him by August 1st. The Standards Committee will review all feedback and present the Commission with changes at the next Commission meeting.

Chief Kerecman made a motion to accept the Standards Committee report. Chief Cortazzo seconded the motion. All agreed.

Administrative Committee

Committee Chairman Chief Hettinger presented the Commission with recommended changes to obtaining and maintaining Premier Status agency status. The Committee recommends three additions to the existing criteria:

- 1) Premier Agency excellence can be demonstrated by having no more than 10 files (this number can be discussed) returned for minor file maintenance issues during the reaccreditation file review process.
- 2) To achieve Premier Status (or to keep Premier Status) no files can be made compliant utilizing “Applied Discretion” if it is/was within the police agencies ability to comply.
- 3) Agencies achieving Premier Agency status agree to allow PLEAC to post their most recent reassessment under the PLEAC Sample Assessment folder.

Chief Wagner opposed recommendation (2), insisting that if legislation will not comply with best practices, then the agency should not be considered for Premier Status.

Chief Lash suggested that consideration should be given to recommendation (1) for agencies with newly appointed accreditation managers.

Coordinator Adams discussed his suggestions:

- 1) Ten file maintenances are mentioned; however, nothing is said regarding Non-Compliant issues that get corrected.
- 2) May be subjective option and is hard to manage consistency.
- 3) Due to the amount of work involved in the agency submitting their assessments to PLEAC for posting and solicitor opposition this cannot be enforced.

Coordinator Adams also recommended eliminating file maintenance and reducing it solely to non-compliant.

Chief Benson opposes the removal of file maintenance.

Chief Peoples suggested making the limit in recommendation (1) to a percentage rather than a specific number. Agencies that have less non-applicable standards will reach the limit more quickly than an agency that has more non-applicable standards.

Chief Hettinger asked the Commission to review the proposed changes and submit their feedback to him for the Administrative Committee to review.

Chief Benson noted that the focus should be on recommendations (1) and (2). He also assigned the Assessment Committee to review Coordinator Adam’s suggestion of eliminating file maintenance and solely having non-compliant.

Chief Hendershot made a motion to accept the Assessment Committee report. Chief Lash seconded the motion. All agreed.

Strategic Planning Committee

Committee Chairman Chief Wagner had no report.

Coordinator's Report

Coordinator Adams presented the Commission with his report and the extensions granted to New Sewickley Township Police Department and Throop Borough Police Department. Chief Haberman made a motion to accept the Coordinator's Report. Chief Wagner seconded the motion. All agreed.

Old Business

There was nothing reported under Old Business.

New Business

There was nothing reported under New Business.

For the Good of the Order

Lower Paxton Township Letter

Coordinator Adams discussed the letter he had mailed to Director Adam Kosheba of the Lower Paxton Township Police Department, informing him of his agency's decertification.

Chief Benson Letter

Chief Benson read his letter to the Commission, informing them of his retirement from West Whiteland Township Police Department and Commission Chairman. He will continue to serve on the Commission until the ending of his term.

Fingerprint Compliance

Chief Hettinger noted that some of the assessment reports do not include the required length of fingerprint compliance records required by the Administrative Manual. Chief Benson recommended that this be included in the assessor training at the PLEAC conference.

Coordinator Adams noted that this is addressed somewhat in the new standards proposed updates. However, he will make sure the reports include it.

Date of Next Meeting

The next Regular Commission meeting will be held on at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, October 22, 2026, at the Penn Harris Hotel, Camp Hill, PA.

Adjournment

At 11:43 p.m., a motion was made by Chief Hettinger to adjourn; seconded by Chief Haberman. All agreed.

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Abstentions Noted in Advance			
Commissioner	Business Interest	Agenda Item	Reason for Abstention
Lee Benson	No	Lower Southampton Township Police Department	Assessment Team Member
Frederick Dyroff	No	Mahoning Township Police Department	Own Agency
Jennifer Ford	No	Castle Shannon Borough Police Department	Assessment Team Leader
Jason Hendershot	Yes	Dublin Borough Police Department	LEAS Client
	Yes	Hamburg Borough Police Department	LEAS Client
	Yes	Millcreek Township Police Department	LEAS Client
	No	Quakertown Borough Police Department	Assessment Team Member
Guy Hettinger	Yes	Coatesville City Police Department	Aspirant Client
	Yes	East Norriton Township Police Department	Aspirant Client
David Splain	Yes	Coatesville City Police Department	Aspirant Client
	Yes	East Norriton Township Police Department	Aspirant Client