



# Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Council

**Minutes of the 116<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on September 6, 2018  
Alfred E. Smith Office Building, Room 118  
80 South Swan Street, Albany, NY 12210**

## **1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance**

Division of Criminal Justice Services Executive Deputy Commissioner Michael Green called the 116<sup>th</sup> meeting of the council to order at 10:03 a.m. on September 6, 2018. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Green asked for a moment of silence to honor the members of law enforcement and the armed services who have died since the December meeting.

## **2. Roll Call**

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Chief Gregory Austin** - Rye Brook Village Police Department  
**Superintendent George P. Beach, II** – New York State Police  
**Sergeant Louis Dini** – Suffolk County Police Department, PCNY  
**Chief (Retired) Charles Koenig** – Retired, Ballston Spa Village Police Department  
**Sheriff Robert Maciol** – Oneida County Sheriff's Office  
**Mayor Robert Palmieri** - City of Utica  
**Sheriff Philip Povero** - Ontario County Sheriff's Office  
**Sheriff Barry Virts** – Wayne County Sheriff's Office  
**Mr. Richard Wells** – Police Conference New York  
**Robert E. Worden, Ph.D.** – University at Albany

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Chief Marvin Fischer (Chairperson)** – SUNY Police Farmingdale  
**Chief Mark Henderson** – Brighton Town Police Department  
**Commissioner James O'Neill** - New York City Police Department  
**Supervisor Edmond Theobald** – Town of Manlius

### **OTHER MEETING PARTICIPANTS:**

**Chief James Secreto** – New York City Police Department (*Voting for Commissioner O'Neill*)

## **3. Introductions**

### **DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES STAFF**

Michael C. Green, Executive Deputy Commissioner – DCJS  
Michael Wood, Deputy Commissioner - Office of Public Safety (OPS)  
Johanna Sullivan, Director - OPS

Lisa Marie Coppolo, Esq., Counsel - Office of Legal Services  
Todd Murray - Supervisor of Public Safety Programs – OPS  
Hilary McGrath, Program Manager - OPS Accreditation Unit  
Michael McDonough - OPS Accreditation Unit  
Ashley Onorati - OPS Accreditation Unit

## **OTHER GUESTS**

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Nuzzo – New York State Police  
Cynthia Povero – Ontario County

## **REPRESENTATIVES FROM APPLICANT AGENCIES**

### **Cicero Town Police Department**

Town Supervisor Mark Venesky  
Chief John Snell  
\*Sergeant Steven Amyot  
Sergeant James Meyers

### **Mount Pleasant Town Police Department**

Chief Paul Oliva

### **Niagara Falls City Police Department**

Chief Bryan DalPorto  
\*Lieutenant Ronald Cirrito

### **Onondaga County Sheriff's Office**

Undersheriff Jason Cassalia  
Chief Police Deputy Joseph Ciciarelli  
Lieutenant Crayg Dykes  
Lieutenant Martin Ferguson  
\*Deputy Taryn Earl

### **Oswego City Police Department**

Chief Tory DeCaire  
\*Lieutenant Craig Bateman  
Lieutenant Charles Searor

### **Southampton Town Police Department**

Captain Lawrence Schurek  
\*Sergeant Michael Joyce

### **Southampton Village Police Department**

Chief Thomas Cummings  
\*Lieutenant Suzanne Hurteau  
Lieutenant Chris Wetter  
Detective Kim McMahon

**West Seneca Town Police Department**

Chief Daniel Denz  
Captain Edward Baker

**Yonkers City Police Department**

Captain Patrick Rooney  
\*Lieutenant Joseph Recine

\*Denotes Agency Program Manager in Attendance

**ACTION ITEMS**

**4. Approval of the June 2018 Meeting Minutes**

Sheriff Maciol made a motion to adopt the minutes of the June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 council meeting. Superintendent Beach seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

**5. Approval of Applications for Reaccreditation**

**Cicero Town Police Department** – Chief Austin made a motion to reaccredit the agency, and Superintendent Beach seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

**Mount Pleasant Town Police Department** – Sheriff Povero made a motion to reaccredit the agency and Mr. Wells seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

**Niagara Falls City Police Department** – Mr. Wells made a motion to reaccredit the agency, and Mayor Palmieri seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

**Onondaga County Sheriff's Office** – Sheriff Povero made a motion to reaccredit the agency, and Superintendent Beach seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

**Oswego City Police Department** – Mayor Palmieri made a motion to reaccredit the agency and Mr. Wells seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

**Rye City Police Department** – Sheriff Povero made a motion to reaccredit the agency, and Chief Austin seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

**Southampton Town Police Department** – Superintendent Beach made a motion to reaccredit the agency, and Sergeant Dini seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

**Southampton Village Police Department** – Mr. Wells made a motion to reaccredit the agency, and Sergeant Dini seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

**Tonawanda Town Police Department** – Mr. Wells made a motion to reaccredit the agency, and Mayor Palmieri seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

**West Seneca Town Police Department** – Sheriff Virts made a motion to reaccredit the agency, and Mr. Worden seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

**Yonkers City Police Department** – Superintendent Beach made a motion to reaccredit the agency, and Mr. Wells seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

**6. Presentation of Certificates of Reaccreditation**

**Cicero Town Police Department** – Chief John Snell accepted the Certificate of Accreditation, and the John Kimball O'Neil Certificate of Achievement was awarded to Sergeant Steven Amyot as the program manager.

**Mount Pleasant Town Police Department** – Chief Paul Oliva accepted the Certificate of Accreditation and the John Kimball O'Neil Certificate of Achievement on behalf of the program manager, Lieutenant Sean Forde.

**Niagara Falls City Police Department** – Chief Bryan DalPorto accepted the Certificate of Accreditation, and the John Kimball O’Neil Certificate of Achievement was awarded to Lieutenant Ronald Cirrito as the program manager.

**Onondaga County Sheriff’s Office** – Undersheriff Jason Cassalia accepted the Certificate of Accreditation, and the John Kimball O’Neil Certificate of Achievement was awarded to Deputy Taryn Earl as the program manager.

**Oswego City Police Department** – Chief Tory DeCaire accepted the Certificate of Accreditation, and the John Kimball O’Neil Certificate of Achievement was awarded to Lieutenant Craig Bateman as the program manager.

**Rye City Police Department** – The department was unable to send representatives to the meeting.

**Southampton Town Police Department** – Captain Lawrence Schurek accepted the Certificate of Accreditation, and the John Kimball O’Neil Certificate of Achievement was awarded to Sergeant Michael Joyce as the program manager.

**Southampton Village Police Department** – Chief Thomas Cummings accepted the Certificate of Accreditation, and the John Kimball O’Neil Certificate of Achievement was awarded to Lieutenant Suzanne Hurteau as the program manager.

**Tonawanda Town Police Department** – the department was unable to send representatives to the meeting.

**West Seneca Town Police Department** – Chief Daniel Denz accepted the Certificate of Accreditation, and the John Kimball O’Neil Certificate of Achievement on behalf of the program manager, Assistant Chief Michael Boehringer.

**Yonkers City Police Department** – Captain Patrick Rooney accepted the Certificate of Accreditation, and the John Kimball O’Neil Certificate of Achievement was awarded to Lieutenant Joseph Recine as the program manager.

***At 10:35 am, Commissioner Green announced that there would be a break in the meeting so visitors would have an opportunity to excuse themselves if necessary.***

***The meeting reconvened at 10:45 am.***

## **7. Approval of Annual Compliance Surveys**

The following reports were submitted for approval for the second quarter of 2018:

Beacon City Police Department; Bedford Town Police Department; Bethlehem Town Police Department; Brighton Town Police Department; Broome County Sheriff’s Office; Centre Island Village Police Department; Chautauqua County Sheriff’s Office; Columbia County Sheriff’s Office; Cornwall Town Police Department; Guilderland Town Police Department; Johnson City Village Police Department; Lancaster Town Police Department, Manlius Town Police Department; Ogden Town Police Department; Ossining Village Police Department; Oswego County Sheriff’s Office; Peekskill City Police Department; Scarsdale Village Police Department; Seneca Falls Town Police Department; Suffolk County Sheriff’s Office; Tuckahoe Village Police Department; Utica City Police Department; Warren County Sheriff’s Office; Waterford Town & Village Police Department; Yorktown Town Police Department

Mayor Palmieri made a motion to accept the Annual Compliance Surveys received, and Sergeant Dini seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

## **8. Approval of New Assessor**

Applications were received from one individual applying to be a program assessor for the first time:

Lieutenant (Retired) James Picchi – Geneva Police Department

Hilary McGrath noted that all applications for assessor are vetted for qualifications prior to be presented to the Council. If an applicant is not eligible, their name is not put before the Council.

Sheriff Povero made a motion to accept the individual listed as a new assessor. Sheriff Virts seconded the motion.  
*Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

## 9. Agency Request for a Waiver

Ms. McGrath noted that the Centre Island Village Police Department had indicated they were out of compliance with Standard 13.1, Performance Evaluation System and were requesting that the standard be officially waived by the Council for their agency.

The Council did not act to vote on the waiver since there was not a 2/3 majority present, but the Council members present indicated that they would not be in favor of issuing a waiver for this standard.

There was discussion among council members regarding the agency's non-compliance and how a collective bargaining agreement would affect their need to comply with the standard. Mrs. McGrath explained that agencies are not expected to meet this standard if there is a written collective bargaining agreement in place that prohibits the use of performance evaluations, but that an informal prohibition was not enough to satisfy that requirement.

The Council decided that they would send the chief of the department a letter indicating that the agency would be required to provide to the council either: proof that performance evaluations could not be conducted due to a collective bargaining agreement; or a performance evaluation instrument that will be used to immediately begin conducting performance evaluations on members of the department. The Council agreed that the matter would be re-visited at the December council meeting.

Superintendent Beach made a motion that the Council would send a letter to the Centre Island Police Department outlining what would be required for them to come into compliance with Standard 13.1 by the December meeting. Chief Austin seconded the motion.  
*Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay*

## INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

### 10. Program Updates

**Assessor and Program Manager Training:** One final Program Manager Training is being held in Albany on September 27<sup>th</sup> and one final Assessor training is being held in Albany on September 28<sup>th</sup>, totaling 4 program manager trainings and three assessor trainings held this year. The trainings have been extremely well attended and well received since Mike McDonough, a member of the DCJS Accreditation Unit, began providing the training. Having the training provided by staff allows us to focus on the areas we have found to be problematic and has given the Accreditation Unit the flexibility to provide the courses more often.

**Accreditation Survey:** Mrs. McGrath informed the Council that the accreditation survey developed to obtain information that will provide guidance in the unit's efforts to further promote the program was released and will be closed soon. So far, almost 200 responses have been submitted. The DCJS Office of Justice Research and Performance will be compiling the responses into useful information.

**2018 NYSSA Law Enforcement Supervisor's Training Conference Presentation** – Hilary McGrath and Michael McDonough will be providing a half hour presentation on the Accreditation Program at the conference on September 12<sup>th</sup>. This presentation is part of the 2018 goal of enhancing awareness of the program.

**2019 Meeting Dates** – the following dates were offered as informational. The 2019 meeting dates will be voted on at the December meeting.

March 6  
June 5  
September 4  
December 4

**Council Members** – Mrs. McGrath noted that joint Sheriff's Association/Deputy Sheriff's Association seat was now vacant due to a resignation, leaving three seats currently vacant on the Council. A new list will be provided to Council members. There was further discussion about the process used for filling and renewing council member seats. Mrs. McGrath indicated that DCJS staff work diligently to stay current with nominations, but it is a complex process that involves getting nominations from the nominating entities and then getting approval from the Governor's office. Executive Deputy Commissioner Green assured council members that those whose terms

have expired are considered in “holdover status” and continue to be full and active members of the council until they are reappointed or replaced.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, Mr. Wells made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Superintendent Beach seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.

**The next meeting of the Law Enforcement Accreditation Council is on December 13, 2018 at 10:00 am in Room 118 of the Alfred E. Smith Office building.**

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