



# Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Council

**Minutes of the 115<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on June 7, 2018  
Alfred E. Smith Office Building, Room 118  
80 South Swan Street, Albany, NY 12210**

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

Chief Marvin Fischer called the 115<sup>th</sup> meeting of the council to order at 10:05 a.m. on June 7, 2018. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Chief Fischer 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 Marvin Fischer** – SUNY Police Farmingdale  
**Chief Gregory Austin** - Rye Brook Village Police Department  
**Sergeant Louis Dini** – Suffolk County Police Department, PCNY  
**Chief Mark Henderson** – Brighton Town Police Department  
**Chief (Retired) Charles Koenig** – Retired, Ballston Spa Village Police Department  
**Sheriff Philip Povero** - Ontario County Sheriff's Office  
**Mayor Robert Palmieri** - City of Utica (*arrived at 10:40 am*)  
**Supervisor Edmond Theobald** – Town of Manlius  
**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:**

**Superintendent George P. Beach, II** – New York State Police  
**Commissioner James O'Neill** - New York City Police Department  
**Deputy Thomas Marano** – Orleans County Sheriff's Office  
**Sheriff Robert Maciol** – Oneida County Sheriff's Office

### **OTHER MEETING PARTICIPANTS:**

**Colonel Stephen Smith** – New York State Police (*Voting for Superintendent Beach*)  
**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  
Natasha Harvin, Esq., Counsel - Office of Legal Services  
Todd Murray - Supervisor of Public Safety Programs – OPS  
Hilary McGrath, Program Manager - OPS Accreditation Unit  
Joyce Corsi – OPS Accreditation Unit  
Michael McDonough - OPS Accreditation Unit  
Ashley Onorati - OPS Accreditation Unit  
Ogden Schultz – Audio/Visual, ITS

## **OTHER GUESTS**

### **Mount Vernon City Police Department**

Chief Ritchon Ziadie  
Lieutenant Paul Nawrocki  
Lieutenant Robert Scott  
Lieutenant Anthony McEachin  
Sergeant Gregory Addison  
Officer Karen Buddenhagen

Sergeant Gary Lee, Guilderland Town Police Department (Assessor)

## **REPRESENTATIVES FROM APPLICANT AGENCIES**

### **Binghamton City Police Department**

Captain Larry Hendrickson\*

### **Clarkstown Police Department**

Town Supervisor George Hoehmann  
Chief of Police Raymond McCullagh  
Lieutenant Jeffrey Wanamaker  
Sergeant JoAnne Fratianni\*  
Detective Robert McDonald  
Detective Peter Walker  
PO Frank Carbone  
PO Aaron Gould

### **DeWitt Town Police Department**

Captain John Anton  
Ms. Maureen Buckland\*

### **Dutchess County Sheriff's Office**

Sheriff Adrian Anderson  
Undersheriff Kirk Imperati  
Chief Deputy Jason Mark  
Captain John Watterson  
Captain Gerry Lennon  
Deputy Sheriff Mike Rahilly\*

### **Huntington Bay Village Police Department**

Chief Christopher Jack  
Officer James Newman\*

**New Rochelle City Police Department**

Captain Cosmo Costa  
Lieutenant Edward Hayes\*

**Ontario County Sheriff's Office**

Sheriff Philip Povero  
Deputy William Gallagher\*  
Cindy Povero

**Rensselaer City Police Department**

Chief James Frankoski\*

**Stony Point Town Police Department**

Town Supervisor James Monaghan  
Chief Brian Moore  
Lieutenant Daniel Hylas  
Sergeant Gregory Becker\*

**Tioga County Sheriff's Office**

Sheriff Gary Howard

\*Denotes Agency Program Manager in Attendance

**ACTION ITEMS**

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

Sheriff Povero made a motion to adopt the minutes of the April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 council meeting. Supervisor Theobald seconded the motion. *Motion carried – 12 ayes, 0 nay*

**5. Presentation of Certificates of Reaccreditation**

**Binghamton City Police Department** – Chief Henderson made a motion to reaccredit the agency and Sergeant Dini seconded the motion. Captain Larry Hendrickson accepted the Certificate of Accreditation on behalf of the agency and accepted the John Kimball O'Neil Certificate of Achievement for his work as the program manager. *Motion carried – 12 ayes, 0 nay*

**Clarkstown Town Police Department** – Sergeant Dini made a motion to reaccredit the agency and Chief (Retired) Koenig seconded the motion. Chief Raymond McCullagh accepted the Certificate of Accreditation for the agency and Sergeant JoAnne Fratianni accepted the John Kimball O'Neil Certificate of Achievement as the program manager. *Motion carried – 12 ayes, 0 nay*

**DeWitt Town Police Department** – Supervisor Theobald made a motion to reaccredit the agency and Mr. Wells seconded the motion. Captain John Anton accepted the Certificate of Accreditation for the agency and Maureen Buckland accepted the John Kimball O'Neil Certificate of Achievement as the program manager. *Motion carried – 12 ayes, 0 nay*

**Dutchess County Sheriff's Office** – Sheriff Povero made a motion to reaccredit the agency and Sheriff Virts seconded the motion. Sheriff Adrian Anderson accepted the Certificate of Accreditation for the agency and Deputy Mike Rahilly was awarded the John Kimball O'Neil Certificate of Achievement as the program manager. *Motion carried – 12 ayes, 0 nay*

**Erie County Sheriff's Office** – Sheriff Povero made a motion to reaccredit the agency and Sheriff Virts seconded the motion. The agency was unable to send representatives. *Motion carried – 12 ayes, 0 nay*

**Huntington Bay Village Police Department** – Sergeant Dini made a motion to reaccredit the agency and Mr. Wells seconded the motion. Chief Christopher Jack accepted the Certificate of Accreditation for the agency and Officer James Newman was awarded the John Kimball O’Neil Certificate of Achievement as the program manager.  
*Motion carried – 12 ayes, 0 nay*

**New Rochelle City Police Department** – Chief Austin made a motion to reaccredit the agency and Chief Henderson seconded the motion. Captain Cosmo Costa accepted the Certificate of Accreditation for the agency and Lieutenant Edward Hayes was awarded the John Kimball O’Neil Certificate of Achievement as the program manager.  
*Motion carried – 12 ayes, 0 nay*

**Ontario County Sheriff’s Office** – Sheriff Virts made a motion to reaccredit the agency and Chief Henderson seconded the motion. Sheriff Philip Povero accepted the Certificate of Accreditation for the agency and Deputy William Gallagher was awarded the John Kimball O’Neil Certificate of Achievement as the program manager.  
*Motion carried – 11 ayes, 0 nay, 1 abstention (Povero)*

**Rensselaer City Police Department** – Mr. Wells made a motion to reaccredit the agency and Chief Henderson seconded the motion. Chief James Frankoski accepted the Certificate of Accreditation for the agency and was awarded the John Kimball O’Neil Certificate of Achievement as the program manager.  
*Motion carried – 12 ayes, 0 nay*

**Stony Point Town Police Department** – Sergeant Dini made a motion to reaccredit the agency and Supervisor Theobald seconded the motion. Chief Brian Moore accepted the Certificate of Accreditation for the agency and Sergeant Gregory Baker was awarded the John Kimball O’Neil Certificate of Achievement as the program manager.  
*Motion carried – 12 ayes, 0 nay*

**Tioga County Sheriff’s Office** – Sheriff Povero made a motion to reaccredit the agency and Sheriff Virts seconded the motion. Sheriff Gary Howard accepted the Certificate of Accreditation for the agency and accepted the John Kimball O’Neil Certificate of Achievement for the program manager.  
*Motion carried – 12 ayes, 0 nay*

**At 10:40 am, Chief Fischer 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 10:50 pm. At this point, Mayor Robert Palmieri joined the meeting.**

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

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

Amherst Town Police Department; Cheektowaga Town Police Department; East Hampton Town Police Department; East Rochester Village Police Department; Eastchester Town Police Department; Geneseo Village Police Department; Harrison Town Police Department; Haverstraw Town Police Department; Hudson City Police Department; Liverpool Village Police Department; Monroe Village Police Department; New Windsor Town Police Department; North Syracuse Police Department; Old Westbury Village Police Department; Quogue Village Police Department; Ramapo Town Police Department; Riverhead Town Police Department; Rye Brook Village Police Department; Shelter Island Town Police Department; Suffolk County Police Department; SUNY Police Albany; SUNY Police Alfred; SUNY Police Buffalo State College; SUNY Police Cobleskill; SUNY Police Oneonta; SUNY Police Potsdam; Ulster Town Police Department; Woodbury Town Police Department

Colonel Smith made a motion to accept the Annual Compliance Surveys received, and Mr. Wells seconded the motion.  
*Motion carried – 13 ayes, 0 nay*

## **7. Approval of New Assessors**

Applications were received from four individuals applying to be program assessors for the first time:

Sergeant JoAnne Fratianni, Clarkstown Town Police Department

Sergeant (Retired) Clifford Weeks, Woodbury Town Police Department  
Sergeant Michael Joyce, Southampton Town Police Department  
Mark Fetting (Retired), DCJS and Fulton County Sheriff's Office

Mr. Wells made a motion to accept the individuals listed as new assessors. Supervisor Theobald seconded the motion.  
*Motion carried – 13 ayes, 0 nay*

## 8. Approval of Revision to Council Policy

Ms. McGrath recommended a revision to the council policy "Site Visits". She explained that the procedure for conducting site visits has become more robust since the practice first began in January 2015 and the proposed revisions would align the policy to the actual procedures used now by accreditation unit staff.

Supervisor Theobald made a motion to accept the revision to the council policy. Mr. Wells seconded the motion.  
*Motion carried – 13 ayes, 0 nay*

## INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

### 9. Mount Vernon Police Department Presentation

The Mount Vernon City Police Department presented to the council on the compliance issues that were uncovered during a September 2017 site visit and subsequent full self-assessment of the agency. The compliance issues were extensive and require council intervention if the agency was to be allowed to remain an accredited agency.

Chief Richton Ziadie and Officer Karen Buddenhagen, the agency program manager, outlined the various issues that they believe led to the agency's program falling into non-compliance. This included significant turnover in leadership and upper-management positions within the agency from 2015 through 2017. Since the discovery of the problems, the agency has committed itself to a full review of all polices, including revisions necessary to bring the agency into compliance with the standards. They submitted a corrective action plan to DCJS accreditation unit staff and have provided monthly status reports as to their progress. On May 30<sup>th</sup>, Accreditation Unit members Hilary McGrath and Mike McDonough spent an entire day on-site to review files, conduct interviews and make observations. The agency has made significant progress toward regaining full compliance with program standards.

The council agreed that the agency should be allowed to remain in the program and will draft a letter of their decision along with instruction to the assessment team who will conduct their next assessment (see "New Business" section of minutes). The agency's next assessment will be conducted as soon as reasonably possible to ensure that full compliance has been met.

### 10. Program Updates

**Withdrawal of the Fulton City Police Department:** Ms. McGrath informed the council that the Fulton City Police Department has opted to withdraw from the program due to maintenance issues within their program.

**Assessor and Program Manager Training:** Training has been held in Westchester County and Monroe Counties. So far, 40 people have attended the Assessor Training and 49 people have attended the Program Manager training. The unit plans to conduct two more program manager trainings in Oneonta and Albany and one more assessor training in Albany

**Accrednet Meeting:** Hilary and Ashley represented New York State at the annual Accrednet meeting May 16-18. Accrednet is a group of accreditation program administrators from 26 states and the International Association of College Law Enforcement Agencies. The group enhances our respective programs by sharing information about what each state is doing within their programs so that others may benefit from that information. Mrs. McGrath explained that there is no existing training for law enforcement accreditation program administrators – the Accrednet group is the only form of professional development for DCJS accreditation unit staff.

A sample of topics discussed at this year's meeting included medical marijuana (specifically if states have laws regarding police officers' use of medical marijuana if they are legitimately prescribed it); criteria for determining accrediting with conditions or enhanced monitoring; and program management. Philadelphia Police Commissioner Richard Ross addressed the group, as did Pennsylvania Attorney General Joshua Shapiro.

The group agreed at this year's meeting to become more formalized by adopting Bylaws, a Mission Statement and Vision Statement. A website will be developed. This is in the infancy stages; there are no dues and no commitment to be part of members of the group. It's simply a way to have more of a presence as an organized entity.

**Accreditation Survey:** Mrs. McGrath informed the Council that the unit is close to being able to release the accreditation survey that is being developed to obtain information that will provide guidance in the unit's efforts to further promote the program.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Council will issue a letter indicating it is fully aware of compliance issues during the current period of accreditation, the efforts that have been made to regain compliance, and direct that their decision to allow the Mount Vernon City Police Department to remain in the program be communicated to the future assessment team.

Mayor Palmieri made the motion to accept the proposed action, and Mr. Wells seconded it.

*Motion carried – 13 ayes, 0 nay*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, Mayor Palmieri made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Theobald seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

**The next meeting of the Law Enforcement Accreditation Council is on September 6, 2018 at 10:00 am in Room 118 of the Alfred E. Smith Office building.**