



CONNECTICUT POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS & TRAINING



DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION

Youth Diversion Policy & Curriculum Working Subgroup Meeting
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
10:00 a.m.

Via Microsoft Teams

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Meeting ID: 273 809 023 233 52

Passcode: N9qo7tF2

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chief Spagnolo called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present: Chief Thomas Wydra, Ms. Martha Stone, Capt. Joann Peterson, Chief Fernando Spagnolo, SASA Marc Vallen, Officer Sharif Afifi, Sgt. Cherelle Carr, Dr. Lisa Simone, Ms. Thea Montanez, Ms. Marilyn Andrews

Committee Members Not Present: All Members present.

Others in Attendance: Administrative Assistant Lois Pisani, Attorney Jessica Gouveia

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve meeting minutes of January 21, 2026 was made by SASA Marc Vallen; seconded by Ms. Stone and Chief Spagnolo accepted meeting minutes as written. No discussion and no abstentions.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Review of Recommended Changes to the Basic Police Recruit Training Curriculum Specific to Juveniles

Chief Wydra discussed that the curriculum surrounding juvenile law is being updated. Chief Wydra indicated that the survey that Capt. Peterson is working on has not been completed as of yet. Capt. Peterson is working with Dr. Mascari in compiling the survey. Once the survey is complete, it will be shared with the committee for further input. It is hopeful that the survey will be completed by mid-March. He also states that the Youth Diversion policy will be put forth to the POST Council special meeting which is scheduled for February 26, 2026. The agenda for POST Council special meeting will be shared with the committee.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Chief Spagnolo discussed the status of the liaison for Next Gen and form creation committee. Chief Wydra stated that he will reach out to Captain Patten Byrd from CSP to discuss this form creation.

Ms. Montanez mentioned that she received feedback from the JJPOC and they are concerned about a delay in the implantation of the policy due to technical issues with reporting. Chief Spagnolo mentions that this policy should be moved forward without the technology in place.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (AS NEEDED)

There was no executive session.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chief Wydra stated that he will share the survey with this committee once it is received by him. Also, a copy of the POST Council Special Meeting agenda will be emailed to this committee in case they would like to attend.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.