

Minutes of the meeting of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy Board of Trustees held at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in the Brian MacMaster Board Room on **Friday, March 14, 2025.**

**Board Members Attending:**

Chief Charles Rumsey IV – Chair  
Commissioner Michael Sauschuck  
Commissioner Randall Liberty  
Colonel William Ross

Major Jason King  
DA Kathryn Slattery  
Ms. Francine Stark  
Ms. Elizabeth Ward Saxl  
Det. Seth Blodgett  
Officer Matthew Dana  
Dr. Michael Kamorski  
Mr. Thomas DiTomaso  
Mr. Eric Dos Santos

**Board Members Excused:**

Deputy Chief David Bushey  
Sheriff Scott Nichols  
Colonel Dan Scott  
Officer Mateo Mendoza

**Participants:**

Director Jack Peck  
AAG Andrew Black  
AAG Kathryn Horst  
Karen Green, Board Clerk  
Cassandra Pierce, Asst. Board Clerk

**Guests:**

Dr. Wally Frazer – Toned Out LLP

**I. Item One on the Agenda: Call to Order**

Chair Rumsey called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**II. Item Two on the Agenda: Roll Call and Introduction of Board Members**

Chair Rumsey requested that the roll call be conducted and stated there was a quorum. He then explained that the first order of business for today's meeting would be a rule making hearing regarding a rule proposed by the Board, amendments to Chapter 3, Entrance Standards. The purpose of this hearing is to hear testimony and comments on the proposed rule. He noted for the record that there were no members of the public at the meeting seeking to testify on these proposed rules and that being the case, Chair Rumsey closed the Hearing at 9:07 a.m. but stated that members of the public could submit written comments up to close of business, Monday, March 24, 2025.

Chair Rumsey requested that introductions be made as there was a guest and new legal counsel present. After the introductions, Chair Rumsey led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Rumsey then requested that Item 1 under New Business be taken out of order.

**X. Item Ten on the Agenda: New Business**

1. Approved Vendor Discussion.

Asst. Director Ryder told the Board members that Dr. Fraser reached out to the Academy staff, as he was interested in becoming an approved vendor to deliver training. He said the Dr. Fraser has been delivering Wellness training through his company, Toned Out, to law enforcement and other first responders for quite a while and wished to be approved to deliver Board approved lesson plans for Law Enforcement.

Dr. Fraser spoke of his 10 years of working with law enforcement in Piscataquis County and is an approved wellness provider for the Department of Public Safety, the Maine State Police and Law enforcement agencies in Penobscot County. Over the past 5-6 years he's taught classes in Self-Care, Wellness and Trauma.

Chair Rumsey requested that the Board move the discussions of the Complaint Review Committee Cases out of order as there was a quorum.

**X. NEW BUSINESS - Complaint Review Committee Cases**

**MOTION: To move the Maine Criminal Justice Academy Board of Trustees into Executive Session pursuant to Title 25 MRS§ 2806-A (10) to discuss confidential business matters.**

Motion made by Colonel Scott and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.

**Motion Carried Unanimously at 9:20 a.m.** The meeting was reconvened at 10:37 a.m.

1. Board Case 2024-002

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to revoke the Law Enforcement Officer's certification of eligibility for being convicted of a Class C crime.**

Motion made by Colonel Scott and seconded by Ms. Stark. **Motion Carried**

2. Board Case 2024-004

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to revoke the officer's Correction and Part Time Law Enforcement certifications based on conduct constituting the Class B crime of Gross Sexual Assault.**

Motion made by Mr. DiTomasso and seconded by Colonel Scott.

**Motion Carried with Commissioner Liberty recusing himself.**

For the discussion Commissioner Liberty left the room at 9:25 a.m. and returned at 9:29 a.m.

3. Board Case 2024-008

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to enter into a Consent Agreement with 3 years Probation for the conduct of the Class D crime of OUI.**

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Dr. Kamorski.

**Motion Carried with three opposed.**

4. Board Case 2024-034

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action due to insufficient evidence of disqualifying conduct.**

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Colonel Scott. **Motion Carried**

5. Board Case 2024-043

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action due to insufficient evidence of disqualifying conduct.**

Motion made by Colonel Scott and seconded by Dr. Kamorski.

**Motion Carried with Commissioner Liberty recusing himself.** For the Discussion Commissioner Liberty left the room at 9:47 a.m. and returned at 9:50 a.m.

6. Board Case 2024-047

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action due to insufficient evidence of disqualifying conduct.**

Motion made by Dr. Kamorski and seconded by Colonel Scott. **Motion Carried.**

7. Board Case 2024-059

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to issue a Letter of Guidance for violation of Correction's policy.**

Motion made by Colonel Scott and seconded by Dr. Kamorski.

**Motion Carried with Commissioner Liberty recusing himself.** During the discussion Commissioner Liberty left the room at 9:56 a.m. and returned at 10:03 a.m.

8. Board Case 2024-070

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action due to insufficient evidence of disqualifying conduct.**

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Colonel Scott.

**Motion Carried.**

9. Board Case 2024-071

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to enter into a Consent Agreement and issue a letter of reprimand for conduct constituting the Class D crime of Falsifying a Public Record.**

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Colonel Scott.

**Motion Carried with 3 opposed.**

10. Board Case 2024-074

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to Reinstate the Part Time Law Enforcement Certificate.**

Motion made by Colonel Scott and seconded by Dr. Kamorski.

**Motion Carried with Officer Dana recusing himself.** For the discussion Officer Dana left the room at 10:14 a.m. and returned at 10:16 a.m.

11. Board Case 2024-079

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to grant the waiver with no conditions to attend LEPS Phase II.**

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Colonel Scott.

**Motion Carried.**

12. Board Case 2024-081

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to grant the waiver to attend the BLETP.**

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Colonel Scott.

**Motion Carried.**

13. Board Case 2024-085

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to issue a Letter of Guidance for negligent handling of firearms.**

Motion made by Colonel Scott and seconded by Dr. Kamorski.

**Motion Carried with 1 opposed.**

14. Board Case 2024-088

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to grant the waiver to attend the BLETP, and to issue a Letter of Guidance.**

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Ms. Stark. **Motion Carried.**

15. Board Case 2024-064

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action due to insufficient evidence of disqualifying conduct.**

Motion made by Dr. Kamorski and seconded by Colonel Scott. **Motion Carried.**

16. Board Case 2024-067

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee that the Board vote to administratively dismiss the case, as the individual's Certificate was previously revoked.**

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Colonel Scott.  
**Motion Carried.**

At this time Chair Rumsey requested to move #2 under New Business out of Order, while there was still a quorum.

**X. Item Ten of the Agenda: New Business**

2. CRC Case # 2023-064 Discussion.

**MOTION: To table this case until members of the Board have time to review the Hearing Officer's findings.**

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Colonel Scott. **Motion carried.**

After some discussion, Chair Rumsey requested a short recess so that the video of the above case could be set up for viewing. Meeting recessed at 11:06 a.m. and was back in session at 11:16 a.m. After viewing the video,

Chair Rumsey requested that all Board members review the case paperwork so the findings could be voted on at the next meeting.

**III. Item Three on the Agenda: Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**MOTION: To accept the minutes of January 10, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting and to have it placed on file with the secretary.**

Motion made by Ms. Stark and seconded by Major King. **Motion Carried**

**IV. Item Four on the Agenda: Certifications, Waivers and Extensions**

**A. Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Requests:**

**1. Eric Bourn – South Berwick Police Department**

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training, EVOC and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 6/30/2025.**

Moved by Colonel Ross and seconded by Mr. DiTomaso. **Motion Carried.**

**2. Eric Dyson – Maine State Police**

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training, EVOC and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 11/18/2025.**

Moved by Major King and seconded by Officer Dana. **Motion Carried.**

**3. James Frauenhoffer - Machias Police Department**

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training, EVOC and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 6/9/2025.**

Moved by Dr. Kamorski and seconded by Colonel Scott. **Motion Carried.**

At this time Chair Rumsey requested that the Board break for lunch at 11:30 a.m. The meeting resumed at 12:07 p.m.

**4. Bernard Gannon - Belfast Police Department**

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training, EVOC and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 2/27/2026.**

Moved by Mr. DiTomaso and seconded by Officer Dana. **Motion Carried.**

5. Carly McKenna – Maine State Police

**MOTION:** To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training, and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 11/18/2025.

Moved by Officer Dana and seconded by Major King. **Motion Carried.**

6. Ryan McHugh – Livermore Falls Police Department

**MOTION:** To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training, EVOC and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 9/8/2025.

Moved by Colonel Scott and seconded by Mr. DiTomasso. **Motion Carried.**

7. Omar Monarrez - Bangor Police Department

**MOTION:** To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 10/7/2025.

Moved by Major King and seconded by Colonel Scott. **Motion Carried.**

8. Conner Nadeau - Biddeford Police Department

**MOTION:** To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 1/17/2026.

Moved by Colonel Scott and seconded by Major King. **Motion Carried.**

9. William Palmer – Lewiston Police Department

**MOTION:** To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training, EVOC and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 2/14/2026.

Moved by Colonel Scott and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck. **Motion Carried.**

10. Andrew Parker - Belfast Police Department

**MOTION:** To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training, EVOC and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 11/12/2025.

Moved by Colonel Scott and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck. **Motion Carried.**

11. William Reed - Knox County Sheriff's Office

**MOTION:** To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 6/20/2025.

Moved by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Colonel Scott. **Motion Carried.**

12. Lukas Serna - Portland Police Department

**MOTION:** To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training, and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 11/12/2025.

Moved by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Colonel Scott.  
**Motion Carried with Major King recusing himself from the vote.**

13. Michael Szilagyi - York Police Department

**MOTION:** To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training, EVOC and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 12/13/2025.

Moved by Colonel Scott and seconded by Mr. DiTomasso. **Motion Carried.**

**B. Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Extension Requests:**

Director Peck presented the following Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Requests.

1. Dylan Burk – Gardiner Police Department

**MOTION:** To approve the 180-day Basic Law Enforcement Training Program waiver extension.

Moved by Ms. Stark and seconded by Major King. **Motion Carried.**

**C. Basic Corrections Training Program Waiver Request:**

1. None at this time.

**D. Basic Corrections Training Program Extension Requests:**

1. Linda Fortin – Somerset County Sheriff's Office

**MOTION:** To approve the Corrections Training Program 180-day Extension Request to attend the 86<sup>th</sup> BCTP in July of 2025.

Moved by Ms. Stark and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck. **Motion Carried.**



2. Vincent Sawyer – Piscataquis County Sheriff's Office

**MOTION: To approve the Corrections Training Program 180-day Extension Request so he can attend the March 24, 2025, BCTP.**

Moved by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.  
**Motion Carried.**

3. Lance Owens – Piscataquis County Sheriff's Office

**MOTION: To approve the Corrections Training Program 180-day Extension Request to attend the 86<sup>th</sup> BCTP in July of 2025.**

Moved by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Mr. DiTomasso. **Motion Carried.**

4. LaShawne Hammond – Androscoggin County Sheriff's Office

**MOTION: To approve the Corrections Training Program 180-day Extension Request so he will be medically cleared to retake the BCTP.**

Moved by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Ms. Stark. **Motion Carried.**

**E. Law Enforcement Pre-service Program Waiver Requests:**

1. Dalton Dunnells – Dexter Police Department.

**MOTION: To approve the Law Enforcement Pre-service Waiver Request upon successful completion of at least 80 hours of field training (LEPS Phase III).**

Moved by Major King and seconded by Commissioner Liberty. **Motion Carried.**

2. Chief Marc Podschlne – Eastport Police Department.

**MOTION: To approve the Law Enforcement Pre-service Waiver Request upon successful completion of at least 80 hours of field training (LEPS Phase III).**

Moved by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Dr. Kamorski.  
**Motion Carried with two in opposition.**

**F. Part-time Law Enforcement Officer 1040 Hour Extension Requests:**

1. Charles Ball – Calais Police Department

**MOTION: To approve the Part-time Law Enforcement Officer 1040 Hour Extension Request of 250 hours.**

Moved by Mr. Dos Santos and seconded by Ms. Stark. **Motion Denied.**

**G. Basic Judicial Marshal School Extension Requests:**

1. Robert Flynn – Judicial Marshal Service

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Judicial Marshal School Extension Request of 180 days so he can attend the March 2026 Basic Marshal School.**

Moved by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Ms. Stark. **Motion Carried.**

**H. Course Certification Requests:**

Director Peck presented the new Course Certification requests.

1. Juvenile Basic Corrections Training Program – JBCTP  
Additional hours and removal of a 1-hour course.

**MOTION: To approve the Course Certification Requests for an extra 1/2 hour for the “Resident Intake, Release & Classification” course, an extra 1/2 hour for the “Fires & Fire Safety” course, an extra 1/2 hour for the “Facility Paperwork” course, decrease 1/2 hour for the “Lobby, Visitation and Mail Procedures” course and remove the 1-hour “Video Display Terminal” course for the Juvenile Basic Corrections Training Program.**

Motion made by Major King and seconded by Commissioner Liberty. **Motion Carried.**

2. Brady/Giglio Issues in Law Enforcement – Probation and Parole

**MOTION: To approve the Course Certification Request for the “Brady/Giglio Issues in Law Enforcement” for the Basic Probation and Parole Training Program.**

Motion made by Ms. Stark and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck. **Motion Carried.**

3. Probation Violations – Probation and Parole

**MOTION: To approve the Course Certification Request for “Probation Violations” for the Basic Probation and Parole Training Program.**

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Colonel Ross.  
**Motion Carried.**

4. Law Enforcement Officer Stress and Wellness - 2025 Mandatory Training

**MOTION: To approve the Course Certification Request of the 2025 Mandatory Training, “Law Enforcement Officer Stress and Wellness”.**

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Commissioner Liberty.  
**Motion Carried.**

**I. Course/Program completion Certifications issued by the Director.**

Director Peck presented the list of the one hundred and thirty-three certifications that were issued or suspended since the Board Meeting on January 14, 2025.

**MOTION: To accept the 58 Certifications that were issued and the 75 Certifications suspended by Director Peck on behalf of the Board since the Board meeting held on January 14, 2025.**

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Commissioner Liberty.

**Motion Carried.**

**V. Item Five on the Agenda: Committee Reports**

**A. Complaint Committee: Major Jason King**

1. No report at this time.

**B. Administrative Rules Committee: Colonel Dan Scott**

1. No updates at this time.

**C. Law Enforcement Training Committee: Deputy Chief David Bushey**

1. No report at this time.

**D. Corrections Training Committee: Commissioner Randall Liberty**

Commissioner Liberty said that they graduated 58 Officers from the Basic Corrections Training Program last week and the next class starts on the 24<sup>th</sup> with 45 students signed up so far. He told the Board that the 3 regional training sites were doing well, the committee expects to complete the new curriculum for the BCTP, minus the MERC/MARC transition by July and hope to also meet the July deadline for the new Basic Probation and Parole Training Program's curriculum.

**E. Policy Standards Committee: Dr. Michael Kamorski**

Dr. Kamorski told the Board that the committee has drafted Standard Policy 15, and it has gone through the committee and been seen by Director Peck, Chair Rumsey and AAG Andrew Black. The AG's office will continue to work with the Committee and bring it to the Board for review so it can be formulated into a Rule format.

**VI. Item Six on the Agenda: Report from the Chair – Chief Charles Rumsey IV**

Chair Rumsey spoke on the following topics:

1. In January, I met with Brian Schuth, who is Eastport's manager. He's concerned in general about the state of law enforcement recruiting and retention in Washington County generally, but also about the challenge his Chief has faced with getting a waiver from the Academy for his service with the Border Patrol. We had a great conversation, and he appreciated learning about the dedication of our MCJA staff, to include how busy they are and how the waiver process works. I know this is a long-term goal, but hopefully as our strategic plan and job/task analysis progress, we can consider how to institute a bridge course for applicants who don't meet our requirements for a waiver but do have substantial law enforcement experience.

2. We have an applicant to fill the open position left by Nathan Poore, and hope to have the person here for our May meeting.
3. I've made some changes to committee assignments. Thank you to everyone for your willingness to serve where you are needed – please let me know if there are issues or if you feel you are being under-utilized!
4. Mike Kamorski is our new chair of the Policy Standards Review Committee, please expect that he and his team will be bringing us updates for review on a regular basis this year.
5. Thank you to Major King for taking on the role of chair of the Complaint Review Committee, and to the committee members for their recent and busy informal conference day.
6. I've created a Board calendar for the things we do on an infrequent or annual basis, please take a look and let me know if there are items you feel should be added.
7. Please share your thoughts on rulemaking this morning, and your preference for continuing with these rulemaking sessions at the beginning of our regular meetings vs. having special meetings.
8. Thank you to the Board members who have volunteered to help with our 3-member panels for dismissed cadets, your help is greatly appreciated.
9. Deputy Chief Bushey represented the Board at a recent BCTP graduation ceremony, thank you to Dave and to the MCJA staff who make those such great events.
10. Representative Stephan Bunker has sponsored a bill which would add a new minimum policy standard to our list. This mandatory policy standard will address Brady/Giglio information.
11. I've been speaking with Commissioner Sauschuck, Director Peck, Assistant Director Ryder, and Deputy Chief Bushey regarding my vision for statewide mandatory training for law enforcement on active shooter response. This is something I anticipate we'll be working on this year with an eye toward implementing in 2027.
12. In the next few weeks, I hope to meet with Academy Staff, Deputy Chief Bushey, and representatives for the Mandatory LE training committee, to learn more about the committee's inception, operation, and timeline.
13. I submitted written testimony in opposition to LD 723, which aims to require the Academy to develop a non-residential training program.

## **VII. Item Seven on the Agenda: Report from the Director – Director Jack Peck**

Director Peck spoke on the following topics.

The largest Basic Law Enforcement Training Program (BLETP) class that started on January 21<sup>st</sup> just started week eight of their eighteen-week program. Week eight is referred to as “Crash Week” as the cadets will be instructed and properly trained on how to conduct a crash investigation. As of today, we have 78 remaining in the program. Three left voluntarily and one was dismissed for an integrity violation.

The 84<sup>th</sup> Basic Correction Training Program graduated on March 5<sup>th</sup>. The keynote speaker was Maine House of Representatives and Chair of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee, Tavis Rock Hasenfus. The other guest speakers were Oxford County Jail Administrator Lt. Kaitlyn Armstrong and Maine State Prison Deputy Warden David Simpson. The graduation ceremony was very well attended, and fifty-eight correctional professionals earned their certification.

The 85<sup>th</sup> BCTP will start on Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. Currently forty-eight correction cadets have enrolled in the program.

Director Peck provided testimony in opposition to L.D.'s 639 and 723 on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Both bills were similar in that they seek to remove the “residential” language currently in statute. The intent of the proposed legislation is to allow for a non-residential, day-time Academy.

On March 4, 2025, the Academy hosted a two-day training for “Struggle Well”. This program enables officers to prepare, plan and implement an individualized program for personal post-traumatic growth. We hosted this same training in January, and it was very well received.

During the month of March, Academy staff will host and provide training for Methods of Instruction, Physical Fitness Testing Protocols, Mechanics of Arrest Restraint and Control Instructor and Crime Scene Investigation.

Chief's Day for the BLETP class will be held on March 26<sup>th</sup>. Chief's, Sheriff's and command staff are invited to the Academy to meet the Cadre and training staff and have lunch with their Cadets.

Assistant Attorney General Andrew Black will retire at the end of the month. He has provided legal counsel to the Academy for the last ten years and his wisdom and experience will be missed.

The Maine Chief's of Police Association's monthly meeting was held at the Academy on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Weekly meetings regarding the renovation and expansion of the in-service or "C" building continue. Construction is scheduled to begin May and last until December. This should allow for further capacity for BLETP, BCTP and in-service billeting

### **VIII. Item Eight on the Agenda: Report from the Assistant Director-Lincoln Ryder**

Assistant Director Ryder spoke on the following topics.

#### **Additional course offerings completed since the January 2024 meeting:**

Jan 6-17, 2025	Law Enforcement Preservice --Phase II, MCJA, 25 students
Jan 6 – Feb 14, 2025	Juvenile Basic Corrections Training Program, 7 students
Jan 14-16, 2025	Standardized Field Sobriety Instructor Course, 19 students
Jan 21-March 5, 2025	84 <sup>th</sup> Basic Corrections Training Program, 58 students
Feb 10-13, 2025	Interactive Use of Force Instructor Course, 24 students
Feb 12, 2025	Drug Recognition Expert Instructor, 3 students
Feb 18 – 28, 2025	Drug Evaluation & Classification School (DRE), 17 students
Feb 27-28, 2025	Electronic Speed Measurement Device Instructor, 6 students
March 3-14, 2025	Methods of Instruction, 18 students
March 10, 2025	Breath Testing Device Site Coordinator, 20 students
March 12-14, 2025	Police Training Officer Course, Augusta PD, 6 students

#### **Staff Update:**

OAI Cheryl Twitchell, who was the primary support to the BLETP program left service this month to take a position in the Department of Marine Resources. A hiring is currently underway and we have a pool of 18 applicants for the position. We hope to have the position filled by early April.

#### **Building Update:**

We continue to work with staff and the Bureau of General Services to identify and correct issues with the building. We are currently experiencing issues in "A" building with water intrusion during high wind/rain events in 2 rooms which are being worked on by BGS. Additionally, after reviewing BLETP cadet surveys for the 46<sup>th</sup> BLETP, we identified ongoing issues with the hot water capacity in "A" building which are being worked on to increase capacity and recovery time of the system to better accommodate the large class size.

### **Grants:**

COPS grant for FY24 SAFER OUTCOMES: Enhancing De-Escalation and Crisis Response Training for Law Enforcement is still in beginning phases of implementation. We're in the RFP process to identify a vendor to conduct a Job Task Analysis and Curriculum Development for a BLETP update and integration of De-Escalation and Crisis Response Training. Three vendors have submitted bids, and the RFP evaluation process will occur by early April with the target of a resulting contract by the end of April. A project manager will be sought to administer the project in the next month or so.

We sent a notice through Maine Chiefs of Police Association and Maine Sheriffs Association to attempt to recruit 20 SMEs to work on the project and serve as the primary cadre of instructors for the curriculum. These SMEs will attend the Force Science Institute's Realistic De-escalation Instructor Course April 16-17 hosted at the Academy. Unfortunately, response / engagement was extremely low, and staff received responses from only 2 SMEs. To fill the ranks, Academy Staff have been actively recruiting SMEs over the past 2 weeks to meet the need. We currently have 12 SMEs confirmed for the assignment / training. Additional work continues for recruitment.

### **Rulemaking:**

The revision to Chapter 3: Entrance Standards is still in progress with the conclusion of the public hearing today to collect comments and the end of written comment period on March 24, 2025. Staff will work with AAG Horst to craft suggested responses for the comments for Board consideration at the May 9, 2025, meeting.

### **Annual Report:**

The completion of the annual report is still underway and due to issues with errors in reporting and agencies failing to report on time (both requiring significant additional staff resources in follow-up), progress has been slow. Completion of the report is expected by April 1, 2025, when it is due for submission to The Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

### **IX. Item Nine of the Agenda: Old Business**

None at this time.

### **X. Item Ten of the Agenda: New Business**

#### **1. Approved Vendor Discussion – Assistant Director Ryder**

Assistant Director Ryder explained to the Board the procedure the Academy has specifically worded MOUs with the two current vendors (Dirigo Safety and Lexipol-PoliceOne) that provide online training for LEPS-Phase I and provide online training for the mandatory topics for both Law Enforcement and Corrections every year. The Academy provides them with lesson plans, and they develop online curriculum for their customers.

Chair Rumsey recapped the earlier discussion with Dr. Wally Fraser, the owner of Toned Out LLP, stating that it was Dr. Fraser's hope to also be a vendor, which might lead his company to be listed on the Academy's website as an approved vendor.

When asked for his input, AAG Black stated that the MOUs which are in place right now should be looked at by the AG's Office to see what the process is for the Academy's vendors and to see if contracts need to be in place.

Chair Rumsey asked if there was any other business the members had and then noted that there was one other item he would like to talk about.

He stated that he wanted to bid a fond farewell to the Board's Counsel, AAG Andrew Black, who would be retiring from State service at the end of March. AAG Black has served the Board for ten years and has given great legal advice and counsel over the years. He then presented a card with two gift cards from the Board to Andrew.

Director Peck presented AAG Black with a plaque as a recognition of his time with the board.

AAG Black thanked the Board for all the things he learned over the past 10 years. He said he'd worked with three Academy Directors and many Board members in multiple capacities during that time and that working with this Board was refreshing, because of the commitment and ethics displayed. He said he'd miss this Board, the conversations and the friendships he has made.

**XI. Item Eleven on the Agenda: Adjournment**

Chair Rumsey called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**MOTION: To adjourn the March 14, 2025, Maine Criminal Justice Academy  
Board of Trustees Meeting at 1:50 p.m.**

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.

**Motion Carried.**

  
Mr. Mateo Mendoza