

MAGAZINE



John R. Desmarais, President • New England Chiefs of Police



90th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Congratulations John R. Desmarais, the Board of Officers, the Executive Board and the Chiefs of Police and their families for a productive and successful year.

Best wishes to the new Board of Officers and Executive Board on the commencement of their term of office.

Special thanks to the Chiefs of Police, the business and professional community and many individuals for their continued support as we begin the Annual Publication for 2014 – 2015.

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Special thanks to photographer Chief Peter King (Ret.)

BOARD OF OFFICERS 2014–2015



Chief John R. Desmarais Cumberland, RI President



Chief Kevin J. Hale Ansonia, CT Immediate Past President



Chief Theodore Smith Lincoln, NH Incoming President



Chief John D. Coyle North Attleboro, MA Executive Director



Chief Douglas Johnston Springfield, VT 2nd Vice President



Chief Ross A. Atstupenas Blackstone, MA 3rd Vice President



Chief Theodor G. Short Eliot, ME 4th Vice President



Chief Michael E. Metzler Seymour, CT 5th Vice President



Chief Brian W. Sullivan Lincoln, RI Sergeant-At-Arms



Chief George L. Kelley, III Pawtucket, RI Treasurer



Chief Louis J. Fusaro, Sr.
Norwich, CT
Secretary

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE 2014–2015

OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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John Desmarais, Cumberland, RI

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

John D. Coyle, North Attleboro, MA

TREASURER

George L. Kelley, III, Pawtucket, RI

SECRETARY

Louis J. Fusaro, Sr., Norwich, CT

CHAPLAIN

Rev. David A. Costa, North Attleboro, MA

CHAPLAIN EMERITUS

Rev. Bartley MacPhaidin, CSC., Easton, MA

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Theodore Smith, Lincoln, NH

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Douglas Johnston, Springfield, VT

3RD VICE PRESIDENT

Ross A. Atstupenas, Blackstone, MA

4TH VICE PRESIDENT

Theodor G. Short, Eliot, ME

5TH VICE PRESIDENT

Michael E. Metzler, Seymour, CT

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Brian W. Sullivan, Lincoln, RI

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Charles D. Reynolds, Dover, NH

CHIEF COUNSEL

Aram P. Jarret, Esquire, North Smithfield, RI

STAFF ACCOUNTANT

Edward F. Yazbak, Slatersville, RI

JUSTICE SYSTEMS TRAINING

& RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Robert W. McKenna, Bristol, RI

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Peter King, Raynham, MA

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

Mark Leonard, Veazie, ME

I.A.C.P. REPRESENTATIVES

Terrence M. Cunningham, Wellesley, MA

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Peter P. Morency, Berlin, NH Gerald B. Schofield, Freeport, ME Paul D. Fitzgerald, Berlin, CT Mark W. Leahy, Northborough, MA Patrick Foley, Douglas, MA Robert Cormier, Tilton, NH Kevin L. Schofield, Bridgton, ME Rick L. Hayes, Putnam, CT Donald B. Hull, Stowe, VT

PAST PRESIDENTS

1961-62 FRANCIS McGRANAGHAN Manchester, NH

1926-28	GEORGE HILL	Worcester, MA
1928-29	ELLIS CRANSTON	Warwick, RI
1929-30	CHARLES WHEELER	Bridgeport, CT
1930-31	FREDERICK COE	Woonsocket, RI
1931-32	H. ALLEN RUTHERFORD	Brookline, MA
1932-33	HARRY ROWE	Auburn, ME
1933-34	MICHAEL HEALY	Manchester, NH
1934-35	GEORGE ABBOTT	Wallingford, CT
1935-36	EDWARD TIGHE	Revere, MA
1936-37	THOMAS CROWLEY	Bangor, ME
1937-38	MICHAEL CARROLL	Meriden, CT
1938-39	ARCHIE BULLOCK	W. Harwich, MA
1939-40	GEORGE COLLETTE	Central Falls, RI
1940-41	GEORGE HUBBARD	Laconia, NH
1941-42	WILLIAM ROACH	Waterbury, CT
1942-43	MELVIN MOORE	
1943-44	WILLIAM KINDELAN	Warwick, RI
1944-45	RALPH STEARNS	Nashua, NH
1945-46	THOMAS GODLEY	
1946-47	THOMAS JOHNSON	Lewiston, ME
1947-48	KENNETH HOWLAND	Woodbridge, CT
1948-49	NELSON BOURRET	Cranston, RI
1949-50	ARTHUR MCISAAC	
1950-51	FRANCIS CONE	Bennington, VT
1951-52	WILLIAN CALLAHAN	,
1952-53	EARL BRADBURY	Brewster, ME
1953-54	WALTER SANDSTROM	W. Hartford, CT
1954-55	ANTHONY FERRERA	Bristol, RI
1955-56	CHARLES DUNLEAVY	
1956-57	JAMES MULCAHY	
1957-58	ROBERT HILDRETH	
1958-59	ROLAND AMNOTT	Lewiston, ME
1959-60	JOHN LYDDY	
1960-61	WILLIAM BOYLE	Cumberland, RI

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1962-63	GEORGE HEBERT	St. Albans, VT
1963-64	MICHAEL KELLY	Clinton, MA
1964-65	RALPH WILLOUGHBY	Brewer, ME
1965-66	THOMAS SULLIVAN	Wethersfield, CT
1966-67	JOSEPH STETKIEWICZ	Central Falls, RI
1967-68	RICHARD FLYNN	Dover, NH
1968-69	ARTHUR CARRON	Burlington, VT
1969-70	WILLIAM FITZPATRICK	Milford, MA
1970-71	ROBERT WAGNER, JR	Bath, ME
1971-72	G. ROBERT TRIANO	Southington, CT
1972-73	MATTHEW LYNCH	Woonsocket, RI
1973-74	HAROLD KNOWLTON	Laconia, NH
1974-75	REGINALD BELVILLE	Brattleboro, VT
1975-76	PATRICK RYDER	Lancaster, MA
1976-77	WILLIAM MACDONALD	Gardiner, ME
1977-78	FREDERICK SULLIVAN	Waterbury, CT
1978-79	GEORGE ROCHA	E. Providence, RI
1979-80	CHARLES REYNOLDS	Dover, NH
1980-81	THOMAS TAYLOR	Windsor, VT
1981-82	JOHN D. COYLE, JR	N. Attleboro, MA
1982-83	ALBERT SMITH	Camden, ME
1983-84	CLARENCE DRUMM	E. Hartford, CT
1984-85	WILLIAM LAWTON	Scituate, RI
1985-86	BRIAN BURKE	Lee, NH
1986-87	GILBERT CAREY	Chester, VT
1987-88	JOSEPH CONNELL	Westford, MA
1988-89	WILLIAM CARTER	Wiscasset, ME
1989-90	GEORGE MERRIAM	Cheshire, CT
1990-91	MADISON BAILEY, JR	Portsmouth, RI
1991-92	ALLVIN LEONARD	Lancaster, NH
1992-93	WAYNE SOURDIFF	Waterbury,VT
1993-94	WILLIAM E. WARNER	Middleboro, MA
1994-95	CRAIG B. HALL	Falmouth, ME

1995-96	RICHARD J. ABELENorwich, CT
1996-97	WILLIAM P. STRAINLincoln, RI
1997-98	JOHN K. STIMSONNewington, NH
1998-99	DOUGLAS S. HOYTMontpelior, VT
1999-00	ROBERT G. REDFERNEasthampton, MA
2000-01	GERALD B. SCHOFIELDFreeport, ME
2001-02	DENNIS M. PHIPPSWoodbridge, CT
2002-03	GARY P. DIASEast Providence, R
2003-04	TIMOTHY RUSSELLHenniker, NH
2004-05	LELAND H. GRAHAMSBurlington, VT
2005-06	JOSEPH J. REBELLOKingston, MA
2006-07	JOSEPH E. YOUNG, SRWinthrop, ME
2007-08	ANTHONY J. SALVATORE Cromwell, CT
2008-09	GEORGE L. KELLEY, IIIPawtucket, RI
2009-10	PETER P. MORENCYBerlin, NH
2010-11	THOMAS M. HANLEYMiddlebury, VT
2011-12	ROBERT D. CAMPBELLFeeding Hills, MA
2012-13	MARK E. LEONARDVeazie, ME
2013-14	KEVIN J. HALEAnsonia, CT



The New England Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc.

(Established 1926)

Office of the President John R. Desmarais 1380 Diamond Hill Road Cumberland, RI 02864



www.neacop.org



The New England Association of Chiefs of Police Office of the President John R. Desmarais 1380 Diamond Hill Road Cumberland, RI 02864

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 90th annual conference of the New England Association of Chiefs of Police and congratulate, Theodore Smith, of Lincoln New Hampshire as our incoming president. It has been my distinct honor and privilege to serve as your president over the past year. Unquestionably, it has been a rewarding and gratifying year for me personally.

Chief Theodore Smith continues to work hard leading the Community Policing Committee in presenting these annual awards. This year award was presented to Middletown Police Department, in Rhode Island and Lincoln Police Department in New Hampshire. Congratulations to all.

The NEACOP has been working in partnership with Roger Williams University and its Justice System Training & Research Institute for over 13 years and as a result, they have trained over 19,000 of our police officers. I would like to thank Bob McKenna and Denise Owens for their leadership and their hard work throughout many years of service to this organization.

Truly, it has been a rewarding year and without the assistance of our Executive Director, Jack Coyle, it would not have been possible. It has been a pleasure working with Jack over the past year. Without question he is very dedicated and devoted to the New England Association of Chiefs of Police. It is our good fortune to have him, thank you Jack. I would like to thank the Executive Board for their support throughout the year. My special thanks go out to Lou Fusaro, George Kelley, Aram Jaret, and Ed Yazbak for their dedication and hard work. I offer my support and best wishes in the year to come, to incoming President Theodore (Ted) Smith and his associates from New Hampshire.

I would like to thank members of my department for their support during the past year, especially my Administrative Assistant Patti Tweedie and my second in command, Deputy Chief Douglas Ciullo. I would be remiss if I did not mention the love and support I have received from my wife, Kim, and all the support and encouragement she has given me over the past years to help me achieve my career goals.

May God bless you. Stay safe.

Sincerely,

Chief John R. Desmarais



NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE LIFE MEMBERS

Arena, John Armitage, Paul F. Bailey, Madison A. Barcellos, Peter F. Barkhouse, John R. Barretto, John M. Barry, Kevin Basile, John P. Bastian, Arthur G. Beebe, John C. Betro, Armando Bonney, Sherman C. Borowski, Joachim-Ingo Botelho, John J. Breiling, H. Frank Brooker, Donald F. Brouillette, Armand Burke, Brian Burke, David I Burke, Gene Campbell, Raymond Campbell, Robert D. Carey, Gilbert E. Carroll, John F Carter, Richard G. Chapman, Robert F Charamut, Gerald R. Ciarleglio, Richard Clisham, Dennis E. Collamati Jr, Joseph Colleary, William J Connell, Joseph R. Coyle, John Daly Cullen, Walter D. Curran, John P. D'alessandro, Michael Decastro, Anthony

Dias, Gary

Diblasi, George J.

Dicarlo, James X. Dodd, James H. Doe, John H. Donnelly, Thomas C. Drumm, Clarence Dugan, Thomas R Ehrhart, James R. Eldredge, Barry D. Emerick, John J. Erskine, David Estey, Joseph Eunson, Donald Faughnan, Joseph P. Flaherty, John T. Flynn Jr, James A. Franey, Richard L Furdon, Paul E. Gaeta, Cyrus Gallucci, William A. Galvin, Robert M Germani, Bruce Gill, Robert Graham, Leland H. Grant, Raymond E., Jr Griffin, D. Joseph Gyngell, Gordon Hainsworth, Jamie A. Hall Sr., Craig B. Hanley, Thomas M Healy, Michael R. Henderson, Charles F. Hinton, Jerry A. Holohan, William F. Hoyt, Douglas S. Humphrey, Lowell F. Jackson, Harold B. Jakubson, Paul Janelle, Roger

Jarret Jr, Aram P.

Jerome, Paul A. Johnson, Carl Johnson, Robert F. Jordan, John W. Joyce, Thomas A Kearney, Gerald Kelley, George L. King, Peter Knapp, T. William Kosienski, Robert E. Labombard, Henry F. Lambirth, W. David Lary, Russell E. Laurie, Edward A Leahy, Mark K. Lembo, Peter Leyden, John J. Libby, Kenneth W Liberto, Vincent W. Mahoney, Philip Maia, Donald Martino Jr, James A. Mayo, Charles C. Mcaleenan, Joseph A. Mccarthy, Michael R. Mccombe, William A. Mcmanus, Michael J. Merriam, George R. Minarik, Paul J. Mockalis, William E. Morency Peter Mosca, Edmund H. Mulhern, Robert L. Mullen, Francis E. Nelson, Earl D. Nordquist, Alvin E. O'connell, Vincent J. O'connor, Thomas J.

Paolillo, Anthony G.

Pare Sr. Robert G Pascarella, Joseph Perrotti, James A. Perry, William B. Phelps Jr., Murray A Phipps, Dennis M. Piascyk Jr., Robert J. Picking, William F. Redfern, Robert G. Reimondo, Matthew A. Reynolds, Charles D. Rice, Harry Lee Rodrigues, Paul Rotunda, Thomas J. Rowley, Joseph Ryan, Timothy P. Santamauro, Pasquale Scherpa, Charles L. Schofield, Gerald Schwartz, Robert M. Sheehan, John J. Silva Jr, John Silva, Anthony J. Starbird, N. Douglas Stevens, Stanley E Strain, William P. Suchocki, John T. Tibbetts, Arner S. Vanasse, David N. Vaughan Sr, Thomas J. Voas, Robert J. Warner, William E. Welch Ir., Robert M. Wolfe, Charles Woodman, James F Wordell, Sidney M. Young Sr., Joseph E. Zacchio, Domenic A.

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE COMMITTEES 2015

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Article 7: Section 1 Constitution & By-Laws

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Charles D. Reynolds, Dover, NH
Peter P. Morency, Berlin, NH
Michael E. Metzler, Seymour, CT
Douglas Johnston, Springfield, VT
Mark K. Leahy, Northborough, MA
Hugh T. Clements, Providence, RI
Brian W. Sullivan, Lincoln, RI
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ANNUAL CONFERENCES

1939	PARKER HOUSEBoston, MA	1985	SEACREST MOTOR INNFalmouth, MA
1940	HOTEL VERMONTBurlington, VT	1986	THE BALSAMS, Dixville Notch, NH
1941	MT. WASHINGTON, Boston Woods, NH	1987-1989	MT. WASHINGTONBretton Woods, NH
1942	NASHUA COUNTRY CLUBNashua, NH	1990	SEACREST MOTOR INN Falmouth, MA
1943-1945	POLAND SPRING HOUSEPoland Spring, ME	1991-1992	THE BALSAMS, Dixville
1946	MT. WASHINGTON, Bretton Woods, NH	1993	RADISSON HOTED, BurlingtonBurlington, VT
1947-1948	POLAND SPRING HOUSEPoland Spring, ME	1994-1995	TARA HYANNIS HOTEL & RESORTHyannis, MA
1949	WENTWORTH BY THE SEAPortsmouth, NH	1996-1997	SHERATON FOUR POINTS HOTELNo. Conway, NH
1950	POLAND SPRING HOUSEPoland Spring, ME	1998	KILLINGTON GRAND RESORT Killington, VT
1951	THE BALSAMS, Dixville	1999	SHERATON HYANNIS RESORTHyannis, MA
1952-1953	POLAND SPRING HOUSE Poland Spring, ME	2000	SHERATON RESORTSouth Portland, ME
1954	WENTWORTH BY THE SEAPortsmouth, NH	2001	SAYBROOK POINT INNOld Saybrook, CT
1955	POLAND SPRING HOUSEPoland Spring, ME	2002	PROVIDENCE MARRIOTT Providence, RI
1956	MT. WASHINGTONBretton Woods, NH	2003	WENTWORTH BY THE SEAPortsmouth, NH
1957	WENTWORTH BY THE SEAPortsmouth, NH	2004	CLARION HOTELSouth Burlington, VT
1958	THE BALSAMS Dixville Notch, NH	2005	SEA CREST RESORTNorth Falmouth, MA
1959	POLAND SPRING HOUSEPoland Spring, ME	2006	DOUBLE TREE HOTEL Portland, ME
1960	WENTWORTH BY THE SEAPortsmouth, NH	2007	SAYBROOK POINT INNOld Saybrook, CT
1961	THE BALSAMS, Dixville Notch, NH	2008	SEA CREST RESORTNorth Falmouth, MA
1962	POLAND SPRING HOUSEoland Spring, ME	2009	ASHWORTH BY THE SEA HOTEL Hampton, NH
1963	MT. WASHINGTON, BrettonWoods, NH	2010	DOUBLE TREE HOTELBurlington, VT
1964	WENTWORTH BY THE SEAPortsmouth, NH	2011	SEA CREST BEACH HOTEL North Falmouth, MA
1965	POLAND SPRING HOUSEPoland Spring, ME	2012	ASHWORTH BY THE SEA HOTEL Hampton, NH
1966-1977	MT. WASHINGTONBretton Woods, NH	2013-2014	RADISSON PLYMOUTH HARBORPlymouth, MA
1978	SHERATON VIKINGNewport, RI	2015	ASHWORTH BY THE SEA Hampton, NH
1979-1984	MT. WASHINGTONBretton Woods, NH		•

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE 2015 Highlights

























NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

ACTIVE MEMBERS

CONNECTICUT

Ackley, Margaret Baker, Alan D.

Boyne, Shawn M. Candee, James R.

Canelli, Matthew, L

Caron, David A. Cox, Sean P.

Custer, Michael D.

Daly, Jack

Dittman, William, D.

Dooley, Joseph M.

Drumm, John

Edson, Christopher

Finch, Jeffrey W.

Fitzgerald, Paul

Fitzgerald.William T., Jr.

Flaherty, Thomas E.

Fuchs, Douglas S.

Fusaro, Louis J. Jr.

Fusaro, Louis J., Sr.

Gagne, Robert

Gaudett, Joseph L.,Jr.

Gavallas, John

Gove, Tracey G.

Grimaldi, Thomas R.

Hale, Kevin J.

Hayes, Rick L.

Heavey, James J.

Hotsky, Jeffery J.

Hurliman, Joel W.

Hutchinson, Jeffrey C.

Ingvertsen, Peter

Kehoe, Michael K.

Kenny, James L. Lawrie, Todd

Lee, Walter, Jr.

Lombardo, Michael

Lovello, Duane J.

Macnamara, Gary

Maniago, Michael

Marcucci, Gene

Maruzo, Lisa

Mckenna, William N.

Mclaughlin, C.G., Jr. Metzler, Michael

Montgomery, Robin

Montminy, Marc, L.

Narowski, Gerald

Osanitsch, Eric Reed, Matthew D.

Rinaldo, Mark

Roche, John S.

Salvatore, Anthony J.

Salvatore, John L.

Sansom, Scott

Sferrazza, Carl, J. Spera, Michael A.

Stewart, J. Darren

Troxell, John W.

Wardwell, James

MAINE

Arnaudin, Patricia L.

Beaupre, Roger P.

Boucher, Bruce

Bracy, Douglas P.

Chapais, David

Connolly. Thomas P.,Jr.

Emery, John L.

Field, Michael W.

Gagnon, Naldo S.

Googins, Edward J.

Kelley, Dana

Kelley, Mark G.

Lahaye, Richard H., Jr.

Lajoie, Dana P.

Leonard, Mark E.

Mackenzie, Robert F.

Madden, Michael

Mcfadden, Michael J. Morrill, Michael E.

Moulton, Robert

Paul, Bradley S. Putnam, Jo-Ann

Rizzo, Richard J.

Sanford, Craig A

Sauschuck, Michael

Schirling, Michael E.

Schofield, Gerald

Schofield, Kevin L.

Short, Theodore G. Toman, James, M.

Towne, Timothy

Tracy, Michael

Young Sr., Joseph E.

Young, Nathan W

MASSACHUSETTS Albert, Salvatore

Arruda, George

Atstupenas, Ross A.

Barrett, Loring, Jr.

Bennett, Michael R. Benton, Scott D.

Berkowitz, Kenneth N.

Blake, Erik G

Bongiorno, Robert

Bradley, Michael I.

Breen, David J.

Brooks, William G. Camden, Joseph P.

Campanello, Leonard

Charron, Ronald

Chase, William G.

Clancy, Matthew M.

Clark, Brian

Clark, Donald H.

Colin, Edward

Collins, Rodney C. Cooley, R. Dana, Jr

Cowan, John E.

Crepeau, Normand A.

Cudmore, Donald Cunningham, Terrence

Daigle, Gerard L.

Delmonte, Christopher D.

Demetropoulos, Erik J.

D'Entremont, Michael Digianvittorio James A.

Dillan, Patrick S.

Dimatteo, Peter

Dimella, Domenic I. Donovan, James W.

Downes, James

Droney, Philip E.

Duffey, John

Dunne, Edward Eaton, Robert M.

Fallon, David

Fioravanti, Emil

Fisher, John C.

Foley, Patrick

Ford, Thomas Fox, Francis

Fredrickson, Frank

Frydryk, Robert

Galvin, Thomas

Gillis, Eric Golden, James F.

Gordon, Alan

Goulden, Thomas J. Haapakoski, Donald A.

Heagney, Kyle

Holland, James

Howell, Kenny, A. Hukowicz, Dennis I.

Jebb, William R.

Joseph, Buffis, F Keefe, Patrick

Kyes, Brian A.

Labor, Jason Lamb, Kevin

Landry, Ronald, S.

Leahy, Mark K.

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Lee, Timothy

Livingston, Scott M.

Livingstone, Scott P.

Llewellyn, John R.

Lyons, Mary R.

Macdonald, Scott W.

Mace, Craig

Macmillan, Paul S.

Macpherson, Keith

Majenski, David

Mason, William A.

Mcenaney, Thomas M.

Mcgowan, James J.

Mcmahon, Bruce W.

Mcneil, George M.

Mellis, Douglas

Miller, Lincoln W.

Moore, John J.

Mulligan, James

Murray, William A.

Nix, Scott

O'Donnell Jr, C. Thomas

O'Neill, Arthur M.

Pattullo, Brian J.

Perkins, Joseph M.

Perkins, Thomas C.

Pervier, James A.

Pittman, William J. Reilly, Michael A.

Ricardi, David A.

Rohmer, Scott

Rosa, Daniel C. Jr.

Sacco Jr, Leo A.

Sampson, A. Wayne

Scott, David

Sellon, Ronald

Siano, Robert F.

Sienkiewicz, Russell P.

Silva, Jeffery P.

Smith, Richard E.

Spiewakowski, Bruce D.

Splaine, Maurice

Stewart, Brian E. Stillman, Richard

Sweeney, Walter

Tavares, Phillip A. Thomann, Gary L.

Tillinghast, David H.

Tucker, Roger W.

Walsh, Kevin D.

Warchol, Walter I.

Wilcox, Richard B. Wojnar, Steven J.

Woodrow, Adam Woodside, Dennis R.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Allen, Michael I.

Bean Burpee, Anthony J.

Bryfonski, John J.

Burroughs, James

Cahill, David P.

Chase, Mark C.

Commerford, Erin Consentino, Philip V.

Cormier, Robert

Costa, Brian

D'Alessandro, Marcello

Dennis, Charles

Deware, Rainsford

Drolet, Glendon L.

Dronsfield, Thomas C., Jr.

Dubois, David, G.

Dubois, Steven J. Ducharme, Robert

Foss, Gunnar

Garone, Edward B.

Ianvrin, Neal

Kane, Richard

Keenan, Kevin G.

Lavoie, Jason J.

Lewis, Michael F.

Madore, Walter A.

Mara, David J.

Mcgillen, Michael D.

Meola, Kenneth J.

Morency, Peter

Morrill, Francis C. Jr.

O'Brion, Joseph E. Jr.

Osgood, Bradley C.

Picard, Edward G.

Roark, Joseph A.

Roberge, Scott R.

Sawyer, Richard E.

Scippa, John

Shagoury, Andrew Smith, Theodore P.

Wallace, Michael J.

Warn, Christopher

Wharem, Robert Wyman, Douglas, F.

RHODE ISLAND

Achilli, Peter T.

Allen, Jeffery S.

Blakey, Thomas

Brown, Stephen J. Carey, Thomas S.

Clements, Hugh

Coyle, Thomas E.

Covne, Robert E., Jr.

Delprete, Joseph S.

Desmarais, John R.

Dias, Gary

Ghio, Fredrick W. Hoxie, Dean

Lacross, John M.

Lee, Thomas

Little, Joseph T., Jr.

Marion, Antone

Mccartney, Stephen M.

Mello, Edward

Mendonca, James J.

Mulligan, Thomas J.

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NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE 2015 Highlights













































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10 LIMITATIONS OF BODY CAMS YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR YOUR PROTECTION

A special report from the Force Science Institute

The idea is building that once every cop is equipped with a body camera, the controversy will be taken out of police shootings and other uses of force because "what really happened" will be captured on video for all to see.

Well, to borrow the title from an old Gershwin tune, "It Ain't Necessarily So." There's no doubt that body cameras—like dash cams, cell phone cams, and surveillance cams—can provide a unique perspective on police encounters and, in most cases, are likely to help officers. But like those other devices, a camera mounted on your uniform or on your head has limitations that need to be understood and considered when evaluating the images they record.

"Rushing to condemn an officer for inappropriate behavior based solely on body-camera evidence can be a dicey proposition," cautions Dr. Bill Lewinski, executive director of the Force Science Institute. "Certainly, a camera can provide more information about what happened on the street. But it can't necessarily provide all the information needed to make a fair and impartial final judgment. There still may be influential human factors involved, apart from what the camera sees."

In a recent conversation with Force Science News, Lewinski enumerated 10 limitations that are important to keep in mind regarding body-camera evidence (and, for the most part, recordings from other cameras as well) if you are an investigator, a police attorney, a force reviewer, or an involved officer. This information may also be helpful in efforts to educate your community.

(Some of these points are elaborated on in greater depth during the Force Science Certification Course. Visit www. forcescience.org for information on the course. An earlier report on body cam limitations appeared in Force Science News #145, sent 3/12/10. You will find online it at: www.forcescience.org/fsnews/145.html)

1. A camera doesn't follow your eyes or see as they see. At the current level of development, a body camera is not an eye-tracker like FSI has used in some of its studies of officer attention. That complex apparatus can follow the movement of your eyes and superimpose on video small red circles that mark precisely where you are looking from one microsecond to the next.

"A body camera photographs a broad scene but it can't document where within that scene you are looking at any given instant," Lewinski says. "If you glance away from where the camera is concentrating, you may not see action within the camera frame that appears to be occurring right before your eyes."

"Likewise, the camera can't acknowledge physiological and psychological phenomena that you may experience under high stress. As a survival mechanism, your brain may suppress some incoming visual images that seem unimportant in a life-threatening situation so you can completely focus very narrowly on the threat. You won't be aware of what your brain is screening out.

"Your brain may also play visual tricks on you that the camera can't match. If a suspect is driving a vehicle toward you, for example, it will seem to be closer, larger, and faster than it really is because of a

phenomenon called 'looming.' Camera footage may not convey the same sense of threat that you experienced. "In short, there can be a huge disconnect between your field of view and your visual perception and the camera's. Later, someone reviewing what's caught on camera and judging your actions could have a profoundly different sense of what happened than you had at the time it was occurring."

2. Some important danger cues can't be recorded.

"Tactile cues that are often important to officers in deciding to use force are difficult for cameras to capture," Lewinski says. "Resistive tension is a prime example. "You can usually tell when you touch a suspect whether he or she is going to resist. You may quickly apply force as a preemptive measure, but on camera it may look like you made an unprovoked attack, because the sensory cue you felt doesn't record visually." And, of course, the camera can't record the history and experience you bring to an encounter. "Suspect behavior that may appear innocuous on film to a naïve civilian can convey the risk of mortal danger to you as a streetwise officer," Lewinski says. "For instance, an assaultive subject who brings his hands up may look to a civilian like he's surrendering, but to you, based on past experience, that can be a very intimidating and combative movement, signaling his preparation for a fighting attack. The camera just captures the action, not your interpretation."

3. Camera speed differs from the speed of life.

Because body cameras record at much higher speeds than typical convenience store or correctional facility security cameras, it's less likely that important details will be lost in the millisecond gaps between frames, as sometimes happens with those cruder devices. "But it's still theoretically possible that something as brief as a muzzle flash or the glint of a knife blade that may become a factor in a useof-force case could still fail to be recorded," Lewinski says. Of greater consequence, he believes, is the body camera's depiction of action and reaction times. "Because of the reactionary curve, an officer can be half a second or more behind the action as it unfolds on the screen," Lewinski explains. "Whether he's shooting or stopping shooting, his recognition, decision-making, and physical activation all take time—but obviously can't be shown on camera. "People who don't understand this reactionary process won't factor it in when viewing the footage. They'll think the officer is keeping pace with the speed of the action as the camera records it. So without knowledgeable input, they aren't likely to understand how an officer can unintentionally end up placing rounds in a suspect's back or firing additional shots after a threat has ended."

4. A camera may see better than you do in low light.

"The high-tech imaging of body cameras allows them to record with clarity in many lowlight settings," Lewinski says. "When footage is screened later, it may actually be possible to see elements of the scene in sharper detail than you could at the time the camera was activated. "If you are receiving less visual information than the camera is recording under timepressured circumstances, you are going to be more dependent on context and movement in assessing and reacting to potential threats. In dim light, a suspect's posturing will likely mean more to you immediately than some object he's holding. When footage is reviewed later, it may be evident that the object in his hand

was a cell phone, say, rather than a gun. If you're expected to have seen that as clearly as the camera did, your reaction might seem highly inappropriate."

On the other hand, he notes, cameras do not always deal well with lighting transitions. "Going suddenly from bright to dim light or vice versa, a camera may briefly blank out images altogether," he says.

5. Your body may block the view.

"How much of a scene a camera captures is highly dependent on where it's positioned and where the action takes place," Lewinski notes. "Depending on location and angle, a picture may be blocked by your own body parts, from your nose to your hands. "If you're firing a gun or a Taser, for example, a camera on your chest may not record much more than your extended arms and hands. Or just blading your stance may obscure the camera's view. Critical moments within a scenario that you can see may be missed entirely by your body cam because of these dynamics, ultimately masking what a reviewer may need to see to make a fair judgment."

6. A camera only records in 2-D.

Because cameras don't record depth of field—the third dimension that's perceived by the human eye—accurately judging distances on their footage can be difficult. "Depending on the lens involved, cameras may compress distances between objects or make them appear closer than they really are," Lewinski says. "Without a proper sense of distance, a reviewer may misinterpret the level of threat an officer was facing." In the Force Science Certification Course, he critiques several camera images in which distance distortion became problematic. In one, an officer's use of force seemed inappropriate because the suspect appears to be too far away to pose an immediate threat. In another, an officer appears to strike a suspect's head with a flashlight when, in fact, the blow was directed at a hand and never touched the head. "There are technical means for determining distances on 2-D recordings," Lewinski says, "but these are not commonly known or accessed by most investigators."

7. The absence of sophisticated time-stamping may prove critical. The time-stamping that is automatically imposed on camera footage is a gross number, generally measuring the action minute by minute. "In some high-profile, controversial shooting cases that is not sophisticated enough," Lewinski says. "To fully analyze and explain an officer's perceptions, reaction time, judgment, and decision-making it may be critical to break the action down to units of one-hundredths of a second or even less. "There are post-production computer programs that can electronically encode footage to those specifications, and the Force Science Institute strongly recommends that these be employed. When reviewers see precisely how quickly suspects can move and how fast the various elements of a use-of-force event unfold, it can radically change their perception of what happened and the pressure involved officers were under to act."

8. One camera may not be enough.

"The more cameras there are recording a force event, the more opportunities there are likely to be to clarify uncertainties," Lewinski says. "The angle, the ambient lighting, and other elements will almost certainly vary from one officer's perspective to another's, and syncing the footage up will provide broader information for understanding the dynamics of what happened. What looks like an egregious action from one angle may seem perfectly justified from another.

"Think of the analysis of plays in a football game. In resolving close

calls, referees want to view the action from as many cameras as possible to fully understand what they're seeing. Ideally, officers deserve the same consideration. The problem is that many times there is only one camera involved, compared to a dozen that may be consulted in a sporting event, and in that case the limitations must be kept even firmer in mind.

9. A camera encourages second-guessing.

"According to the U. S. Supreme Court in Graham v. Connor, an officer's decisions in tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving situations are not to be judged with the '20/20vision of hindsight," Lewinski notes. "But in the real-world aftermath of a shooting, camera footage provides an almost irresistible temptation for reviewers to play the coulda-shoulda game.

"Under calm and comfortable conditions, they can infinitely replay the action, scrutinize it for hard-to-see detail, slow it down, freeze it. The officer had to assess what he wasexperiencing while it was happening and under the stress of his life potentially being on the line. That disparity can lead to far different conclusions. "As part of the incident investigation, we recommend that an officer be permitted to see what his body camera and other cameras recorded. He should be cautioned, however, to regard the footage only as informational. He should not allow it to supplant his first-hand memory of the incident. Justification for a shooting or other use of force will come from what an officer reasonably perceived, not necessarily from what a camera saw."

[For more details about FSI's position on whether officers should be allowed to view video of their incidents, see Force Science News #114 (1/17/09). You will find online it

at: www.forcescience.org/fsnews/114.html]

10. A camera can never replace a thorough investigation. When officers oppose wearing cameras, civilians sometimes assume they fear "transparency." But more often, Lewinski believes, they are concerned that camera recordings will be given undue, if not exclusive,

weight in judging their actions.

"A camera's recording should never be regarded solely as the Truth about a controversial incident," Lewinski declares. "It needs to be weighed and tested against witness testimony, forensics, the involved officer's statement, and other elements of a fair, thorough, and impartial investigation that takes human factors into consideration. "This is in no way intended to belittle the merits of body cameras. Early testing has shown that they tend to reduce the frequency of force encounters as well as complaints against officers.

"But a well-known police defense attorney is not far wrong when he calls cameras the

best evidence and the worst evidence. The limitations of body cams and others need to be fully understood and evaluated to maximize their effectiveness and to assure that they are not regarded as infallible 'magic bullets' by people who do not fully grasp the realities of force dynamics."

Our thanks to Parris Ward, director and litigation graphics consultant with Biodynamics Engineering, Inc., for his help in facilitating this report.

For more information on the work of the Force Science Institute, visit www.forcescience.org.

To reach the Force Science News editorial staff please e-mail: editor@ forcescience.org.

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CODE OF ETHICS

For Police Executives NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE, INC.



We, members of the New England Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc., recognizing our responsibilities to the communities we serve and our obligations to society in general and with the knowledge that our profession requires the highest ideals and rules of conduct, hereby adopt the following code of ethics for police executives, and commend them to all persons in the police profession for their guidance.

We will put honesty, truth and justice above all other considerations, and we will not allow friendship, enmity, social position, political influence, nor personal motives to swerve us from the impartial performance of duty.

We will neither solicit nor accept, any gift, privilege, favor or advantage from any person which will place us under any obligation to overlook any violation of a law, or violate the ethics of our profession.

We will observe all the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, and will never illegally deprive any person of any right guaranteed by the great document. We will not become involved in any social, political, or religious controversy except as neutral agents of the public, and we will at all times endeavor to carry out the desires of the majority of citizens as legally expressed through proper legislative, judicial or executive channels of government.

Having efficient police administration as our objective, we recognize the need for professional fitness on the part of police executives and subordinates. We pledge ourselves to advance the science of police service through training courses and other methods adequate to meet the proper requirements of our profession.

Recognizing the mutual dependence of all law enforcement and social agencies, we pledge our cooperation to all officials and agencies interested in the promotion of justice and the improvement of social conditions. We will not allow envy, jealousy, or any other motive to interfere with such cooperation.

We will be fair with subordinates showing only that favor which has been honestly earned by meritorious service to the public: demanding that all police officers perform their duties and enforce the laws with impartiality, judgment and courtesy.

We recognize our responsibility to the press as a medium through which the public we serve can be kept informed of our activities. We solicit its support in all honest police endeavor, and its condemnation of any act or policy detrimental to the best interests of society. We deplore violations of the code of ethics for journalism in connection with publication of police news and respectfully recommend observance of that code.

