



## **Press Release**

For the past twenty years, the members of the *Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association* have worked tirelessly to create a comprehensive proposal for an independent and dedicated funding stream for the purpose of advancing municipal police training to a level of professionalism and competency that the residents of our cities and towns deserve. Our members have worked in a collaborative manner with members of both chambers as well as their respective leadership up on the hill to address attainable access to certain essential training opportunities as well as addressing existing substandard training facilities.

We are extremely appreciative and salute the Massachusetts Senate - under the leadership of Senate President Harriette Chandler - and the Massachusetts House of Representatives - under the leadership of Speaker Robert Deleo - for addressing this glaring deficiency and resolving it to the benefit of all municipal police officers all across the Commonwealth as well as the citizens that we so faithfully serve. In a state that is the home of such prestigious institutions of higher learning, that are recognized on a worldwide stage, our police officers here in Massachusetts will finally receive the enhanced level of sustainable and professional training that they need which will translate to the optimum delivery of policing services that our residents across the state both desire and are entitled to.

As this critical legislation heads to the desk of the Honorable Governor Baker - for his astute review and consideration - we remain extremely hopeful and eagerly optimistic that a resolution to address this existing gap in police training is within our sights and grasp, especially during this somber and difficult period for all police officers across our Commonwealth.

-Chief Steve Wojnar, MCOPA President

-Chief Brian Kyes, MMCC President / MCOPA Legislative Chair

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