



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Department of Criminal Justice Training

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FIVE MEMBERS APPOINTED TO KENTUCKY LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL

RICHMOND, Ky. – Three officers representing law enforcement training academies have been appointed to serve in new roles on the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council.

In October, Gov. Steve Beshear signed an executive order adding the agency heads of three training academies: the Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training, Lexington Division of Police and Louisville Metro Police Department. The Kentucky State Police, the state's fourth and only remaining law enforcement academy, is already represented.

“This move ensures that the entities charged with developing the standards for all law enforcement and peace officers in the Commonwealth are working hand in hand with the agencies responsible for training those officers,” Beshear said of the move.

The Kentucky Law Enforcement Council governs training for all of the state's law enforcement. The council is charged with certifying and approving law enforcement training schools, training instructors and curriculum, as well as administering the Peace Officer Professional Standards certification process and monitoring the Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund.

The three agency heads each have designated individuals to represent them on the council. The new members who were named from the individual agencies are:

Department of Criminal Justice Training Operations Division Director Charles Melville

Melville has served DOCJT since 2005 and was appointed director in 2008. By participating in the council's discussions and decision-making processes, Melville said DOCJT can better serve those who depend on the agency.

“The ability to have a ‘seat at the table,’ to have a direct voice on the many issues the

council tackles that affects the training we develop and present, is a benefit for each of the academies,” Melville said. “In my position as the Director of Training Operations for DOCJT, I have regular contact with POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training) Directors and training academies from across the country. Many states are dealing with similar issues as we are and have come up with unique solutions. I hope that those contacts and associations will be a benefit to the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council as we move forward.”

Lexington Division of Police Commander Lawrence Weathers

A veteran of nearly 23 years, Weathers joined the training academy in March after serving as commander of the Bureau of Patrol. Weathers echoed Melville’s sentiments about the importance of each Kentucky academy’s voice being represented.

“What I hope is that it means a better relationship between all police departments across the state,” Weathers said of his appointment. “Hopefully, it will put everybody on the same page as far as training goes, and one particular organization won’t be receiving or have access to training that the other ones do not.”

Louisville Metro Police Deputy Chief Vince Robison

A 24-year veteran representing the largest police agency in Kentucky, Robison stressed the importance of coordinating LMPD’s efforts with those of the rest of Kentucky law enforcement.

“From looking at what other states do, it is important to have a governing agency to look for best practices and ensure the quality of the education we give our officers,” he said. “We are trying to get input from all different sized agencies throughout the state. There is value in the input from the small to the medium to the largest.”

Other membership changes

In addition to the newly-appointed agency representatives, two other members recently were appointed to fill positions on the council. Anderson County Sheriff Troy Young will serve as a representative of Kentucky’s sheriffs. Young was appointed by Gov. Beshear.

“Kentucky has gone above and beyond, and I’m just really impressed with how we have taken the lead over a lot of other states and set the standard for training in all law enforcement,” he said. “When we get a cadet out of the academy, he is well trained in law enforcement.”

Rowan County Sheriff Chief Deputy Joseph Cline also will join the council, representing and appointed by the Kentucky Chiefs Association. Cline has served the sheriff’s office for nearly four years, following his retirement as chief of the Morehead State University Police Department.

“It is important to have a representation of the chiefs, because KLEC is the group that helps set and shape the future of law enforcement,” Cline said. “I am proud to have been selected to be a part of the tradition of excellence that KLEC has shown throughout the

years.”

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