

GLOUCESTER POLICE PATROLMAN'S ASSOCIATION

Dear Personnel Director Leete,

The City Of Gloucester's administration has asked the Gloucester Police Patrolman's Association (GPPA) for suggestions to help trim and curtail costs in the Police Department. The GPPA is now four years and eight months without a contract or pay increase. The GPPA recognizes the City's fiscal woes and realize that its essential that all expenditures be prioritized.

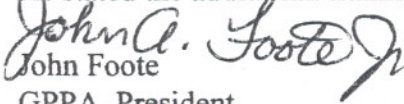
On February 6, 2007 Lt Kathy Auld, OIC Training Division, posted a notice in the roll call room informing all members of their in-house/in-service training dates for March 2007. Members would be assigned off their watches to training for duty weapon low light qualifications, legal updates and defensive tactics refresher.


All members of the GPPA have met qualification standards on their duty weapons as set by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Council. Recent training has also included OC refresher and weapon retention. Any additional duty weapon training should receive low priority.

The GPPA Executive Board would like to make several recommendations due to the tough fiscal times and budgetary restraints that are affecting the Police Department and the City as a whole. First, the **ELECTIVE** low light duty weapon training be cancelled as members have already been qualified and are adequately trained on their primary duty weapon to meet State standards. The total costs for firearms training, firearms maintenance, range clean-up, firearms administrative office work, etc., have literally spiraled out of control. Both in actual overtime paid and in compensation time earned. Second, legal update information be disseminated and hand-outs provided at roll call by shift watch commanders and street supervisors. It is the shift superiors where the patrol officer goes when a question first arises.

The above recommendations if implemented would provide a substantial cost savings with ZERO change in liability. Monies saved could be used towards funding a contract, providing additional patrols in times of need and in areas of concern, or purchasing of some new equipment.

As stated the additional training should receive a low priority or not at all.


John Foote
GPPA, President


Michael A. Williams, Jr.
GPPA, Secretary

CC: Mayor's Office
Mayor's Administrative Assistant
Chief of Police
Email: City Council