



## **Welcome to the Montana Public Safety Officers Standards and Training (POST) Council**

The Council was formed in 2007 under § 2-15-2029, MCA as an independent quasi-judicial board. As allowed by statute, the Council adopted Administrative Rules in order to implement the provisions of Title 44, chapter 4, part 4, MCA. Per § 44-4-403, MCA the Council is required to set employment and training standards for all Public Safety Officers as defined in § 44-4-401, MCA and in addition the Council shall provide for the certification or recertification of public safety officers and for the suspension or revocation of certification of public safety officers.

**Our Mission:** To ensure competency & promote quality performance by public safety officers by establishing, maintaining & promoting excellence in standards and training.

**Our Vision:** The public is safe, secure & has confidence in and respect for Montana Public Safety Officers.

**History of the POST Council:** The Montana Peace Officer Standards and Training Advisory Council was initially created during the 1971 Legislative Session in a roundabout way. The Council was conceived in response to a growing body of Federal caselaw and numerous research studies regarding the necessity of training standards in law enforcement. There were actually two bills brought before the Legislature creating POST. One bill would place POST under the Montana Board of Crime Control, the other would place POST under the Attorney General. The bill placing POST under the control and authority of the Attorney General passed both houses of the Legislature, then was vetoed by the Governor as unconstitutional. The Governor issued an executive order creating POST and placing it under the control and authority of the Montana Board of Crime Control. The Council was continued by executive orders until 2007.

The first meeting of the Montana POST Advisory Council was held on September 21, 1972. In 2007, POST underwent a major makeover. First, POST's name was changed from the Montana Peace Officer Standards and Training Advisory Council, to the Montana Public Safety Officer Standards and Training Council. The Council had already been providing standards and training for public safety officers, the 2007 name change just made that apparent. Second, POST was made an independent agency, separate from the Montana Board of Crime Control and only administratively attached to the Montana Department of Justice. Third, POST was made a quasi-judicial board as defined in Montana statute. POST was also given the ability and authority to promulgate its own rules. The Council expanded from eleven members to thirteen. Finally, POST was given two positions: an Executive Director, and an Administrative Assistant.

In 2008, POST promulgated its first set of Administrative Rules of Montana (ARMs). In 2010, POST was able to hire a third employee: an investigator. In December of 2014, POST completed an overhaul of its ARMs and has made amendments in 2017, 2018 and 2019. POST introduced legislation in the 2019 Legislature as well to continue in its duties to provide for the certification and recertification of public safety officers, the suspension or revocation of certification of public safety officers, and to conduct and approve training. HBs 98 and 99 were passed and became effective on October 1, 2019.

During the 2019 Legislative Session, the Legislature passed HB 684, which has placed POST staff under the Department of Justice as the Public Safety Officer Standards and Training Bureau. This legislation is effective through June 30, 2023.



## ***Montana Public Safety Officer Standards and Training Council***

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### **STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**

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### **Mission Statement:**

To ensure competency & promote quality performance by public safety officers by establishing, maintaining & promoting excellence in standards and training.

### **Vision Statement:**

The public is safe, secure & has confidence in and respect for Montana Public Safety Officers.

### **Duties:**

The Council is responsible for establishing basic and advanced qualification and training standards for employment of Montana's public safety officers, as defined in MCA 44-4-401.

In addition, the Council:

- Conducts and approves training
- Provides for the certification and re-certification of public safety officers
- Is responsible for the suspension or revocation of certification of public safety officers

**Montana Public Safety Officer Standards and Training (POST)**  
**Council Membership**

<b>Jesse Slaughter, Chair</b>	<b>Sheriff</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:jslaughter@cascadecountymt.gov">jslaughter@cascadecountymt.gov</a></u></b>
<b>Mark Kraft</b>	<b>Chief of Police</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:mkraft@richland.org">mkraft@richland.org</a></u></b>
<b>Kristine White</b>	<b>County Attorney</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:ckwhite@rosebudcoatty.net">ckwhite@rosebudcoatty.net</a></u></b>
<b>Jess Edwards</b>	<b>Tribal Law Enforcement</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:chiefjessedwards@gmail.com">chiefjessedwards@gmail.com</a></u></b>
<b>Matthew Saylor</b>	<b>Local Law Enforcement</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:msaylor@bsb.mt.gov">msaylor@bsb.mt.gov</a></u></b>
<b>Wyatt Glade</b>	<b>Board of Crime Control</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:w.glade@co.custer.mt.us">w.glade@co.custer.mt.us</a></u></b>
<b>Conner Smith</b>	<b>State Law Enforcement</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:csmith2@mt.gov">csmith2@mt.gov</a></u></b>
<b>Mike McCarthy</b>	<b>Public Representative</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:odiemic.mcc@gmail.com">odiemic.mcc@gmail.com</a></u></b>
<b>Jim Anderson</b>	<b>Dept. Of Corrections</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:jim.anderson@mt.gov">jim.anderson@mt.gov</a></u></b>
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