

Barrington Police Department

Chapter 7

Master Patrol Officer Designation

Effective Date: April 1, 2023

This written directive is for the internal governance of the Barrington Police Department, and as provided by NHRSA 516:36, is not intended and should not be interpreted to establish a higher standard of care in any civil or criminal action than would otherwise be applicable under existing law.

Primary Purpose

The Master Patrol Officer designation recognizes the knowledge, training and expertise acquired by officers, after obtaining their New Hampshire Police Standard and Training Council full-time officer certification, which expands and improves their policing abilities and thereby provides a benefit to the Department and public. In addition to performing their duties as a Patrol Officer, a Master Patrol Officer is expected to share their expertise and knowledge in specialized areas of law enforcement with other officers while on duty and through Department training.

Master Patrol Officer Qualifications

- 1 Experience: Minimum of four (4) years of law enforcement experience required, with the last two years of service with the Town of Barrington.
- 2 Certifications: The officer shall be a certified Field Training Officer or Instructor in one or more police service disciplines (PBT and physical fitness instruction will not be considered as meeting this standard). An officer who attains a certification and who has been actively performing a role in one or more "specialty" fields (accident reconstruction, K9 handler, DARE or DRE) shall also be eligible).
- 3 Evaluations: To be eligible, the officer shall exhibit exemplary evaluations for a minimum of two years preceding the Master Patrol Officer designation. Exemplary evaluations are defined as evaluations which meet and exceed expectations. An officer that has been suspended without pay at any time during the two years prior to applying shall not be eligible for the designation of Master Patrol Officer.

- 4 Recognition of the Agency's goals and values as demonstrated by the officer's service record and as articulated during the required oral board.
- 5 A passing score (70%) on a written test to evaluate basic knowledge of job functions and Federal, State and Town laws, regulations, rules and ordinances related to those job functions. The test will be designed by the supervisory staff.
- 6 An oral board consisting of the Sergeants and Deputy Chief. The interview shall be limited to job related questions. A minimum of a two-thirds majority affirmative vote of the oral board members shall be required for a passing score. The intent of the oral board is to evaluate the following:
 - a. Attitude
 - b. Personal Traits
 - c. Communication skills
 - d. Judgment
 - e. Leadership
 - f. Education and Experience

The Deputy Chief shall make a recommendation to the Chief of Police within one week of completion of all phases of the process. The Chief of Police shall review the oral board results, the officer's personnel file, and the Deputy Chief's recommendation before making a final decision as to whether the officer has all the required qualifications for the Master Patrol Officer designation

Testing for the Master Patrol Officer designation will be offered annually. Candidates are eligible to apply for the Master Patrol Officer designation in their third continuous year of law enforcement service. If a candidate is successful, he or she will obtain the Master Patrol Officer designation only upon completion of his/her fourth year of continuous service and two years of service with the Town of Barrington.

An officer will lose the Master Patrol Officer designation and stipend should their certification(s) (see #2) lapse, the officer is subject to discipline which results in a suspension without pay or the officer receives an unsatisfactory evaluation.