



Chief Anthony J. King
Chairman

State of New Hampshire

POLICE STANDARDS & TRAINING COUNCIL
NH LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCREDITATION COMMISSION

Arthur D. Kehas

Law Enforcement Training Facility & Campus

17 Institute Drive, Concord, N.H. 03301-7413

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TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964



John V. Scippa
Director

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Released by Director John V. Scippa, NH Police Standards and Training

FOR IMMEDIATE MEDIA RELEASE:

The New Hampshire Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission partners with Dirigo Safety, LLC for Law Enforcement Accreditation Program Management.

New Hampshire is committed to enhancing law enforcement professionalism and integrity through state accreditation. In July of 2022, the New Hampshire Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission was established pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order #2022-06. On July 3rd, 2023, the Commission formally adopted 114 standards for New Hampshire law enforcement, joining the ranks of 36 other states with functioning law enforcement accreditation programs.

On June 12th of this year, the Governor and Executive Council approved a contract with Dirigo Safety, LLC to serve as the State Accreditation Program Manager under the supervision of the Commission and New Hampshire Police Standards and Training. Dirigo Safety will facilitate the day-to-day process of state accreditation for qualified New Hampshire law enforcement agencies. Upon completion of their process, agencies will be independently assessed by volunteer assessors from other New Hampshire law enforcement agencies who will recommend to the Commission whether an agency is ready to be awarded accreditation.

Dirigo Safety brings a wealth of knowledge and extensive experience in the law enforcement field. Their understanding of relevant and current law, policy development, and training methodologies is beneficial to a successful accreditation program. Dirigo Safety has been instrumental in managing Maine's successful state law enforcement accreditation program since 2020.

New Hampshire resident Rick Stillman, a former Chief of Police in Massachusetts, Maine, and New Hampshire, will be leading Dirigo's Program Management team with Accreditation Specialist Keri Wareing, also a New Hampshire resident and most recently Portsmouth Police Department's Accreditation Manager.

The New Hampshire Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission is committed to promoting the highest standards of law enforcement professionalism and integrity statewide. It consists of ten members appointed by the Governor and represents diverse stakeholders involved in law enforcement. The Commission aims to ensure broad participation in the New Hampshire Law Enforcement Accreditation Program while remaining accessible to agencies of all sizes. Its objectives include providing policy and operational recommendations for accreditation standards, conducting assessments, promoting self-regulation, offering training, and collaborating with stakeholders for continuous program enhancement.



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Accreditation is a voluntary process focused on adherence to established professional standards. Benefits include reduced risk and liability exposure, enhanced accountability, improved community relations, and systematic problem-solving. The launch of the Accreditation Program has been a significant milestone in New Hampshire's ongoing efforts to strengthen law enforcement practices and foster community trust.

For more information about the New Hampshire Law Enforcement Accreditation Program, please visit Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission | New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council [<https://www.pstc.nh.gov/leac/index.htm>]

