Police Study Group

Glossary of Terms

Draft: Living Document

Contracted

Town A contracts out their police coverage and services calls from Town B. Town A pays Town B on a pay-for-service basis either through a contract or invoicing options.

Independent/Autonomous

The town maintains its own fully staffed police department with a chief and officers.

Massachusetts State Police (MSP)

The town relies on Massachusetts State Police to provide police services and answer emergency calls.

Regionalization

Town A and Town B (and Town C, so on) merge entirely into one police department to cover Town A and B. Financials are assessed based on a formula/percentage determined by a contract.

Shared Chief

Town A and Town B maintain independent police departments but share a chief position. Chief works for both towns. Financials are based on an agreement between towns. Town A and Town B share the cost of Chief salary, job-related fees (i.e., memberships, continuing education, uniforms, equipment, cruiser cost, fuel cost, etc.).

Full-time Police Officer

An officer that has completed the full-time police academy.

Part-time Police Officer

An officer that has completed the part-time police academy.