

July 18, 2014

We are providing community members with the first monthly update on the progress made in the University's transition to an armed URI police department.

Since the implementation plan was presented on **May 23, 2014**, this update summarizes some of the training, human resource, purchasing and safety procedures that are being put into place. Below is the status on key steps:

- The Department of Public Safety has engaged the Rhode Island State Police to conduct background investigations on all URI officers.
- Training and Certification: All URI police officers have received training in Mental Health Recognition and Response. All but two command staff officers have received training in Fair and Impartial Policing. In July and August, officers will receive training and be Re-certified in the use of Non-Lethal Weapons.
- An architect has been identified to design a secure firearms storage facility; firearms and supplies have been ordered.
- Emergency Protective Actions Training: The new Campus Safety video, "Run, Hide, Fight," released to the community in May was also used in the training sessions that were held this summer at the Kingston and Providence campuses. The video has been viewed about 500 times and several dozen people participated in the summer training. These sessions will continue throughout the year.
- New job descriptions are in process for the non-classified police officers. The Director of Public Safety job description is in process and will be forwarded to Human Resources within one week.

These steps and others are vital to ensure our institutional readiness for arming police. As we continue the process, updates will be provided to the community by email each month. All updates are available online at <http://www.uri.edu/emergency/police.html>.

We would like to reiterate that we are committed to the safety of every member of the University community.

Thank you.

Christina Valentino
Vice President for Administration and Finance

Stephen N. Baker
Director of Public Safety

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