

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND

December 23, 2014

Below is our update on the progress being made in the University's conversion to an armed URI Police Department since the spring semester.

This is the sixth update on the Campus Police arming implementation plan that began in May 2014. This complex process has required numerous sequential steps involving administrative and state resources, purchasing, human resources, personnel background investigations, psychological testing, and officer training.

As a result of timing adjustments needed with some of these sequential steps, the supervised firearms training for officers is now scheduled for mid-March to early April 2015. The firearms training qualifications could only be authorized after the psychological tests were complete and such training must be done at an official outdoor range.

A six-month summary of our progress is available at www.uri.edu/emergency/police.html.

Here is the status of steps taken in November:

- URI Police Policy and Procedure Oversight Committee: Chaired by Naomi Thompson, Associate Vice President for the Office of Community, Equity and Diversity the members for this committee were finalized and appointed by President Dooley. The first meeting of the committee was held November 25 and subsequent meetings were scheduled.
- Human Resources: All job descriptions have been completed, one still needs approval by the Department of Administration.
- Background Investigations: All background investigations were completed by the Rhode Island State Police by the end of October, two months later than planned. The background investigations are required for psychological testing to take place and although six officers have completed the tests, testing of additional officers cannot take place until early January.
- Multicultural Awareness: URI Police Officers and Command Staff met with various

multicultural student organizations during the fall to maintain an open dialogue regarding the arming plan at URI and the national and international events of mutual concern.

Talent Development Director Gerald Williams facilitated these meetings.

- Emergency Protective Actions Training: URI Police and Public Safety personnel will continue to provide training for community members throughout the year. This is an ongoing process offered by our Office of Emergency Management.

As we continue the process, updates will be provided to the community by email each month. All updates and related information are available online at

<http://www.uri.edu/emergency/police.html>.

Thank you for your continued support as we work to ensure the safety of all members of our community.

Christina Valentino

Vice President for Administration and Finance

Stephen N. Baker

Director of Public Safety