DuBois/Sandy Township Consolidation

Police Sub Committee

Task assignment: Act 57 Compliance and Records Retention

Act 57- Title 44, Chapter 73 Regulations: Title 37 241

Amending Title 44(Law and Justice) of the Pa. Consolidated Statutes, providing for law enforcement background investigations, for duties of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission (MPOETC), law enforcement agencies and employers and for immunity from liability and violations.

The new agency will adhere to all the rules and regulations of Act 57. MPOETC requires that this process shall be followed to hire any new police officer.

In summarizing Act 57, it is intended to provide law enforcement agencies with information on an officer's prior work history before hiring can occur by a new agency. It prevents officers with disciplinary issues from being hired by another agency without knowledge of the officer's history.

The law also requires the agency to maintain separation records for officers that leave the agency, these records must be reported to MPOETC. The records must include the following.

- 1. The circumstances surrounding the employee's separation.
- 2. Records of all criminal charges filed against an officer.
- 3. Records of all complaints made against an officer.
- 4. Records of the disposition of all complaints and the outcome of discipline.

The above will be available to any agency attempting to hire a new officer. The agency is also required to conduct a thorough background check and review of any separation records of prior police employment.