

Instructor Biography

Officer Charles M. DiChiara has been a Police Officer for the past 34 years. He currently works for the City of Waltham, MA Police Department and is the Training Officer/Coordinator for the Police Department, after spending 27 years working nights in the Patrol Division.

For the past 30 years, Off. DiChiara has also been assigned to the NEMLEC SWAT Team, a multi-jurisdictional tactical team that is responsible for responding to critical incidents within the 64 cities and towns in the Greater Boston and Northeast region of Massachusetts. He has been involved in over 1000 SWAT missions and was a member of the Alpha/Primary Entry Team, as well as the Training Cadre. He recently retired from SWAT, and was the first officer to have his badge number "retired". Off. DiChiara received the George L. Hanna Award for Bravery from the State of Massachusetts in 2006 for his role in a hostage crisis in which multiple shots were fired. He also received a city citation for his role in apprehending a suicidal male armed with a shotgun. He recently received a Resolution from the City of Waltham for his role in the Boston Marathon incident, as well as his role in the apprehension of both terror suspects during the Watertown event in 2013.

Off. DiChiara is a state and nationally certified Instructor-Trainer in the areas of Firearms, Defensive Tactics, Use of Force, Physical Fitness, Active Shooter Resolution and Verbal Defense and Influence. He holds the ranking of Master Instructor in the commonwealth, as well as being a Master Instructor for both Taser International and the Monadnock-Safariland Training Group. Off. DiChiara is a graduate of both the Use of Force Instructor school at FLETC (Federal Law Enforcement Training Center) and Force Science Institute in Virginia, certified to analyze use of force incidents as it relates to human performance and behavior factors. He has graduated from both the Basic 40 hour Program as well as the 18-week Advanced Analyst Program at the Force Science Institute, under the tutelage of Dr. Bill Lewinski.

In 2011, Off. DiChiara received the distinction of being nominated for Master/International Instructor by the Monadnock-Safariland Training Group. After training with officers from Switzerland and the U.K., he became the 113th Master Instructor, out of the 52,000 instructors worldwide and the 3500

Advanced Instructors. In 2018 Off. DiChiara was promoted to the Advisory Board for the Safariland Training Group.

He has been training police officers since 1999 and has trained in excess of 15,000 police officers as well as 6000 law enforcement instructors across the country. He has trained the Columbian National Police, as well as officers from Canada, Switzerland and England.

In 2020 Officer DiChiara was appointed as the Statewide Coordinator for Police Use of Force & Defensive Tactics. He was also appointed by the Mayor of New Bedford to the Use of Force Commission. He sits on the Defensive Tactics Executive Committee, the Firearms Executive Committee and recently help form the Patrol Tactics Advisory Group, which merges all of the Statewide Coordinators working together under the same umbrella.

Off. DiChiara is a court qualified expert witness in Defensive Tactics, Police Use of Force, and police standards and practices. He has been qualified as an expert in District and State Superior Court, as well as Federally in United States District Court. In 2015 Off. DiChiara was identified as one of four SME's (Subject Matter Experts) in police use of force for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In 2014 he assisted with the update and rewrite of the Defensive Tactics Manual for the state, and in 2018 he assisted with revamping the MPTC's Basic Recruit Academy Training Program, in the areas of Use of Force and Arrest and Control. He has been at the forefront of Police Reform in Massachusetts, working directly with Police Officer Standards & Training (POST), the Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) and the Executive Office of Public Safety & Security (EOPSS) to help establish Rules and Regulations and a Model Policy for Police Use of Force. Officer DiChiara is currently the Lead Defensive Tactics and a Firearms Instructor at Lowell, Randolph, Northern Essex Community College and Merrimack College Police Academies.

Charles Michael DiChiara

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Dracut, MA 01826

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2020** **Statewide Coordinator Use of Force &
Defensive Tactics
Municipal Police Training Committee**
- 2015-Present** **Training Officer
City of Waltham, MA Police Department**
- 1997 – Present **PATROLMAN**
City of Waltham, MA Police Department
- 1994- 1997 **DETECTIVE**
North Andover, MA Police Department
- 1990- 1994 **PATROLMAN**
North Andover, MA Police Department
- 1988- 1990 **RESERVE POLICE OFFICER**
North Andover, MA Police Department

EDUCATION

- 1990- Present **SPECIALIZED TRAINING**
5000 hours of advanced training
- 1999 **SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE**
Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice
- 1990 **TOPSFIELD REGIONAL POLICE ACADEMY**
37th Municipal Police Officer Class

1988 **NORTHEAST REGIONAL POLICE INSTITUTE**
1986- 1988 **SALEM STATE COLLEGE**

1975- 1986 **NORTH ANDOVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

1992- 2022 **N.E.M.L.E.C. SWAT TEAM**

30 year veteran, assigned to Primary Entry team as well as Training Officer for the unit

1998- Present **DEFENSIVE TACTICS INSTRUCTOR- TRAINER**

DT Instructor-Trainer for the MPTC

1999- Present **FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR- TRAINER**

Firearms Instructor-Trainer for the MPTC

1999- 2015 **FIELD TRAINING OFFICER**

Spent 16 years training new officers for city of Waltham Police Department

2020-2022 **Commissioner on City of New Bedford's Mayor's Use of Force Commission**

2020-present **Patrol Tactics Advisory Group**

2020-Present **Firearms Executive Committee**

2002- Present **Defensive Tactics Executive Committee**

1990- 1995 **N.E.M.L.E.C. NARCOTICS UNIT**

Five years assigned to the Regional Narcotics Unit

ACHIEVEMENTS

2023 **NEMLEC Foundation Lifetime Achievement**

Award for 32 years of service/1000 Swat callouts.

1st Officer to have his badge number "Retired"

- 2021 **City of New Bedford Resolution**
Commendation for contributions as a
Commissioner on Mayor's Use of Force Council
- 2021 **1st annual Community Service Award**
Honored by Riverside Church in Haverhill for
commitment to the citizens of the Merrimack
Valley region.
- 2013 **AWARD FOR BRAVERY/CITY RESOLUTION**
Honored by the state of Massachusetts for role in Boston
Marathon Bombing as well as his role in the apprehension
of both terror suspects
- 2007 **MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD**
Service award for 20 years of dedicated service to police
training- Lowell Police Academy, Lowell, MA
- 2006 **RECIPIENT GEORGE L. HANNA AWARD**
For bravery in hostage/Barricade incident- Pepperell, MA
- 1995 **DEA AWARD**
United States Drug Enforcement Administration
contributions to the field of drug law enforcement
- 1995 **NORTH ANDOVER PD OFFICER OF THE YEAR**
Outstanding Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce
- 1995 **MASSACHUSETTS STATE SENATE CITATION**
Outstanding service to the town of North Andover

1990

**TOPSFIELD POLICE ACADEMY ACADEMIC
AWARD**

Graduated 1st in class in academics

1990

TOPSFIELD POLICE ACADEMY PT AWARD

Graduated tied for 1st in class in physical fitness

1990- Present

COMMENTATIONS/CITATIONS

Received over 30 commentators for exemplary service in
Performance of duty- State of Massachusetts