



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Middlesex Sheriff's Office
Peter J. Koutoujian
Sheriff

*400 Mystic Avenue
Medford, Massachusetts 02155*

*Phone (781) 960 2800
Fax (781) 960 2902*

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For more information:
Kevin Maccioli
Public Information Officer
781-960-2805

**Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian graduates
38th Middlesex Sheriff's Office Basic Training Academy**

LOWELL, Mass. – The Middlesex Sheriff's Office celebrated the graduation of 26 new corrections officers in a ceremony held Thurs., July 2, at the UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center.

Of the graduates of the 38th Basic Training Academy, 24 recruits joined the Middlesex Sheriff's Office, while two joined the Norfolk Sheriff's Office.

In addressing graduates, Middlesex Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian reminded the new officers of the crucial role they play in the criminal justice system.

“We are not an island in corrections, but rather a piece of a diverse and interconnected system made up of court officers, judges, police officers, parole officers, probation officers and prosecutors,” said Sheriff Koutoujian, “all working to ensure the public is protected and justice is applied fairly and impartially.”

In addition to Sheriff Koutoujian, graduates also heard from Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan and Massachusetts District Court Chief Justice Paul Dawley, who offered the keynote address.

Last week's graduation marked the fourth during Sheriff Koutoujian's four-year tenure, with 167 academy-trained officers joining the ranks of the Middlesex Sheriff's Office in that time. Prior to 2012, the last academy was held in 2008.

Those who graduated Thursday received 12 weeks of classroom and practical training focused on interpersonal communications, corrections and criminal justice systems, transportation procedures, defensive tactics, firearms and first responder training, among other areas. Graduates had to successfully pass both classroom and physical fitness tests.

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