



Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Police and Correctional Training Commissions

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March 16, 2018

Greetings,

My name is William Blake, and I am the Manager for Police Entry Level Training at Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions. I would like to take this opportunity to provide a testimonial on behalf of Pathfinders for Autism and the services they've provided over the years to MPCTC.

Shelly McLaughlin and her team, including Drew Myers, Janelle Myers and self-advocate Glenn Myers, of Pathfinders for Autism, have provided outstanding training and mentoring for our Entry Level Program for the last four years that I have been with MPCTC. I can attest and aver that I have been present for the training sessions and they are top quality, germinal and current. In addition, I have been in constant contact with Shelly over the last year and worked closely with her team as they have written updated lesson plans, completed presentation modules, prepared testing methods both written and practical, and used Commission approved objectives to prepare a very timely and accurate program. The programs presented to our recruits are vital, especially as we move the police model for training in an area that is conscience to understanding and interacting positively with the IDD populous. We are proud of our partnership with Pathfinders as it has proved to be a positive influence on our recruits, and is changing the mindset of policing in general – which is a great tribute to the work the team has done. I also know that Pathfinders provides training to our seasoned-officers in yearly “in-service” sessions, which too is paramount for bettering the community service of our officers.

In short, the program offered by Pathfinders for Autism is exceptionally important to the Law Enforcement community, as it makes the quality of service we provide to our entire community better and more effective.

Respectfully;
William Blake
Manager, PEL
MPCTC