

Paul Hasselberger is a law enforcement administrator and educator who has a passion for constant improvement. His drive to find balance between formal education, practical skills, and real-world leadership experience can be seen through his various assignments and accomplishments.

After earning degrees in psychology and sociology, he joined the Clifton Police Department in 2005 and quickly earned awards and commendations for his personal performance including: a physical fitness award, life-saving awards, and meritorious service citations. His work ethic helped him earn multiple specialty assignments including: SWAT, Academy Instructor, and Narcotics detective.

Paul was promoted to patrol sergeant in 2011 and used his new supervisory position to recruit officers interested in forming the agency's first formal field training program. Developing this program provided Paul valuable experience in policy writing, scheduling, and other administrative functions. From this experience, he worked to form a professional organization within New Jersey to provide resources to law enforcement agencies looking to develop their own FTO programs. He also began his involvement with the National Association of Field Training Officers (NAFTO).

Mr. Hasselberger was promoted to Lieutenant in 2016 and demonstrated the power of collaborative leadership by improving morale, productivity, and attendance while decreasing complaints, and sick time on the department's busiest platoon. He was reassigned to the Traffic Division and quickly learned the wide-ranging technical aspects of crash reconstruction, traffic engineering and grant writing. During this time, Paul was also selected to assume command of the department's SWAT team. Through this role, he introduced less-lethal ammunition and weapons, secured a grant to train over 300 law enforcement and medical personal in active shooter response, and began a force-on-force training program. Paul was reassigned to the Training Division in early 2019 where he updated the FTO program and enhanced the agency's firearms training. During this time, Paul incorporated many of the concepts and ideas he developed during his return to school to earn his master's degree in education.

Outside of his full-time position, Paul has put his experience, education, and leadership skills to use by providing instruction to hundreds of FTO around the country. He has presented at various conferences and was most notably chosen to participate in the International Law Enforcement and Educators Association's (ILEETA) prestigious "Emerson Hour". Paul has also continued to instruct at the Passaic County Police Academy for the past 10 years and worked as a subject matter expert for police supervision promotional test development for the state of NJ.

Mr. Hasselberger has volunteered for leadership positions on various non-profit boards. He served as the Vice-President of his agency's supervisor's union and is the founding director of the NJ Chapter of NAFTO. Paul has been the President of NAFTO's Executive Board since 2018. During his term, he collaborated with the Executive Board to redefine NAFTO's mission and business operations. These changes will allow NAFTO to maintain its position as the leading provider of FTO training while becoming the Nation's leading advocate for improved training programs.