



# **POACT**

Police Officers Association of Connecticut

**April 7, 2026**

**The Police Officers Association of Connecticut is deeply concerned about the manner in which Hartford Police Officer Joseph Magnano was abruptly separated from service.**

**Officer Magnano's use of force is now under investigation by the Office of the Inspector General. The "IG" is compelled by state statute to engage in an analysis of police use of force incidents and to prosecute cases of excessive force if warranted. The "IG" was created during the police accountability initiatives of 2020. The "IG" is empowered to make the sole determination of whether an officer's use of force is justified and necessary. No determination on Officer Magnano's actions, by the "IG" has been finalized. Yet, in the absence of a determination by the legal entity charged to make such findings Officer Magnano was terminated from his employment.**

**This failure to allow the "IG" to do their work is counter-intuitive and seemingly in contradiction to the accountability act. To be accountable for one's action, it must first be determined if such actions necessitate accountability. Here in Officer Magnano's case, it appears that political rather than legal decisions were made. The accountability act, specifically the "IG's" role, was legislated to promote review of high-profile incidents by an impartial third party and to thoroughly review all available information before making a determination on right and wrong police actions.**

**Here, the "IG's" statutory duty was disregarded and circumvented by a clearly political agenda. This is not accountability. It's a blind political decision which is what the accountability act was designed to prevent.**

**Respectfully,**

**Police Officers Association of Connecticut**