From: Shilling, Robert W., DPS
To: DPS-SP
Subject: 9mm M&P
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Importance: High

Men and Women of the New Mexico State Police;

The decision has been made for us to transition from the .357 Sig to the 9mm +P+ as our primary duty handgun round.

We have carried the .357 Sig for approximately 5 years and since the purchase, we have had to replace numerous slide stops, trigger assemblies, slides and frames. The reason for this is the .357 Sig round has increased chamber pressure (due to the necked casing) which is causing the aforementioned items to break very early in the life of the handgun.

With the transition to the 9mm the durability and longevity of parts and overall platform will surpass the .357 Sig and we will not have the same issues as stated above. The loss of internal, external and terminal ballistics will be minimal, **if at all**. This is contributed to the vast improvement of bullet technology, including primer and powder blends (9mm) over the last several years. Many, if not all, bullets are now chemically bonded to the copper jacket to reduce separation from the lead core; this increases ballistic capabilities and terminal ballistics for the round. In turn the overall performance is greatly improved. The handgun will still be the same Smith & Wesson M&P platform, leather gear will not change, and less recoil means quicker acquisition of front sight and, finally, bullet capacity increases.

I assure you this decision is **not** based on economics or budget considerations. The driving force behind this decision is performance (proven time and again in sanctioned testing), increased confidence and increased skill demonstration in the weapon platform (shots on target).

In a few weeks the Training Bureau will be sending out a short power point presentation providing more detailed information.

Chief