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occurs prior to the establishment of the tax rate of the town in said fiscal year.

Approved July 1, 1982.

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Chap. 227. AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF BROOKLINE TO APPOINT GLEN D. TAGGART AS A POLICE OFFICER IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF SAID TOWN.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary regarding the appointment of municipal police officers, the board of selectmen of the town of Brookline is hereby authorized to appoint Glen D. Taggart as a full time police officer in the police department of said town provided he has served in excess of two years as a police cadet in said town under the provisions of section twenty-one A of chapter one hundred and forty-seven of the General Laws has qualified by virtue of previously passing a civil service examination for police officer and is a resident of said town. Said Glen D. Taggart shall, after satisfactorily performing the duties of such position on a full time basis for a probationary period of twelve months, be a tenured employee in such position under the provisions of said chapter thirty-one.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect only upon its acceptance by the board of selectmen of the town of Brookline.

Approved July 1, 1982.

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Chap. 228. AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING GUARDIANSHIPS FOR SPENDTHRIFTS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 201 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 9, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 9. Upon such petition the court shall cause not less than seven days' notice of the time and place appointed for the hearing to be given to the alleged spendthrift, except that the court may, for cause shown, direct that a shorter notice be

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given. If the alleged spendthrift is married, no guardian shall be appointed without such notice to said married person's spouse as the court may order.

Approved July 1, 1982.

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**Chap. 229. AN ACT ENLARGING THE SCOPE OF OFFENSES WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE DIVISIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL AND DISTRICT COURT DEPARTMENTS.**

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 26 of chapter 218 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by chapter 470 of the acts of 1981, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 13, the words "and forty-nine" and inserting in place thereof the words: - , forty-nine and one hundred and twenty-seven.

SECTION 2. Chapter 266 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 127, as amended by chapter 544 of the acts of 1978, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 127. Whoever destroys or injures the personal property, dwelling house or building of another in any manner or by any means not particularly described or mentioned in this chapter shall, if such destruction or injury is wilful and malicious, be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than ten years or by a fine of three thousand dollars or three times the value of the property so destroyed or injured, whichever is greater and imprisonment in jail for not more than two and one-half years; or if such destruction or injury is wanton, shall be punished by a fine of fifteen hundred dollars or three times the value of the property so destroyed or injured, whichever is greater, or by imprisonment for not more than two and one-half years; if the value of the property so destroyed or injured is not alleged to exceed one hundred dollars, the punishment shall be by a fine of three times the value of the damage or injury to such property or by imprisonment for not more than two and one-half months; provided, however, that where a fine is levied pursuant to the value of the property destroyed or injured, the court shall, after conviction, conduct an evidentiary hearing to ascertain the value of the property so destroyed or injured.

Approved July 1, 1982.