

Connecticut General Assembly

Police Transparency & Accountability Task Force

Daryl McGraw, Co-Chairperson



c/o Judiciary Committee, Room 2500
Legislative Office Building
300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Ct 06106

Minutes

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

1:00 p.m., via Zoom

Members present: Daryl McGraw (Chair), Jon Slifka, Thomas Kulhawik, William Wright, John Szewczyk, Chief Mello, Richard Colangelo, Shafiq Abdussabur, Steven Cousin

Others: Ken Barone, Andrew Clark, Renee LaMark Muir, Henri Alphonse Mendoza, Lisa Backus, Patrick Hulin, Peter Kochenburger, Peter Siegelman

I. Convene meeting and welcome

a. Chair McGraw convened the meeting at 1:07pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

II. Review and acceptance of minutes from the 12/29/20 meeting

a. Chair Hall was added as a member present. Upon a motion and second the amended minutes were approved.

III. Subcommittee Updates

a. Improving Police Interactions with Disability Community

i. Chair Slifka provided an update of Subcommittee activities. The recommendation on the social worker study was tabled for further discussion. In the meantime, the subcommittee recommended unanimously that:

1. Recommendation: The POSTC shall provide to the PTATF reports submitted under section 18 of PA 20-1 by DESPP and each municipal police department within 30 days of receiving the reports. Upon a motion (Slifka) and second (Mello), a discussion ensued. Chief Mello indicated that upon approval, the request would go to the POSTC for approval at their next meeting. Chair McGraw noted that Chief Kulhawik is no longer on the Task Force and that we are anticipating a new appointment from Senator Duff. The motion was approved via roll call: 7 yea, 0 nay, and 2 members absent.

b. Public Awareness

1. Andrew Clark provided an update on the Youth Work Group of the Subcommittee. Everyday Democracy has provided the final reports (major

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themes and survey summaries) from the November young adult listening sessions. The reports will be forwarded to the full Task Force. Next up will be under 18 youth sessions. They are tentatively scheduled for: Tuesdays, February 2, 9, 16 from 4-6pm. We are just awaiting confirmation from UCONN as to their availability on Feb 9. The Feb 2 session will be co-hosted by the CT NAACP Youth and College Division. The February 16 session will be co-hosted by the CT Juvenile Justice Alliance.

2. *Chair McGraw noted the next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 26, 11am.*

c. Logistics

Liability Insurance Assessment Report

1. *Ken Barone, Peter Siegelman (UCONN Law) and Peter Kochenburger (UCONN Law) presented on the assessment report regarding liability insurance.*
 - a. *The assessment responded to Public Act 20-1 Sec. 42. (Effective from passage) On or before January 1, 2021, the task force established to study police transparency and accountability, pursuant to section 6 of public act 19-90, shall report in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary on any recommendations related to the implementation of section 41 of this act and the anticipated impact that the implementation of said section 41 will have on the ability of a police officer or municipality to obtain liability insurance.*
 - b. *Motion: That the Task Force approve the assessment of the anticipated impact that the implementation of section 41 of PA 20-1 will have on the ability of a police officer or municipality to obtain liability insurance and that the assessment be forwarded along to the General Assembly. Upon a motion, (Chair McGraw) (motion) and second (Chief Wright, a roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved with 7 yea, 0 nay and 2 members absent.*

IV. Other Business

- a. Status Update: Preliminary Report to the Legislature
 - i. *Ken Barone and Andrew Clark provided an update on the scope and format of the report. It is anticipated that a draft will be forwarded to members within 7-10 days, to allow for review prior to a vote to approve in the January 26 meeting.*

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- V. Announcement of time and date of next meeting
 - a. *Tuesday, January 26, 4pm*

- VI. Adjournment
 - a. *Upon a motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 2:06pm.*