



MINUTES

Thursday, November 17th, 2022

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Zoom

Advisory Board Members Present: William Dyson (Chair), Andrew Clark, Chief Vernon Riddick, Joe Cristalli, Marc Pelka, Chief LJ Fusaro, Shannon Trice, Cheryl Sharp, Tanya Hughes, Tamara Lanier, Rashad Glass, Claudine Constant, Dan Parlapiano, Chief Neil Dryfe, Jake Joseph, Senator Gary Winfield, Mike Gailor, Colonel Mellekas, Francisco Gomez

Staff: Ken Barone, Erica Escobar, Natalie Casanova

Guest: Bill Cummings, Lt. Colonel Mark Davison, Sgt. Kevin Gridley, Kazimera Morse, Frank Mugavin

- I. Welcome & Introductions
 - a. Chair Dyson convened the meeting at 10:03 a.m.
- II. Approval of the October 20th, 2022, meeting minutes
 - a. Minutes approved via voice vote.
- III. Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Data Collection, Analysis, and Quality
 - i. CSP Data Audit update and recommendation

Subcommittee Chair Stacey Manware is unable to attend the meeting and asked Ken Barone to provide an update. Ken Barone presented a summary of the subcommittee's recommendation. The summary included the current work that staff completed as part of an initial, limited, audit of state police records. After reviewing initial information, the Data Subcommittee recommended a further review of the Eastern District.

Senator Winfield asked why in their original audit in 2018 did the state police only review Troopers with a discrepancy greater than 50. Colonel

Mellekas responded that was a decision made at the time by the then Commissioner and Lt. Colonel. The CSP command staff is all new since that time. Senator Winfield asked the Colonel if he believes that number was too large to determine a significant discrepancy. Colonel Mellekas responded that it depends on the overall number of stops conducted by each Trooper.

Tamara Lanier asked why the staff was referring to records as unaccounted and not falsified. Ken Barone responded that without a formal investigation, staff could only determine if a record was unaccounted for and could not determine if the record had been falsified. Tamara asked who has the authority to determine if a record was falsified and Ken stated that in the past that determination was made by internal affairs investigators. Tamara expressed her concern about the potential serious breach of public trust and that the advisory board needed to leave no stone unturned in assessing the extent of this problem.

Claudine Constant asked for clarification as to why the subcommittee only recommended a further review of the Eastern District and not the entire State Police. Ken Barone informed members that the subcommittee discussed this at length and ultimately decided on moving forward with the Eastern District. Chief Riddick mentioned that the subcommittee was trying to take a measured approach. Claudine stated that she believed it was important for the advisory board to rebuild trust between the community and the police. Therefore, she believed that the advisory board needed to review the full state police records, not just the Eastern District. Rashad Glass concurred and stated that a full audit would be a more appropriate response.

Under Secretary Pelka asked if the staff had any concerns that our previous studies may include information that could be falsified and impact our annual analysis. Ken Barone stated that the staff was concerned about the quality of previous analyses. Under Secretary stated that he would support a full audit.

Cheryl Sharp informed members that it was her opinion that the conduct of the Troopers in Trooper E and the fact that we know some of those Troopers have worked outside of Troop E, a full audit should be conducted. Senator Winfield stated that the most important thing is to have accurate information and agreed with the individuals who wish to conduct a full audit.

Lt. Colonel Mark Davison responded that as a member of the subcommittee that recommended starting with an audit of the Eastern District, he believed that this may help to identify the appropriate error

rate. The Eastern District audit could also help to determine the larger impact of the Troop E activity. It can also determine if the data appears better in 2019, after the 4 Troopers were identified.

Under Secretary Pelka stated that in the past, project staff have worked with police departments to audit data and address any discrepancies. Based on the assessment made by the staff, it appears that the audit could be conducted rather quickly, and that State Police could benefit from this better understanding of their records. He recommended that the subcommittee motion to audit only the Eastern District be amended to include a full audit of the State Police.

Andrew Clark made a motion for the project staff to conduct a full audit of Connecticut State Police records submitted to the racial profiling database between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2021. The CTRP3 Advisory Board formally requests that the Connecticut State Police provide the project staff with the required data so that a complete audit can be conducted. Tamara Lanier seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by a voice vote.

b. Policy & Community Outreach Subcommittees

The subcommittee chairs are looking to schedule the first meetings in early December, more information will be provided to members in the coming days.

IV. Old Business

a. Traffic Stop Data Analysis and Findings Report, 2020

Ken Barone informed members that the report has been completed. The staff is waiting for Middletown to submit a formal written response to the follow-up analysis. Ken requested that the report be published 24 hours after a response has been provided. There was no objection to this request.

V. New Business

a. Hartford PD vehicle search question and clarification

This item was tabled.

VI. General Discussion

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 15th, 2022. The meeting was adjourned at 11:22am.