

Connecticut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project

Thursday, May 23, 2019 10:00am – 12:00pm Legislative Office Building, Room 1B

Minutes

Present: William Dyson, Ken Barone, Andrew Clark, George Sinclair, Ana Mitchell, Chief Neil Dryfe, Chief L.J. Fusaro, Michael Gailor, Steve Ginsburg. Sean Fogarty, Rashad Glass, Tanya Hughes, Tamara Lanier, Stacey Manware, David McGuire, Werner Oyanadel, Cheryl Sharp, Aaron Swanson, Shannon Trice, Brian Foley

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

I. Welcome

Chairman Dyson welcomes the advisory board and thanked them for attending.

II. Approval of the March 21, 2019 meeting minutes

Andrew Clark made a motion to approve the March 21, 2019 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Michael Gailor and the minutes were approved.

III. General Announcements

Ken Barone, IMRP project manager, made several announcement to advisory board members. Those included informing members that the 2017 Traffic Stop Data Analysis and Findings report was tentatively planned to be released on June 20, 2019. Ken also informed members that Judge Patrick Carroll responded to the advisory board's request for detailed infractions data from the Centralized Infractions Bureau. The Judicial Branch agreed to share the data requested and CCSU is in the process of finalizing an MOU with the agency.

Ana Mitchell, IMRP community outreach coordinator, announced that the project has scheduled a public forum in New Haven on June 19, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. The forum is scheduled to take place at Gateway Community College from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. All advisory board members were encouraged to attend if available.

IV. Discussion regarding CTRP3 research and recent police involved shootings in Hamden and Wethersfield

Chairman Dyson mentioned the recent police involved shootings in both Hamden and Wethersfield. Ken Barone informed members that he has received a number of inquiries regarding the projects past research related to both departments. He also indicated that there was some misreporting about prior report findings. In order to clarify past research findings for the three departments (Hamden, Wethersfield, and Yale) involved in the shootings, Ken provided members with a summary of total traffic stops conducted. The summary also included information regarding whether the department was identified with statistically significant disparities in past reports.

The Hamden and Wethersfield Police Departments were identified with statistically significant disparities in the 2013-14 Traffic Stop Data Analysis and Findings report. The Wethersfield Police Department was also identified in the 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2017 Traffic Stop Data Analysis and Findings reports. The Yale Police Department has not been identified with statistically significant disparities in any analysis conducted by the IMRP.

Chairman Dyson opened the discussion for advisory board members to provide comment or ask questions related to the recent police involved shootings and the previous research findings. Members engaged in a brief discussion regarding the role of the advisory board in addressing racial disparities, especially in departments identified in multiple reports. Members discussed wanting to explore the topic of trauma within urban communities and police departments. The board agreed to invite a number of experts to present on the topic of trauma within both groups. Chairman Dyson thanked members for engaging in an honest discussion about the recent police involved shootings and requested that the discussion about the role of the advisory board be ongoing.

V. Policy Work Group Update

The Policy Work Group will schedule its next meeting in the coming weeks. There were no other updates at this time.

VI. Completed and ongoing academic research initiatives

Ken shared two recently published academic articles written by Matt Ross and Jesse Kalinowski (Project Consultants). The recent articles continue to advance the Veil of Darkness methodology. Additional updates will be provided at a future meeting.

VII. Public Comment

Chairman Dyson asked if there were any members of the public that were in attendance that wanted to address the advisory board. There was no public comment and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.