

Connecticut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project

Thursday, October 20, 2016 10:00am – 12:00pm Legislative Office Building, Room 2B

Minutes

Present: William Dyson, Commissioner Dora Schriro, Jim Fazzalaro, Ken Barone, Andrew Clark, Cheryl Sharp, Michael Gailor, Chief Doug Fuchs, Lt. Marc Petruzzi, Dane Silcox, Sarah Ficence

The meeting was called to order at 10:15am

I. Welcome

Bill Dyson welcomed the advisory board and thanked them for attending.

II. Update on follow-up analysis

Ken Barone and Jim Fazzalaro provided an update on the progress of the follow-up analysis with the departments identified in the May 2016 report. The project staff has completed mapping all traffic stops and the officer level analysis. In addition, they began meeting with departments a second time to discuss the findings from the in-depth analysis of data. Each department identified additional areas that they would like the project staff the analysis to continue to understand the factors contributing to the racial disparities in the data. A draft report for each department will be presented to the departments in early January. The project staff hopes to publish the full follow-up analysis in early February.

III. Update on Public Awareness Work Group activities

The Public Awareness work group met in early October to discuss the Commissioners proposal to conduct a series of listening sessions around the state. The work group identified Hartford, Meriden, and Bridgeport as the first three locations to schedule. The project staff is working with local leaders to identify the most appropriate location and date to host each event. A further update will be provided in November.

IV. Update on Data and Methodology Work Group activities

The Data work group met in October. They are currently considering making modifications to the data collection system. Those changes under consideration include, (1) changing "Blind" stop to "Technology" stop to eliminate reporting errors, (2) collection latitude and longitude information, and (3) collection the infraction number for all tickets. The working group hopes to have a proposal for the full advisory board no later than December.

Additionally, the work group began to review a proposal by Preusser Research Group, Inc. to conduct roadway surveys of drivers in communities identified for additional analysis. This proposal is still being vetted by the working group.

V. Breaking Barriers Presentation (CPCA)

Due to the low turn-out at the meeting it was decided to postpone this presentation to the November 2016 meeting.

VI. Ideas for elements to be included in an early warning system/data portal for police administrators.

Advisory Board members asked for more details on the proposed early warning system. The CT Data Collaborative will make a presentation at the November meeting to outline their proposed data analysis system for police administrators.

VII. Future legislative initiatives to discuss

Ken Barone presented members with legislation being proposed in another state that tries to statutorily create a protocol for working with departments identified from an annual analysis. It was determined that the data working group will review this legislation to determine if it has any relevance for Connecticut.

In Addition, Ken distributed information on motor vehicle consent searches to begin looking at some of the racial disparities in search data. It was determined to table this discussion for a future meeting due to time constraints.

VIII. General Discussion

Eight UK Police Chief's will visit CCSU on November 16, 2016 from 10:00am to 3:00pm as part of a program sponsored by Open Society to training law enforcement around the world on developed police practices in the United States. Connecticut has been identified as a leader in the collection and analysis of traffic stop data. This is an area of interested to the visiting Chief's. There will be an opportunity for advisory board members to visit with the guests and share their experience with the Connecticut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project.

There was no further general discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm.