



Connecticut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project

Thursday, July 20, 2017

10:00am – 12:00pm

Legislative Office Building, Room 1C

Draft Minutes

Present: William Dyson, Jim Fazzalano, Ken Barone, Andrew Clark, Neil Dryfe, Deborah Del Prete Sullivan, Doug Fuchs, Michael Gailor, Subira Gordon, Mike Lawlor, David McGuire, Marc Petruzzi, Dora Schriro, Aaron Swanson, Robyn Porter, Daniel Loughman

The meeting was called to order at 10:10am

I. Welcome

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

II. Approval of the June 1, 2017 minutes

Andrew Clark made a motion to approve the minutes from June 1, 2017. The motion was seconded by David McGuire. There was no discussion and the minutes were passed unanimously.

III. Follow-Up to Hartford and Bridgeport Data Issues

Following the April 2017 advisory board meeting where a presentation was made regarding data issues with the Hartford, Middletown and Bridgeport police departments, Michael Gailor and Chief Doug Fuchs coordinated a meeting to resolve the outstanding issues.

Ken Barone summarized the outcome of the meeting: the Middletown Police Department administration acknowledged that an indeterminate number of traffic stops were likely unreported during the study period. However, the traffic stop data that was reported appeared to be accurate based on an audit by project staff. It was determined that the missing traffic stops were likely random and shouldn't have a big impact on the outcome of an analysis. Middletown outlined the changes made to data collection and reporting procedures to correct this problem moving forward.

The Hartford Police Department administration questioned the total number of missing stops that the project staff had estimated. The project staff estimated that there could be as many as 4,000 unreported stop records. In addition, as a result of the project staff audit of data reported, it appeared that much of the data didn't match the information on the corresponding form completed by the officer. Hartford PD determined that there was an issue with data entry and agreed to have all traffic stops resubmitted from October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016. It was also determined that an indeterminate number of traffic stops were likely unreported. However, with the department resubmitting all stops to resolve the data quality issues, the project staff believes that there will be sufficient data for analysis in year 3. In addition, the department also outlined new procedures that were put in place to ensure that traffic stop forms are completed by officers and entered into the database.

Bridgeport was unable to attend the meeting and calls to the department continue not to be returned. Michael Gailor indicated that he would reach out again to try and set-up a meeting to discuss the outstanding issues.

IV. Traffic Stop Data Analysis and Findings, 2014-15 Supplemental Report Presentation

The project staff released the supplemental report to expand on the findings in the May 2016 traffic stop analysis. Ken Barone and Jim Fazzaloro made a comprehensive presentation on the findings. The supplemental report was an in-depth analysis of departments identified in the May 2016 analysis. Those departments are: Bloomfield, New Milford, Norwalk, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Meriden, Newington, Trumbull, and Windsor. The enhanced analysis of each department included a census tract or corridor analysis as well as a detailed post-stop analysis. Individual reports were produced for each department to provide additional information on the factors that may be contributing to the overall racial and ethnic disparities in traffic enforcement. The full presentation made by Ken Barone and Jim Fazzaloro can be found on the project website at www.ctrp3.org. Due to length of the presentation there was no time for discussion by the advisory board. There will be an opportunity for discussion at the next meeting.

V. General Discussion

The next meeting will take place on September 7, 2017 and we will be joined by John W. Marshall, Director of the Office of Safety Programs at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for a presentation on the program: Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm.