



## **Minutes**

Thursday, September 26, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Virtual

**Advisory Board Members Present:** William Dyson (Chair), Chief Neil Dryfe, Michael Gailor, Joe Cristalli, Eyvonne Parker-Bair, Piotr Milczek, Chief Vern Riddick, Colonel Daniel Loughman, Werner Oyanadel, Shannon Trice, Tamara Lanier, Chief Jack Drumm, Lt. Colonel Mark Davison, Andrew Clark, Rashad Glass, Stacey Manware

**Staff:** Ken Barone, Jim Fazzalaro, Erica Escobar

**Guests:** Dr. Ermus St. Luis, Catarina Meneses

### **I. Welcome & Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. and members introduced themselves.

### **II. Approval of the August 22, 2024, meeting minutes**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from August 22, 2024. The minutes were unanimously approved by members via voice vote.

### **III. Subcommittee Reports**

#### **a. Data Collection, Analysis, and Quality**

An update was provided on the racial profiling data collection system, which is set to implement seven modifications approved by the board. CIJIS has been developing these changes and recently shared them with police departments and vendors for testing.

During this process, an oversight regarding the collection of passenger search information was identified. In a recent meeting with CIJIS, it was noted that while the intention was to gather data on whether passengers were searched and the authority for those searches, the current system only allows for reporting on a single passenger. This limitation complicates data collection, especially when multiple passengers are involved in a stop.

Given the complexities and potential delays associated with resolving these issues, it was recommended to temporarily remove the passenger search data fields from the upcoming update. This temporary removal is crucial to ensure that the other important changes can proceed on schedule without unnecessary delays. The intention is to revisit the collection of passenger search data once the technical challenges are addressed, allowing for a more comprehensive and efficient implementation. A motion was made to remove the passenger data collection temporarily, which was seconded and unanimously approved by the board.

Additionally, a small working group was established to improve data integrity and develop a model policy or documentation for agencies to enhance the quality of their data. Dean Esserman and Jeff Schlanger, who contributed to the original guidance last year, were brought in to lead this effort. They have been tasked with engaging police chiefs across the state to assess current practices and explore automation opportunities to enhance data quality. The group will also outline a potential model policy, with their work expected to span several months.

Ken Barone emphasized that providing easily consumable information and automating certain processes could reduce the burden on individual agencies. The goal is to develop checks and flags that guide police administrators in overseeing their data collection efforts, thereby facilitating better data management across the board. The working group will continue its efforts in this direction.

#### b. Policy

The Policy Subcommittee met earlier this week to discuss legislative priorities for 2025, focusing on two significant bills from the previous session. One was the governor's bill aimed at imposing penalties for the intentional falsification of police data records, which ultimately failed to pass. The subcommittee is looking to proactively support important legislation this session to avoid similar outcomes.

They also reviewed proposed changes to the secondary stop bill, which involves modifications to five motor vehicle statutes. These changes do not aim to create a secondary stop system but could reform existing laws related to traffic enforcement.

The subcommittee plans to continue its discussions next month to evaluate the potential impacts of these bills and to determine if the Advisory Board should take a position on these recurring legislative issues as the new session approaches.

#### c. Community Outreach

The Community Outreach Subcommittee held a public forum last week at the Danbury Public Library, featuring participation from Cheryl Sharpe, Chief Ridenhour, and Chairman Dyson. The event fostered thoughtful discussions on engaging the community and the work being done.

Plans for future public forums are underway, with the Cheshire Public Library scheduled for January, followed by forums in East Hartford, Enfield, and Waterbury in early 2025. The subcommittee aims to secure dates and locations for all four forums in the coming month to facilitate advertising.

Additionally, the subcommittee is looking to engage the legal community by hosting an informational presentation for law students at UConn Law in November. UConn Law has also expressed interest in organizing a larger public forum in February that will include law students and bar associations across Connecticut, enhancing community outreach.

The subcommittee discussed the importance of involving a wider array of law students and college students in future events, considering partnerships with local universities. There was also a suggestion to include a virtual component for public participation, which will be explored as venues are secured.

#### IV. Old Business

##### a. CSP Trooper/Constable Record Reconciliation report status update

Ken provided an update on the trooper-constable reconciliation report, noting that it has been an agenda item for several meetings. The work is progressing, with the goal of finalizing the report for the Advisory Board's next meeting. Collaboration with the state police is ongoing to compile findings.

It was also noted that the state police have been actively implementing most of the previously made recommendations, ensuring that these changes have occurred concurrently with the reconciliation efforts without delaying the process.

#### V. New Business

##### a. CTRP3 Program Evaluation (Qualitative)

Dr. St. Louis and Catarina from Northeastern University are leading a qualitative assessment of the work CTRP3 has done over the past ten years. They reached out via email to request a few minutes of participants' time for interviews related to their study, which focuses on the implementation process, challenges, and successes of the CTRP3 Initiative.

Dr. St. Louis emphasized that participation is voluntary, and interviews can be conducted via Zoom or phone, with privacy assured by removing identifying information from the final report. While there are no incentives for participating, the study aims to enhance community and police engagement and improve police-community relations.

Following the meeting, an official recruitment email will be sent, and interested individuals are encouraged to respond to schedule an interview. It was noted that the researchers are independent and do not represent UConn, and the Advisory Board will see the final product upon publication.

b. 2023 Traffic Stop Data Analysis Report status update

Ken gave an update, stating that the 2023 data has been cleaned and is currently being evaluated by the research team. A preliminary statewide finding is expected to be ready for the November meeting.

VI. General Discussion

a. Website updates and video production efforts

An update was provided on website improvements and video production efforts for the CTRP3 initiative. The public website, which receives thousands of hits monthly, is being revamped for the first time in years. Valerie Gordon, the new communications manager, is working to simplify the site's overly dark design and highlight progress made over the past decade. Feedback will be sought as updates progress to ensure the initiative remains relevant.

There was no further discussion, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.