



MINUTES

Thursday, April 25, 2023

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Zoom

Advisory Board Members Present: William Dyson (Chair), Andrew Clark, Chief Vernon Riddick, Marc Pelka, Cheryl Sharp, Chief Neil Dryfe, Chief Fusaro, Claudine Constant, Michael Gailor, Werner Oyanadel, Commissioner James Rovella, Colonel Stavros Mellekas, Stacy Sobel, Shannon Trice, Gail Hardy, Piotr Milczek, Allison Beas, Lt. Colonel Mark Davison, Stacey Manware

Staff: Ken Barone, Erica Escobar, Jim Fazzalaro

I. Welcome & Introductions

Chair Dyson welcomed members and convened the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

II. Approval of the March 23, 2023, meeting minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the March 23, 2023, meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by members via voice vote.

III. Old Business

a. CSP Data Audit update

Ken Barone updated Advisory Board members of the CSP Data Audit. The audit and draft report have been completed. Ken will be sending the draft report to the Commissioner and Colonel within the next 24 hours and will work towards planning a meeting with them to review it.

b. 2021 Traffic Stop Data Analysis and Findings report update.

Ken Barone updated advisory board members of the 2021 Traffic Stop Data Analysis and Findings report. Ken stated they met with the Wethersfield Police Department and are still working to connect with the Hartford Police Department regarding disparities with required searches that need to be explored. Ken stated he hopes to finalize the 2021 Traffic Stop Data Analysis and Findings Report along with the follow-up analysis in the coming months.

c. 2022 Traffic Stop Totals

Project staff updated Advisory Board members on the 2022 traffic stop totals. They were able to finalize the 2022 data set. CIB provided sources of information

regarding infractions and revenue loss to the state. Ken stated the number of fatal crashes has continued to rise since 2019 and at this time is substantially high. Marc Pelka proposed infographics or charts that show the decline in disparities with traffic stops based on the annual reports. Ken stated it is a good area of focus and should be further discussed to figure out how to highlight the good work and progress made by law enforcement.

IV. Subcommittee Reports

a. Data Collection, Analysis, and Quality

Stacy Manware stated they were unable to pass along recommendations due to the absence of several Data Collection, Analysis, and Quality Subcommittee members. Recommendations will be available after their June 14th meeting.

i. Hartford PD Data Falsification Investigation

An officer who was part of the traffic unit was accused of falsifying records. The Hartford Police Department opened an internal affairs investigation, and the police officer is no longer an employee. The project staff is working to assess what systems were manipulated by the officer and if they impacted the racial profiling system.

The police department has agreed to share its internal affairs report once it's been completed. The internal affairs report will show what and how it occurred and if it impacted the profiling system. Further updates will be provided as more information is made available.

ii. Search data collection change

The Subcommittee is working on a recommendation for consideration at the next advisory board meeting. The goal is to implement any changes by January 1, 2024. However, the timeline could potentially change.

b. Policy

i. S.B. 953: An Act Concerning the Definition of Racial Profiling

The bill passed unanimously out of the Judiciary Committee and awaits action in the House and Senate.

ii. S.B. 6888: An Act Concerning Juvenile Justice (Section 8)

Implementation dates for pedestrian stop data collection were changed. The collection of pedestrian stop data would go into effect in 2025. The Policy Subcommittee outlined concerns with the bill. The Subcommittee did not take a formal position on the collection of pedestrian stop data.

iii. S.B. 1195: An Act Concerning Secondary Violations

Ken Barone updated the Advisory Board on S.B. 1195: An Act Concerning Secondary Violations. Ken stated the bill made it out of the judiciary committee. The language in the statute concerning equipment and

administrative offenses was either cleaned up or made secondary. After reviewing the bills, the Policy Subcommittee collectively agreed to not take a position on the bill.

c. Community Outreach

i. DMV Partnership/Information Sharing

The Community Outreach Subcommittee met with the DMV Commissioner and several of his staff regarding ways they could share information about the work of the racial profiling prohibition advisory board. The DMV Commissioner and his staff were open to working together to inform the public about the work of the board.

DMV representatives also suggested the Community Outreach Subcommittee identify any other state agency relevant to reach out to, to post information on their public websites. The next steps to be taken are identifying information to give DMV and figuring out the placement of information. DMV staff members have agreed to participate in the Community Outreach Subcommittee.

ii. Public forums: Middletown

Ken Barone gave a brief update concerning the Community Outreach Subcommittee's first public forum taking place in Middletown. A date will be provided once it is available.

V. New Business

No new business was discussed.

There was no further discussion, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.