

Public Act 19-90, Section 6 established a task force to study police transparency and accountability. During a July 2020 special session, the Connecticut General Assembly passed Public Act 20-1, which made modifications to the task force by adding additional priorities for evaluation and recommendation. The law requires the task force to examine:

	Legislative Requirement	Other Organizations Working on Priority
1	Police officer interactions with individuals who are individuals with mental, intellectual or physical disability.	Improving Police Interaction with the Disabled Community Subcommittee.
2	The merits and feasibility of police officers who conduct traffic stops issuing a receipt to each individual being stopped that includes the reason for the stop and records the demographic information of the person being stopped.	Recommendation made at February 2020 task force meeting.
3	Strategies that can be utilized by communities to increase the recruitment, retention and promotion of minority police officers, as required by section 7-291a of the general statutes.	CBA: Increase the number of minorities and women on the police force, especially in communities of color. A more diverse police force may reduce the instances of use of force and de-escalate police encounters with the public.
4	Strategies that can be utilized by communities to increase the recruitment, retention and promotion of female police officers.	CBA: Increase the number of minorities and women on the police force, especially in communities of color. A more diverse police force may reduce the instances of use of force and de-escalate police encounters with the public.
5	The merits and feasibility of requiring police officers to procure and maintain professional liability insurance as a condition of employment.	
6	The merits and feasibility of requiring a municipality to maintain professional liability insurance on behalf of its police officers.	
7	The establishment of primary and secondary traffic violations in the general statutes; (8) the establishment of a requirement in the general statutes that any police traffic stop be based on the enforcement of a primary traffic violation.	Connecticut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project Advisory Board
8	The establishment of a requirement in the general statutes that any police traffic stop be based on the enforcement of a primary traffic violation.	Connecticut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project Advisory Board
9	How a police officer executes a warrant to enter a residence without giving audible notice of the police officer's presence, authority and purpose before entering in this state and under the	

	laws of other states, including verification procedures of the address where the warrant is to be executed and any documentation that a police officer should leave for the residents where the warrant was executed.	
10	How a professional bondsman under chapter 533 of the general statutes, a surety bail bond agent under chapter 700f of the general statutes or a bail enforcement agent under sections 29-152f to 29-152i, inclusive, of the general statutes take into custody the principal on a bond who has failed to appear in court and for whom a rearrest warrant or a capias has been issued pursuant to section 54-65a of the general statutes, in this state and other states, including what process of address verification is used and whether any documentation is left with a resident where the warrant was executed.	
11	Whether any of the grounds for revocation or cancellation of a police officer certification under section 7-294d of the general statutes should result in mandatory revocation by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council, as opposed to discretionary revocation.	
12	Any recommendations related to the implementation of section 41 of P.A. 20-1 and the anticipated impact that the implementation of section 41 will have on the ability of a police officer or municipality to obtain liability insurance.	CBA: There is much confusion on all sides as to what the term "Qualified Immunity" means, how the doctrine has worked, and what the new bill will do/not do to policing, lawsuits and attendant insurance consequences. We will work to demystify the concept of "qualified immunity" and make practical recommendations as to whether and, if so, the bill can be modified.

Task Force Priorities (Adopted June 2020)

	Police Accountability and Transparency Task Force June 30, 2020 Adopted Priorities	Addressed in P.A. 20-1	Other Organizations Working on Priority
Pillar One: Building Trust and Legitimacy			
1	Change the culture of policing- adopt guardian versus warrior culture of policing (Rec. 1.1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Adopt procedural justice framework as for internal and external policies and practices to guide police interactions with the citizens they serve (Rec. 1.4) b) Incorporate restorative justice practices into policing using community-based organizations 		

2	<p>Publicly address the role of policing in past injustices.</p> <p>a) Ensure police training includes accurate depiction of the history of policing</p>		<p>CBA: Create an opportunity to acknowledge the past and present acts of police violence, particularly in communities of color. Whether through a written statement or dialogue this would allow officers and departments to pause and reflect on this history and what it means going forward.</p> <p>CBA: Work with POST and other relevant organizations on incorporating the history of policing (specifically through the lens of structural and systemic racism) into police training. The idea would be to make this part of the initial training officers go through and any ongoing professional development/training.</p>
3	<p>Make all departmental policies and procedures available online.</p>		<p>POST: Modify CLESPP Standard to mandate</p>
4	<p>Task Force should conduct regional listening sessions, coupled with community surveys, by the end of the summer (2020) to seek public input in the final report</p> <p>a) Require agencies to periodically track the level of trust in policy by their communities just as they measure changes in crime. Annual community surveys, ideally standardized across jurisdictions and with accepted sampling protocols, can measure how policing in that community affects public trust.</p>		<p>Public Awareness Subcommittee: is scheduling and holding public listening sessions throughout the state. Sessions begin in late August 2020 and will include in-person outdoor sessions and online sessions</p>
5	<p>Examine police officers' interactions with individuals with a mental, intellectual, or physical disability</p> <p>a) Ensure resources are available for diversionary programs</p>	<p>Requires DESPP and local police departments to evaluate the feasibility and potential impact of using social workers to remotely or in person respond to calls for assistance or accompany a police officer on certain calls for assistance where the</p>	<p>Improving Police Interaction with the Disabled Community Subcommittee is examining this issue.</p> <p>CBA: Develop crisis intervention teams that include mental health professionals and other experts in</p>

		<p>experience and training of a social worker could be useful.</p> <p>The evaluation report must be submitted to POST within 6 months of passage of the law (approximately January 2021)</p>	<p>order to reduce the need for uniformed officers to respond to crisis calls.</p>
6.	<p>Ensure each officer commits to 500 hours of community engagement activities within Connecticut’s major urban centers prior [as] to receiving initial officer certification</p> <p>a) Explore residency requirement for police officers</p>		<p>CBA: Training in the police academy that increases cultural and emotional intelligence and addresses implicit bias. Specifically, by the implementation of the “Community, Cops & Culture Exchange Program” to new recruits</p>
7	<p>Duty to intervene</p> <p>a) Make it mandatory that officers report misconduct and intervene when they see wrongdoing, with criminal penalties if they fail to do so.</p> <p>b) All officers complete a mandatory Peer Intervention Program at the academy and receive annual refresher Peer Intervention Training.</p>	<p>Requires a police or correction officer to intervene and report another officer’s use of excessive force. Any officer who fails to intervene may be prosecuted and punished for same act. (Effective October 1, 2020)</p>	
Pillar Two: Policy and Oversight			
8	<p>Develop an independent external investigating authority- This authority should fulfill the following goals:</p> <p>a) Public must trust that deadly use of force incidents and incidents involving excessive use of force are investigated with credibility and integrity.</p> <p>b) Mechanism for state to conduct a patterns and practice investigation in response to civil rights violations, including police misconduct.</p> <p>c) Law enforcement agencies should establish a Serious Incident Review Board comprising sworn staff and community members to review cases involving officer-involved shootings and other serious incidents that have the potential to damage community trust or confidence in the agency. The purpose of this board</p>	<p>Establishes the Office of the Inspector General with the Division of Criminal Justice. Requires the inspector general to (1) conduct investigation of police officers, (2) prosecute cases in which police officers used force found not to be justified or where officers fail to intervene or report incidents of use of force and (3) make recommendations to POST concerning censure, suspension, renewal, cancelation or revocation of police certification.</p>	<p>CBA: Pattern and Practice: Can Connecticut develop its own model to not be dependent on DOJ intervention?</p>

	<p>should be to identify any administrative, supervisory, training, tactical, or policy issues that need to be addressed.</p> <p>d) Law enforcement agencies should implement nonpunitive peer review of critical incidents separate from criminal and administrative investigations.</p>		
9	Prohibit chokeholds and neck restraints	Establishes the use of chokeholds and similar neck restraints is justified when the officer believes such use is necessary to defend himself or herself from the use or imminent use of deadly physical force. Requires officer's actions to be objectively reasonable given the circumstances. (Effective April 1, 2021)	
10	<p>Reform Internal Affairs</p> <p>a) Ensure that the internal affairs process is transparent and accountable</p> <p>b) Community involvement in internal affairs investigations</p>		
11	<p>Reform citizen complaint process</p> <p>a) Require all law enforcement agencies operating in the State of Connecticut to accept electronic complaints and clearly lay out complaint procedure on their website.</p> <p>b) Create a statewide public database of police complaints by department and officer, listed by status (filed, pending, outcome)</p>		CBA: Citizen Complaint Process: The size of police departments and the communities they serve varies considerably, which means one size doesn't fit all. But there are some common principles that should be emphasized and incorporated into best practices, including non-technical access, transparency and centralized reporting. We will examine best practices and promulgate specific universal values.
12	Require officers to identify themselves by their full name, rank, and command (as applicable) and provide that information in writing to individuals they have stopped. In addition, policies should require officers to state the reason for the stop and the reason for the search if one is conducted.	Requires police officers to prominently display their badge and name tag on the outermost layer of their uniform, except as specified in model policy. (January 1, 2021)	

		Requires POST and DESPP to develop a model policy to include (1) time, place and manner for ensuring compliance with policy and law, (2) specific instances when officer may not display badge and name tag due to public-safety-related considerations or other practical considerations such as sensitive nature of investigation or officer working undercover. (December 31, 2020)	
13	Law enforcement agencies should report and make available to the public census data regarding the composition of their departments including race, gender, age, and other relevant demographic data.		
14	Identify state labor issues that prevent police administrators from easily removing unfit officers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Explore fair police union contracts b) Explore with POSTC the offenses and procedure for decertifying officers 		
15	Amend Alvin Penn Law to include data collection of Pedestrian stops.		
Pillar Three: Technology and Social Media			
16	Evaluate the effectiveness of other less than lethal force tools.		
17	Mandate body-worn cameras in all departments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Law enforcement agencies should review and consider the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Body Worn Camera Toolkit to assist in implementing BWCs 	Requires police officers use body-worn camera on the outer-most garment positioned in the middle of the officer's torso while interacting with the public with limited exceptions. (July 1, 2022)	
Pillar Four: Community Policing and Crime Reduction			
18	End broken windows policing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Stops for low-level administrative and equipment offenses should be secondary (i.e. police can no longer stop a car for these reasons) b) Law enforcement officers should be required to seek consent before a search and explain that a person has 	Prohibits consent searches of individuals and limits searches of motor vehicles stopped solely for motor vehicle violations. Any search of a motor vehicle stopped for a motor vehicle violation must be based on (1)	

	<p>the right to refuse consent when there is no warrant or probable cause. Furthermore, officers should ideally obtain written acknowledgement that they have sought consent to a search in these circumstances. (Rec. 2.10)</p> <p>c) Discontinuing police officers from chasing and pursuing “stolen vehicles,” unless, vehicle is classified as carjacking with a weapon. Police officers’ scope of duties should not include “Vehicle Recovery Police” for insurance agencies.</p> <p>d) Amending CT Statues Public Drinking, Loitering and Disorderly Conduct that require and allow officers to “self-initiate” enforcement that has led and continues to be used as racial and bias policing tactic that results in disproportional police contact and enforcement.</p>	<p>probable cause and (2) after having received unsolicited consent to search from operator of motor vehicle in written form or recorded by body-worn or dashboard cameras. (October 1, 2020)</p> <p>Prohibits municipal police departments and DESPP from imposing pedestrian citation quotas on their police officers (October 1, 2020)</p>	
19	<p>Mandate community oversight of all police departments</p> <p>a) Some form of civilian oversight of law enforcement is important in order to strengthen trust with the community. Every community should define the appropriate form and structure of civilian oversight to meet the needs of that community.</p>	<p>Allows each town’s legislative body to establish a civilian police review board (CPRB) by ordinance. CPRB may be vested with subpoena authority and require production of records relevant to investigations. CPRB shall stay and take no further action in an investigation upon written request from the Inspector General and such stay shall be no longer than 6 months. (Upon Passage)</p>	
Pillar Five: Training and Education			
20	<p>Review state’s accreditation program and explore ways to support both state or national accreditation for all police departments in CT.</p>	<p>Requires law enforcement units to obtain accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) and makes changes to law on POST’s authority. Requires POST to work with municipalities that failed to obtain accreditation until accreditation is earned. (January 1, 2025)</p>	<p>CBA: CALEA standards, which are the most stringent, are now in the bill. But that regime is expensive. Given that taxpayer will be footing the bill, we want to consider other acceptable standards, think innovatively, and make recommendations for possible modifications.</p>

		Requires POST adopt minimum standards and practices for administration and management of police department (Upon Passage)	
Pillar Six: Officer Wellness and Safety			
21	Ensure early intervention through assistance, correction action and discipline.		
22	Implement psychological evaluation of officers into their recertification process.	Requires police officers to receive behavioral health assessments as a condition of employment and at least once every 5 years. Departments may stagger scheduling of assessments so that approximately 20% of total number of officers received assessments each year over the 5-year period and may waive assessment for an officer who provides written notice of retirement within 6 months of the date of scheduled assessment. (January 1, 2021)	

Other Connecticut Bar Association Task Force Priorities

	CBA Additional Priorities	Where it fits within Task Force Priorities
1	Assess the current cultural competency trainings officer receive and determine how it can be enhanced. Make recommendations about what entities/individuals could provide this training	Pillar 5
2	Analyze the current hiring process. Does it include tools to screen for bias and lack of cultural competency? Is there a way to make this part of the hiring process?	Pillar 2
3	Assessment of all deadly use-of-force incidents in Connecticut dating back to 2001. Identify themes, disparities and reforms based on the assessment.	Pillar 2

4	Change hiring practices to expose racist views a potential candidate may have before the individual is hired.	Pillar 2
5	Create, strengthen and maintain viable economic ecosystems in urban communities in order to reduce crime and create community well-being.	Pillar 1