

Connecticut General Assembly

Police Transparency & Accountability Task Force

Daryl McGraw, Co-Chairperson



c/o Judiciary Committee, Room 2500
Legislative Office Building
300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Ct 06106

MINUTES

Tuesday, November 24, 2020

1:00 p.m., via Zoom

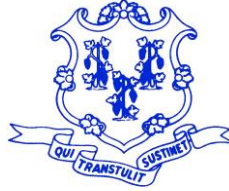
Members present: Daryl McGraw (Chair), Maggie Vargas-Silver, Thomas Kulhawik, Marc Pelka, James Rovella, Shafiq Abdussabur, William Wright, Steven Cousin, John Szewczyk
Others: Deb Blanchard, Ken Barone, Andrew Clark, Brian Foley, Renee LaMark Muir

- I.** Convene meeting and welcome
 - a. *Chair McGraw convened the meeting at 1:06pm*
- II.** Review and acceptance of minutes from the 10/27/20 meeting
 - a. *Upon and motion and a second the minutes were approved via voice vote. John Szewczyk abstained as he was absent in the 10-27 meeting.*
- III.** Subcommittee Updates
 - a. Improving Police Interactions with Disability Community
 - i. *In Chair Slifka's absence, Andrew Clark reported out from the subcommittee. He noted two upcoming meetings: 1) December 1 at 11am, which will feature presentations from three state agencies (DDS, DMHAS, and DSS), and 2) December 8 at 11am, where members will discuss possible recommendations for the preliminary Task Force report. Additionally, he presented on the topics that the subcommittee is considering for recommendations.*
 - b. Public Awareness
 - i. *Chair McGraw thanked members who participated in the 3 days of listening sessions over the past week and a half. He thanked partners from UNH, UCONN and CCSU for assisting in hosting the sessions and noted there was robust conversations that occurred in each. Andrew Clark noted that the next meeting of the subcommittee will be December 1 at 10am. The subcommittee anticipates receiving reports from Everyday Democracy for the recent listening sessions similar in presentation and scope to those of the September listening sessions.*
 - c. Logistics
 - i. Recommendations endorsed by the subcommittee for review
 1. *Ken Barone shared his screen and presented on three recommendations from the subcommittee. The recommendations were shared with members prior to*

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the meeting. The recommendations endorsed by the Logistics Subcommittee include:

A recommendation that a conviction for a felony or drug possession violation pursuant to Connecticut General Statute §21a-279, while employed as a police officer, shall be grounds for mandatory decertification by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC).

A recommendation that if a municipal police department, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or any other department fails to comply with the Police Officer Standards and Training Council mandated reporting policy as outlined in POSTC General Notice 20-9, as amended, the POSTC shall recommend and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may order an appropriate penalty in the form of the withholding of state funds from such municipal police department, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or other departments.

POSTC shall adopt standards for compliance with the mandatory reporting requirement in the Connecticut Law Enforcement Standards Policies and Practices (CLESP). Failure to comply shall result in loss of accreditation in one or more CLESP tiers.

Lastly, the subcommittee recommends that the one-year statute of limitations for bringing an action pursuant to Section 41 be extended to three years.

It is anticipated that these recommendations would be voted on at the next full Task Force meeting. Members asked questions about elements of the recommendations. John Szewczyk and Shafiq Abdussabur expressed their concerns regarding the recommendation for mandatory decertification.

IV. Other Business

- a. *Members expressed the value of crime data and statistics in framing the conversation on transparency and accountability.*

V. Announcement of time and date of next meeting

- a. December 8th and December 22nd

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- i. 1pm*
 - b. Public comment opportunity added to future meetings**
 - i. Chair McGraw expressed a desire to add this item to the agenda in future meetings. No dissenting opinions were expressed.*
- VI. Adjournment**
 - a. The meeting was adjourned at 2:28pm.*

DRAFT