

# 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, June 15, 2021

1:00 p.m., via Zoom

*Attendees: Daryl McGraw (Chair), Chief William Wright, Brian Foley, Jonathan Slifka, Commissioner James Rovella, Renee LaMark Muir, Andrew Clark, Henri Alphonse Mendoza, Chief Keith Mello, Chief Jack Drumm, Deputy Chief Maggie Silver, John Szewczyk, Ken Barone, Shafiq Abdussabur, Makenzie Ozycz, Brett Salafia, Maureen Lopes, Jorge Camacho*

- I.** Convene meeting and welcome
  - a. *Chair McGraw convened the meeting at 1:03 pm.*
- II.** Review and acceptance of minutes from the 5/04/21 meeting
  - a. *The minutes from the 5/04/21 meeting were approved via voice note with added note to include Brett Salafia in attendance.*
- III.** Old Business
  - a. *There was no old business to discuss.*
- IV.** Subcommittee Updates
  - a. **Improving Police Interactions with Disability Community**  
*Chair Slifka updated that the subcommittee met today with a presentation from the Madison Police Department Dispatch Center. Further discussions were held on other business including the police social worker studies and the development of a voluntary mental health registry.*
  - b. **Public Awareness**  
*Andrew Clark updated on the major themes report from the Youth Listening Sessions and the possibility of upcoming dialogues, and the work of Dr. Kringen on recruitment and training. Recommendations regarding recruitment and retention will be provided in the next two months.*
  - c. **Logistics**  
*Ken Barone provided an update that the subcommittee met in May to continue conversations on primary and secondary traffic stop laws. These conversations will lead to*

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*further recommendations. They are also working on recommendations to improve internal affairs, and another recommendation regarding the authority of the Attorney General's office. They will begin discussing how professional bondsmen detain suspects in the next meeting. .*

### V. Other Business

- a. *Chair McGraw spoke about use of force and opened the floor for comments from the Task Force. Shafiq Abdussabur commented that motor vehicle stops are the biggest issue with police engaging black and brown individuals; he mentioned the need for a standard use of force policy in the state of CT. Chief Mello commented that a subcommittee was created by the POST Council for this effort with the second phase creating a training program for standard use of force, this began in January and is expected to be completed by the end of the month. Ken Barone commented that uniform collection of use of force incident data is lacking in the state, a new form will soon be required by the state to fix this issue. Chair McGraw questioned what deters an officer from using force. Chief Mello responded that ethics, law, and penalty in place must deter use of force. Chief Mello commented that we must consider when use of force is unfortunately necessary in a society, despite how tragic it may be. Chair McGraw commented that we must consider and look at systemic race issues in police departments. Andrew Clark commented that diversity both with race and with gender in a police department proves less use of force, and reminded that the public awareness subcommittee is currently working on these issues. Chair McGraw commented that we must continue to address these problems.*

### VI. Announcement of time and date of next meeting

- a. *Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. – Full Task Force*
- b. *Tuesday, June 29, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. – Logistics Subcommittee*
- c. *Tuesday July 13, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. – Disability Subcommittee*

### VII. Adjournment

- a. *Chair McGraw adjourned the meeting at 2:20 pm.*