

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, August 10, 2021

1:00 p.m., via Zoom

Attendees: Daryl McGraw (Chair), Ken Barone, Andrew Clark, Brett Salafia (DCJ), Jonathan Slifka, Commission James Rovella, Meghan Peterson, Brian Foley, John Szewczyk, Henri Alphonse Mendoza, Makenzie Ozycz, Keith Mello, Anne Li Kringen, Marc Pelka, Chief Jack Drumm, Renee LaMark Muir, Dave Collins, Shafiq Abdussabur, Brian Anderson

I. Convene meeting and welcome

a. Chair McGraw convened the meeting at 1:04 pm.

II. Review and acceptance of minutes from the 7/13/21 meeting

a. Minutes from the 7/13/21 meeting were approved via voice note.

III. Old Business

a. Primary and Secondary Stop Proposal

Chair McGraw opened the floor for questions on this proposal. Chief Mello commented his concern on the taillight/stoplight section of the proposal. Ken Barone commented that they did voice these concerns in the last logistics subcommittee meeting, ultimately keeping the proposal as it was. Ken Barone also commented that the proposal only applies when one of brake light is out and most cars have three. Marc Pelka asked what the process would be in a secondary offense. Ken Barone responded there would be no action taken; a police officer would not stop that vehicle unless there was a primary offense. Shafiq Abdussabur commented that these laws have not been addressed since pre-1965, the goal is to look at these laws and update them, and reduces unnecessary officer interaction with marginalized communities. Chief Mello questioned why the subcommittee hasn't included unregistered vehicles. Ken Barone responded that the subcommittee looked at other violations, and this proposal expands the window by which an operator driving a vehicle with expired registration from 30 day to 60 days. During that time, the violation would be a secondary offense.

There was no further discussion and Shafiq Abdussabur made a motion to approve the proposal, Chief Drumm seconded. Chief Mello commented that any time you

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reduce contact between police and the public there will be an impact on crimes solved and prevented. Shafiq commented that some of the reform laws have already impacted how police engage with communities. Chair McGraw commented that interactions are varied. Marc Pelka questioned about what other states are doing in this area and Ken Barone provided some comments about efforts by other states. Chair McGraw requested a roll call vote. 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions, 4 members absent. The motion passed.

IV. Subcommittee Updates

a. Improving Police Interactions with Disability Community

Jon Slifka updated that the subcommittee has a number of proposals they are speaking and voting on in their upcoming meetings in preparation for the full Task Force.

b. Public Awareness

i. Draft Finding and Recommendations: Diversity in Law Enforcement

Andrew Clark updated on diversity in the police force (minority community and female officers) with the help of Dr. Kringen. The recommendations proposed were moved out of the last subcommittee meeting to the full Task Force. Dr. Kringen shared a document on these topics.

c. Logistics

Ken Barone shared two recommendations for consideration of the task force. Both of these recommendations were passed out of the subcommittee. Those recommendations included:

- i. Police census information recommendation*
- ii. Mandated policies to be posted to public website recommendation*

V. General Discussion

- a. There was no general discussion.*

VI. Announcement of time and date of next meeting

- a. Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.*

VII. Adjournment

- a. Chair McGraw adjourned the meeting at 2:47 pm.*