



Ohio Collaborative Community- Police Advisory Board

April 18, 2016 Meeting Summary

On December 12, 2014, Governor John Kasich signed Executive Order 2014-06K announcing the creation of the **Ohio Task Force on Community-Police Relations**. The charge of the Task Force is threefold: 1) To explore the cause of fractured relationships between communities and law enforcement, 2) To examine strategies to strengthen trust between the community and law enforcement in order to resolve the underlying causes of friction; and 3) To provide the Governor with a report with recommendations about best practices available to communities. As a result of the work of the Task Force, on April 30, 2015, Governor John Kasich signed Executive Order 2015-04K establishing the **Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board**.

The Collaborative is chaired by Director John Born, Office of Public Safety, and The Honorable Nina Turner, former Ohio Senator. Members appointed by the Governor, including ex officio members, are identified below:

- Sergeant Brian S. Armstead—Akron Police Department, member of the Fraternal Order of Police
- Dr. Ronnie Dunn—Cleveland State University, Professor of Urban Studies and member of the NAACP Criminal Justice Committee
- The Reverend Damon Lynch III—senior pastor, New Prospect Baptist Church
- Chief Michael J. Navarre—Oregon Police Department, member of the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police
- Honorable Ronald J. O’Brien—Franklin County Prosecutor
- Sheriff Tom Miller—Medina County Sheriff’s Office, member of the Buckeye State Sheriff’s Association
- Lori Barreras—member of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission
- Councilman Michael H. Keenan—City of Dublin, local government representative
- Austin B. Harris—student at Central State University

Ex officio members:

- The Honorable George V. Voinovich—former U.S. senator, governor of Ohio, and mayor of Cleveland
- The late Honorable Louis Stokes, former member of Congress
- The Honorable Tom Roberts, former Ohio senator, life member of the NAACP
- Senator Cliff K. Hite, Ohio Senate
- Senator Sandra Williams, Ohio Senate
- Representative Tim Derickson, Ohio House

The purpose of the Collaborative is to advise and work with the Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) in the Ohio Department of Public Safety to implement the Task Force’s recommendations, as identified in the Executive Order.

April 18, 2016, Columbus, OH Meeting of the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board

The Collaborative meeting was held on April 18, 2016 at the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The meeting began at 10:08 A.M. The following members were present at the meeting:

- Director John Born
- Executive Director Karhlton Moore
- The Honorable Nina Turner
- Sergeant Brian Armstead
- Commissioner Lori Barreras
- Dr. Ronnie Dunn
- Senator Cliff Hite
- Councilman Michael Keenan
- Reverend Damon Lynch III
- Sheriff Tom Miller
- Chief Michael Navarre

Director Born welcomed members of the Collaborative, as well as Representative Alicia Reese, who served as a member of the Task Force, and turned the meeting over to Senator Turner, who spoke of the importance of carrying the work of the Collaborative forward.

Prosecutor O'Brien then asked the Collaborative members and all in attendance to share a moment of silence for Columbus Police Department Officer Steven Smith, who was murdered in the line of duty.

Representative Alicia Reese, a member of the Task Force on Community-Police Relations, was welcomed.

Executive Director Moore provided an update on the Ohio Community-Police Relations Grant Program solicitation. OCJS received 46 applications from across the state, and is in the review process. Grant award decisions will be announced May 16, 2016, with a June 1st start date.

The group was shown a video of Governor Kasich speaking at the State of the State on Ohio's leadership role in developing a bi-partisan Task Force to recommend strategies to strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the community, followed by an ongoing Collaborative to put standards into practice.

Executive Director Moore then discussed the certification and compliance effort. We have received over 100 applications thus far. Twelve agencies have received either provisional certification or full certification. Some of these agencies were present and recognized at the meeting, including Colerain Police Department, Sidney Police Department, Shawnee Hills Police Department, Medina Police Department, Medina County Sheriff's Office, and Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. Two of these agencies, Colerain Police Department and Sidney Police Department, are fully certified. The chiefs from these two agencies spoke briefly about the certification process.

Karhlton introduced Chris Jones and Yohannan Terrell from Warhol & WALL St., who were hired to create the public awareness campaign. Three months ago, focus groups were held with law enforcement, youth, and community members in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, and Toledo. Out of the feedback they received at these meetings, the team came up with the slogan “Change Starts Here.” Posters, billboards, ads, hash tags, and a social media campaign were created. The social media campaign includes a series of statements by individuals, as well as video vignettes allowing people to reflect on their statements. Two of the video vignettes were shown to the members. Ten have been created thus far. Several members commended them on the campaign. A few members discussed the importance of including youth representation. Councilman Keenan noted the need to start working with school-aged children on building positive relationships with law enforcement, and others agreed that it would be good to initiate a campaign within our public schools to engage kids. Senator Hite suggested that it might be worth considering using the state fair as a platform for getting the message out, and others agreed.

Executive Director Moore thanked Warhol & WALL St. for their work. He noted that the campaign will be rolled out over the next few months. All materials are open-source for communities to use, and are available on the Collaborative website. He then suggested that all Collaborative members, and members of the audience too, get their pictures taken, along with their personal statements, as part of the campaign.

Next, Jay Somerville, Bureau Director, Technical Services, City of Dublin Police, Northwest Regional Emergency Communications Center, conducted a presentation on public safety standards in dispatching. He provided a history of dispatching standards in Ohio, Ohio PSAP operating standards, the involvement of APCO International (an ANSI-accredited Standards Developer), the partnership between CALEA and APCO, and other standards that are recognized. Mr. Somerville made several recommendations:

- Recognize the ANSI standards process
- Utilize the existing vetted standards that are available
- Recognize the CALEA Communications Accreditation as compliant
- Recognize the IAED Accreditation as compliant
- Utilize subject matter experts

Mr. Somerville offered the assistance of APCO in developing Ohio’s law enforcement standard. Currently, no state has an operational standard for law enforcement, although some states do have a few requirements. Director Born asked the board whether they would allow Mr. Somerville and his group to help develop this standard, to which they agreed.

Dr. Ronnie Dunn then presented his research on racial traffic ticketing patterns. This study was commissioned by the former Cuyahoga County prosecutor in 2009 as a result of an investigative news report by the Cleveland Plain Dealer highlighting racial disparities. It was a replication of an earlier study done by Dunn in 2004. Traffic stops are the most frequent contact average citizens have with police. Minorities/low income individuals are more likely the subject of involuntary interaction with police (stop

and frisk). Studies try to answer whether minorities are more heavily scrutinized, stopped and detained, investigated, and penalized by police than whites.

In this study, Dr. Dunn sampled Cleveland and three suburban jurisdictions—Shaker Heights, Westlake, and Brook Park. He compared the percent of each group's driving population to their percent of tickets received to come up with a ratio indicating each population's proportional share of tickets received. He found that minorities in Cleveland and Shaker Heights were receiving significantly more of their proportional share of tickets in some census tracts. Reasons for this discrepancy and its implications were discussed. Recommendations were given, which include:

- Passage of legislation to address racial profiling
- Require the collection of demographic data on all traffic stops in the state, not just those resulting in tickets, as well as regular analysis of and reporting on the data.

Senator Turner noted her support of the recommendations and asked if there are areas in the country that can serve as model examples of good data collection. She also questioned the pushback that some agencies give in implementing a racial profiling policy. Dr. Dunn noted that Ohio is one of 22 states that does not have racial profiling in legislation. North Carolina was the first to enact this type of legislation. Texas has a state commission that collects traffic stop data, and there are a number of cities that currently collect data, including Cincinnati. Regarding pushback to the legislation, the assumption is that individuals are to blame, when in reality the focus is institutional.

Representative Reese noted the work being done in Cincinnati and the possibility of it serving as a model for other cities and for the state. She stressed the importance of having a statewide policy and commented that the Collaborative can only do so much—it is up to the General Assembly to generate movement.

Director Born reminded the group that the types of data of interest to the Collaborative are 1) use of deadly force; 2) use of force; and 3) stops. As we create a policy, we also need to keep in mind the mechanics of implementing the policy. He asked Dr. Dunn whether we can create a policy that will be broad enough to encompass all the data elements and will drive data collection, to which Dr. Dunn replied "Yes."

Executive Director Moore then turned to a discussion of the community engagement standard. All members received a draft of the community engagement standard, and he asked them to review the standard and provide feedback. Reverend Lynch noted that the community engagement standard needs to not only focus on educating the community about law enforcement, but also to focus on educating law enforcement about the community, i.e., cultural competency. Representative Reese agreed that there should be balance in the standard.

Director Born then turned to the body-worn camera standard. He proposed that the members consider another presentation on body cameras to ensure that the resulting policy is adequate and appropriate. He asked that the group start to think about the wording of this policy, and to reference the

Collaborative website for existing documentation. Representative Reese noted that there is some legislation on body cameras showing some movement.

Executive Director Moore concluded the meeting with some general information for Collaborative members:

- The next Collaborative meetings will be on August 3 and December 1, from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.
- There is a new travel reimbursement form available for those who need it.
- Consider having your picture taken for the public awareness campaign immediately following the conclusion of this meeting.
- Draft policy statements will be circulated and as they get close to being finalized they will be posted for the public to react.
- Feel free to take campaign posters.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 P.M.