



Ohio Collaborative Community- Police Advisory Board

March 26, 2018 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:

- Officer Anthony L. Johnson—Columbus Police Department
- 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
- The Reverend Walter S. Moss—pastor
- 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
- Commissioner Lori Barreras—member of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission
- Councilman Michael H. Keenan—City of Dublin, local government representative
- Austin B. Harris—former student trustee at Central State University

Ex officio members:

- The late 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 Sandra Williams, Ohio Senate
- The Honorable Tim Derickson, former Ohio Representative

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.

March 26, 2018, Columbus, OH Meeting of the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board

The Collaborative meeting was held on March 26, 2018 at the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The meeting began at 10:06 AM. The following members were present at the meeting and introduced themselves.

- Director John Born
- The Honorable Nina Turner
- Executive Director Karhlton Moore
- Officer Anthony L. Johnson
- Comm. Lori Barreras
- Dr. Ronnie Dunn
- Austin B. Harris
- Councilman Michael H. Keenan
- The Rev. Walter S. Moss
- Sheriff Tom Miller
- Chief Michael Navarre
- The Honorable Ronald J. O'Brien
- The Honorable Tom Roberts

Director Born called the meeting to order and welcomed members of the Collaborative. Advisory Board members introduced themselves. Brief introductions of the newest members of the Collaborative were given for Officer Johnson and Rev. Moss.

Law Enforcement Agency Certification Report Update

Executive Director Moore provided a brief update on the law enforcement certification report that is due to be released on Friday, March 30, 2018. Moore commended the work of law enforcement agencies across the state in adopting the standards and the increased number of agencies participating in the certification process compared to the previous year. Edward Burkhammer of OCJS was introduced and asked to provide more updates on the certification process.

Burkhammer detailed the progress of the law enforcement certification process and the duties of his section and others during the internal and external reviews. He noted the following updates:

- In the second year of certification, OCJS and its partners completed a total of 463 reviews, compared to the 270 reviews conducted in the first year.
- By March of 2017, there were 88 provisional reports and 270 final reports. By March of 2018, there were an additional 145 final reports completed in step 1.

- OCJS has reviewed approximately 1,800 polices, which are reviewed 3 times internally.
- Between certified agencies and non-certified agencies, approximately 7,000 polices have been reviewed all together.
- 318 agencies have completed certification for 5 standards.
- Of the agencies certified, 82% of Ohio's population is covered by the standards.

Burkhammer next briefly discussed a new IT project that will now allow law enforcement agencies to upload their policies and documents for the certification review process. Documents will go directly to his section for review.

Law Enforcement Interaction with Juveniles Presentation by Gabriella Celeste, JD, Policy Director, Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology and Co-Director of the Childhood Studies Program at Case Western Reserve University's Schubert Center for Child Studies

Celeste discussed the importance of incorporating best practices for police and youth interaction. She highlighted various studies and her work in the Cleveland area around this topic. The following is a brief summary of the topics discussed:

- The various types of encounters youth may experience directly or indirectly with law enforcement and how these experiences can positively or negatively impact their development and perceptions of police.
- A Youth Risk Behavior Survey, where high school students were asked to self-report any law enforcement experience. This study found that 1 in 4 youth have had some kind of interaction with law enforcement within the last year.
- Another study looked at injuries or use of force incidents during an interaction between law enforcement and youth. The study found that between 2008 and 2010, for youth under the age of 17, there were 15,613 injuries reported that required an Emergency Room visit.
- She briefly discussed the importance of continued training for law enforcement in the understanding of adolescent brain development and how their behaviors may be interpreted during their interactions with youth in certain environments. This is especially important for engagement with black male youth.
- She referenced a handout, provided to the advisory board, "Where's the State?" It was suggested that it be used as a guide or reference point for determining some kind of standard for future policy requirements of law enforcement agencies in Ohio.

Summary of questions and commentary from the advisory board following presentation:

- Roberts suggested that there should be reinforcement and ongoing training during and after the police academy for officers around child development. Turner suggested that it be mandatory for all officers to receive this kind of ongoing training.
 - It was noted that OPOTA currently uses some of the training recommended by Celeste and her group related to this topic.

- Turner asked Celeste if there were other states with mandatory training for this topic area and what were her recommendations for the collaborative.
 - Answer: Yes, in California and the Massachusetts Mass Transit Authority have mandatory training requirements for police and youth interaction.
 - Answer: Celeste would like to see that the Collaborative consider the construction of a developmentally appropriate policy standard for positive engagement/interactions between law enforcement and youth.
- It was also suggested by Keenan that the advisory board should consider expanding training for law enforcement engagement with other groups (i.e. Hispanic and Somalia immigrants).

Born motioned if the advisory board would like to develop a policy standard for law enforcement interactions with youth. Moss second the motion and it was confirmed that the advisory board would begin work on the groups 8th standard.

Break 11:06 AM – 11:20 AM

Change Starts Here Awareness Campaign Update by Warhol & WALL St. Presentation

A brief discussion on the mission of the awareness campaign and a trailer for the upcoming documentary was viewed highlighting the efforts local communities and law enforcement agencies across the state to create change. They encouraged all to check out the website <http://changestartshere.ohio.gov/> and share feedback on social media networks using special hashtags. The group has come up with several campaign materials and gear in which they intend to pass out at events they attend across the state. Their goals are to educate and empower community members across the state and law enforcement agencies on various topics related to how they can create change. A list of the events they will attend and their contact information can also be found on their website.

A link to the trailer will be provided to advisory board members, and they are encouraged to share with their community partners.

The full-length documentary is set to be released in May and more details will be provided as they become available.

Proposed Standard Discussion: Citizen Complaint Process

Director Born began discussion on the board's original draft and the newly proposed draft by the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) of a standard policy for citizen complaints. This would be the 7th standard created by the collaborative.

Navarre, who spoke on behalf of the OACP, believed that the 2nd draft was more encompassing because it included both internal and external reporting standards for complaints related to law enforcement officers. These standards also fell in line with current CALEA credentialing standards.

It was clarified for the advisory board that the investigation process would be the same for both internal and external complaints made against a law enforcement officer. It was also clarified that this standard would be in line or in compliance with union contract language.

It was also noted that the language for this standard does not include criminal investigations.

Dunn suggested that the 2nd draft include more explicit language for community members to understand. In its current state, it could be viewed as an internal process, not an external process. New language was added to the 2nd draft within the 'Purpose' section. The language agreed on by the advisory board now states "Law enforcement agencies, and the public at large, will benefit from the establishment, enhancement and the promotion of a genuine and comprehensive employee misconduct investigation process, *to include both administrative and citizen complaints.*"

Advisory board additional comments and discussion

Dunn asked about the law enforcement certification program and if a protocol has been created to deal with law enforcement incidents that may violate any of the standards certified by the collaborative. His concern was if there was any technical assistance available to agencies that would help maintain the integrity and legitimacy of the certification process.

Moore responded that at this time there is no conclusive way to handle such incidents. It was cautioned that if any incident were to occur and the standards were called into question, that it be best that the group make an informed decision based on all the facts for that case. Moore asked the group for any suggestions on how they could meet the needs of the agency should an incident like this occur. It was noted that law enforcement agencies remain certified for a number of years and there are ongoing updates provided by the agency in their progress with meeting the standards. Onsite monitoring of agencies will be conducted every 4 years.

Miller raised a question as to how the Collaborative will be maintained. Born discussed how the Collaborative is written into legislation to stay in force until it is rescinded. Meaning that it would require an executive order to rescind the Collaborative Advisory Board.

Final Remarks

Emails will go out to the group to determine the next meeting time and date.

Turner emphasized the importance and generational impact the Collaborative has on who we have and will serve. It is important to make clear to the community that the work of the Collaborative needs to continue.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM