



Ohio Collaborative Community- Police Advisory Board

May 22, 2017 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
- Commissioner 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 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 Cliff K. Hite, Ohio Senate
- 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.

May 22, 2017, Cleveland, OH Meeting of the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board

The Collaborative meeting was held on May 22, 2017 at Cleveland State University. The meeting began at 6:05 P.M. The following members were present at the meeting and introduced themselves:

- Director John Born
- Executive Director Karhlton Moore
- Commissioner Lori Barreras
- Dr. Ronnie Dunn
- Sheriff Tom Miller
- Chief Michael Navarre
- The Honorable Ron O'Brien
- Senator Sandra Williams

Director Born welcomed members of the Collaborative and pointed out that the meeting is on Facebook Live. He noted that Senator Turner was unable to attend the meeting, as she is was delayed in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Dunn also welcomed everyone to Cleveland and Cleveland State University. He thanked the Collaborative members and Department of Public Safety staff for organizing the meeting. Dr. Dunn discussed the purpose of the original Task Force on Community-Police Relations and referenced the valuable contributions made by its honorary chairs.

Dr. Dunn then listed the seven statewide standards that have been established since the start of the Collaborative. He pointed out that as of March 2017, over 500 law enforcement agencies are in some state of certification, and they serve approximately 81% of the Ohio population.

Finally, Dr. Dunn pointed out that this is the first meeting where the members are going back to the community to provide updates on the work that they have been doing. Future meetings will be held in Toledo and Cincinnati.

Next, Executive Director Moore spoke. He thanked Director Born and his OCJS staff for their hard work. He then discussed the efforts being made on the certification of standards.

Executive Director Moore introduced Warhol and Wall Street, who are leading the public 'Change Starts Here' campaign. Representatives of Warhol and Wall Street discussed the campaign, highlighting the emphasis on taking personal responsibility. They presented a video clip of their public media campaign, which makes heavy use of social media, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Executive Director Moore pointed out that many members of the Collaborative have put messages on the website: www.changestartshere.ohio.gov. He noted the significance of the jigsaw puzzle analogy that is seen on many of the awareness campaign materials—the missing puzzle piece is 'you', and represents our need to accept responsibility for affecting change.

Director Born emphasized that the work being done by the Collaborative is the most significant long-term investment we can make to build trust between law enforcement and the community. He noted the purpose of developing standards and pointed out that while it is not a state requirement, communities must hold their respective law enforcement agencies accountable.

At this point, the floor was given to community members wishing to speak to the Collaborative members.

Members of the public provided testimony. One shared her experience regarding a traffic stop. Executive Director Moore noted his appreciation of her willingness to speak, and he highlighted key points she brought up in her discussion. Collaborative members also responded to the speaker.

Another speaker talked about the distrust of law enforcement that is felt in the community, particularly by kids. He highlighted the need to improve this relationship, and noted the importance of recruiting officers from the neighborhoods in which they serve. Executive Director Moore agreed with his assessment that much needs to be done to repair the fractured relationship between the community and law enforcement. He referenced the recommendations that came out of the Governor's Executive Order, and he pointed out some of the work currently being done by the Collaborative. Dr. Dunn added to this discussion, and encouraged residents to urge their respective law enforcement agencies to apply for certification. Senator Williams urged community members to get to know the officers in one's neighborhood, and even to consider becoming an officer, because recruiting from within the community is a good way to instill change. Prosecutor O'Brien spoke about the importance of residents being the eyes and ears of the community, and that this is part of the 'Change Starts Here' campaign.

Director Born asked Collaborative members to provide final remarks. They spoke briefly about the progress being made and the work that lies ahead. More needs to be done to spread the word about the efforts of the Collaborative.

Director Born thanked Cleveland State University for hosting the event. He thanked Warhol and Wall Street for being present at the meeting and for the campaign they have built. He noted that the work being done in Ohio should serve as a national model.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 P.M.