

HENRY C. LEE COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND FORENSIC SCIENCES



RED Subgroup: SRO December 8th, 2020 11:30 AM-1:00 PM Zoom Conference Call

Meeting Summary:

- The purpose of the December 6th Executive Committee meeting was to inform the Executive Committee about new recommendations in preparation for January's JJPOC voting meeting:
- Recommendations discussed in this SRO subgroup include:
 - Removal of SRO's from schools
 - A certification process to be an SRO
 - Decriminalization of actions in school and hold accountability to teachers
- Feedback was received from the Executive Committee regarding these options. The committee was looking for more options and more specifics if SRO's were not being removed; the subgroup could not successfully remove SRO's without an alternative.
- There was discussion on how one school removed SRO's and replaced them with public safety support specialists who are not police officers or armed.
- Discussion on SRO Role and Responsibilities:
 - The subgroup discussed the general intent of the language of SRO's, MOUs, and specific responsibilities of SRO's. The subgroup discussed the intent of the MOU's with SRO's should include when they are called and how they respond to a situation.
 - Some schools do not have SRO's; even if SRO's are not in school, police are still going to be called to school. There should be a laid-out agreement between police departments and schools.
 - The challenge at hand is safety; safety of external forces and safety within the schools.
- Other:
 - The subgroup expressed the support to enhance the services that are provided to students, such as mental health and school nurses, which then could offset the impact that SRO's have.
 - The subgroup discussed the need to incorporate police and community bonding to encourage police departments to adapt to a community policing strategy vs. traditional policing.
 - Further discussion will focus on alternatives to SRO's, mental health services available, and accountability of schools.
- Next Steps
 - Meeting Schedule/Timeline
 - In December, RED co-chairs will present the workgroup's new recommendations to the larger JJPOC in preparation for the vote in January and February.

Next Meeting- TBD