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

Improving Police Interactions With The Disability Community Subcommittee

Minutes

Tuesday, September 8, 2020 11:00 a.m., via Zoom

Attendees: Jon Slifka (Chair), Alvin Chege, Chief Tom Kulhawik, Doris Maldonado, Commissioner James Rovella, Rayla Mattson Others: Sarah D'Agostino (interpreter), Ken Barone, Deb Blanchard, Andrew Clark, Kelan Lyons (CT Mirror)

- I. Convene meeting and welcome a. Chair Slifka convened the meeting at 11:08am.
- **II.** Introduction of Members *a. Members introduced themselves.*

III. Review subcommittee charge

- a. Chair Slifka gave a brief overview of the subcommittee's charge. He indicated that he has contacted several organizations to come forward and give presentations to subcommittee members. His recommendation is to meet once a month, with 30 min for presentations and 30 minutes for Q&A. He also would like a synopsis from police as to what is currently done in training. This would be a fact-finding phase, done in conjunction with the Task Force's public listening sessions. After this phase, the subcommittee would then focus efforts on developing recommendations, while recognizing that each disability presents its own unique challenges. Com. Rovella suggested Karen Boisvert from POSTC would be able to provide background info on current police training.
- **IV.** Review of Task Force priorities document *a.* (*combined w/discussion of agenda item III*)
- V. Discussion regarding other priorities for consideration

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- a. Ms. Maldonado asked how the subcommittee is getting input from all voices? She indicated that large communities don't have access to technology. She also asked that youth voice be heard, and the proceedings be accessible in multiple languages. Ms. Mattson asked if local police departments knew about the Task Force. Chief Kulhawik confirmed that they did and that the issue was important to chiefs as well. Mr. Barone recommended reaching out to the New Haven chief, as they are in the process of developing a mental health crisis unit.
- VI. Announcement of time and date of next meeting. *a. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 22 at 11am.*
- VII. Adjournment
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 11:47pm.