Connecticut General Assembly Logistics Subcommittee

Police Transparency & Accountability Task Force

Rep. Joshua Hall, Chairperson



c/o Judiciary Committee, Room 2500 Legislative Office Building 300 Capitol Avenue Hartford, Ct 06106

Minutes Tuesday, July 20, 2021 1:00 p.m., via Zoom

Attendees: Chair Joshua Hall, Ken Barone, Renee LaMark Muir, Andrew Clark, CJ McGuffey, Tanya Hughes, Cheryl Sharp, Steve Saloom, Maureen Lopes, Andrew Brown, John Szewczyk, Makenzie Ozycz, Claudine Fox

- I. Convene meeting and welcome a. Chair Hall convened the meeting at 1:04 pm
- **II.** Approve June 29, 2021 meeting minutes *a. The minutes from June 29, 2021 were approved via voice note.*
- III. Old Business
 - a. Primary and Secondary Traffic Stop System Proposal update

Ken Barone updated the presentation of the proposal to the full Task Force. He updated notes on one specific statute regarding brake lights. The change made in the proposal was that if one brake light was working it would be considered a secondary violation.

Chair Hall shared concern for what that stop might lead to if the officer pulls the driver over. Renee LaMark Muir commented that secondary stops should not be used as probable cause to further escalate the stop. Chair Hall questioned what the next step is if that holds up the entire recommendation or something that can be amended at Task Force level. Ken Barone commented that the proposal could include friendly amendments; a possible amendment would be to remove or amend the brake light change. Chair Hall motioned to move the proposal to the full task force.

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- **IV.** New Business
 - a. P.A. 20-1 Section 12, Item 10: Presentation regarding how professional bondsman take into custody a person

Presentation by Renee LaMark Muir on bail fugitive recovery. A quick background was given regarding the bail bond industry, as well as the failure to appear rearrests warrant. A glance at other states' laws on fugitive recovery was given, as well as issues regarding fugitive recovery specifically in Connecticut. Some issues specific to Connecticut include bail reforms, FTA's not entered into the state and national database, limited extradition, etc. Other state's processes were also looked at, including regulation reforms or the erasure of commercial bail, many states were listed having no specific laws at all. The presentation outlined issues in Connecticut with fugitive recovery based on certain bail reform laws that passed 5-6 years ago.

Chair Hall questioned how large the industry was versus how it has shrunk. Renee replied that no state agency is taking control of this information, and the judicial branch is currently trying to improve this data. Ken Barone recommended to take this presentation and develop it into a document as an assessment of how professional bail bondsmen take fugitives into custody. Next steps include Renee to write up a formal assessment for the group to propose at the August meeting to vote on at that time.

b. Development of recommendations regarding departmental policies available online and public census information regarding officers.

Ken Barone commented on the recommendations, including wanting to require police agencies to post certain policies online. Ken recommended that the mandate be that the POST Council mandate through the accreditation standards that police departments post certain policies on their website. These policies are up for discussion, seven being identified by Ken Barone that have been used over the years. Ken suggested that this subcommittee make a recommendation to the full Task Force that any model policy passed by the POST council that departments are required to adopt as a base standard be required to be published on the departments public website, including use of force policy, critical incident and peer support policy, body worn camera policy, police complaint policy, electronic defense weapon policy, the

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eye whiteness ID model policy, and the standard pursuit policy. CJ McGuffey commented that she can provide additional policies for the rationale.

Ken Barone identified a second priority on census information provided on department's website. This would require that at least once a year police departments make publicly available census information about their officer force. This would not include individual information, more broad and overall based on demographics on race, gender, and ethnicity, age, and years of service. Renee LaMark Muir commented that demographics on officers within a community could also be helpful for residency requirements. John Szewczyk asked if there would be running totals year to year. Ken Barone replied that the idea would be to update annually, part of the recommendation could be to maintain a historical record.

Chair Hall moved to approval for both recommendations to be put on the August agenda. Ken Barone added he will write up the recommendations to present. Chair Hall took a motion to approve the proposals. Motion by John Szewczyk, second by Claudine Fox, all in favor, no opposed, motion passed.

- V. General Discussion
 - a. There was no general discussion.
- VI. Adjournment
 - a. Next meeting: August 17th at 1:00 p.m.
 - b. Chair Hall adjourned the meeting at 1:55 pm.