



Connecticut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project

Thursday, May 2, 2013

10am – 12pm

Legislative Office Building, Room 1C

Draft Minutes

Present: Mark Panaccione, Doug Fuchs, Stephen Cox, Sean Thakkar, Ken Barone, Jim Fazzalano, Andrew Clark, Bill Dyson, Art Kureczka, Aaron Swanson, Stephanie Johnson, Deborah DelPrete Sullivan, David McGuire, Chris Sedelmaier, Mike Gailor, Nick Boulter, Glenn Cassis, Thomas Nguyen, Werner Oyanadel, Joseph Cristalli

The meeting was called to order at 10:18am

William Dyson requested all present to introduce themselves and thanked the members upon completion.

I. Approval of March 7, 2013 Minutes

A motion was made by Deborah DelPrete Sullivan and seconded by Sandra Staub to approve the minutes from March 7, 2013. The minutes were approved by a unanimous voice vote.

II. Update on S.B. 1143

Andrew Clark provided the update on Senate Bill 1143, which was voted out of the judiciary committee on April 16th. The bill should be on the senate floor by May 6th.

III. Options for July 1, 2013 Implementation

Ken Barone presented the data collection options to be put in place for July 1. The multifaceted approach has an end goal of developing and enhancing electronic citation to collect racial profiling data. The five options laid out are viewed as a vehicle until the state fully adopts electronic citation by January 2015. The options being considered are:

1. Web based browser
2. Paper

3. COLLECT System
4. CAD/RMS System
5. Electronic Citation

The project staff plans to present data collection options to police departments by July for implementation in October. Ken Barone presented a list of questions developed by the project staff to be answered for all options.

Jim Fazzalano commented that ultimately if a police agency had one way of collecting data, then that would be the best way. If the option that they chose results in that data being seamlessly processed and sent to CJIS on a timely basis they do not need the police departments to over report. Police need to make their own decision on methods of reporting in a real time basis. Chief Fuchs commented that there cannot be just one way of collecting data, there has to be an alternate way if systems are down.

The advisory board continued to clarify the methods and uses of data collection.

IV. Definition of Traffic Stop

Deborah DelPrete Sullivan wanted to clarify that the definition was not voted on as a consensus item and suggested that it needs further review.

Jim Fazzalano clarified that there is still time to finalize the definitions before distribution by July 1. He also discussed the classification of a traffic stop by enforcement type. Police are required to identify if a traffic stop is a Category A – Officer Initiative, Category B – Blind Enforcement, or Category C – Spot Checks.

Discussion on defining different categories of police stops continued with the intentions the definitions would be better clarified and defined at the next working group meeting.

V. Complaint Notice Instructions/Options

- a. Verbal warning Notice

Ken Barone summarized the discussion at the Data and System working group meeting regarding the notice requirement of the law. The notice and instructions could be included in a larger highway safety brochure instead of a notice focused on only instructions to file a complaint. The notice would be prominent in the brochure but it could include other things like generalized highway safety information. The final option is for e-citation to be modified to include the notice as part of a written warning, infraction or summons. The system would be capable of printing only a notice in the case of a verbal warning. The working group neither endorsed nor rejected the proposal.

Deborah DelPrete Sullivan raised the concern that the message could get deluded. The priority is to allow people to know that they can file a complaint and how to do it. Due to the limitations of characters the message could get smaller as more information is

included. Ken Barone clarified that a limitation of the number of words is only a purpose for electronic citation.

Other issues raised was if the police officers have to document the time, date, location, and personal ID number it suggest more tickets and written warnings will be issued than verbal warnings.

VI. Public Awareness Update

Andrew Clark gave an update on the status of the public awareness initiatives. Noted were the updates made to the website CTRP3.org to incorporate commentary received to make it more user friendly. The website links to the OPM website, informs the public about the project, provides instructions for people on how to file a complaint, and a police information page so the police know how and why to collect the data and how it is going to be analyzed. It also includes the PSA that anyone can link to and share. Tabs that are not visible yet for the police and the public are about what the law requires.

VII. Training Update

Art Kureczka provided an update on training, which is to be completed in three stages; the first stage is training on the logistical changes to the law and recording process that will need to be followed by July, the second stage would be research training, and the third stage would be addressing the recruits. This would entail putting together a model policy that departments can take and use and modify as they see fit.

Also mentioned was looking to bring in a national expert on training for unbiased based policing. 9000 officers will have to be trained by October 1st, which could include some kind of web-based training.

VIII. General Discussion

There was no further discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:42.