



Connecticut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project

Thursday, February 8, 2018

10:00am – 12:00pm

Legislative Office Building, Room 1A

Minutes

Present: William Dyson, Chief Dryfe, Michael Gailor, Rashad Glass, Tamara Lanier, Aaron Swanson, David McGuire, Chief Fusaro, Jim Fazzalano, Ken Barone, Andrew Clark, Lt. Marc Petruzzi.

The meeting was called to order at 10:08am

I. Welcome

Bill Dyson welcomed the advisory board thanked them for attending.

II. Approval of the November 9, 2017 minutes

Michael Gailor made a motion to approve the minutes from November 9, 2017. The motion was seconded by David McGuire. There was no discussion and the minutes were passed unanimously.

III. 2015-16 Follow-up Analysis Report Update

Ken Barone provided an update on the progress of the 2015-16 follow-up report that is being conducted for Berlin, Monroe, Newtown, Norwich, Ridgefield, Darien, Madison and Ansonia. Ken Barone and Jim Fazzalano have met with all the departments, except Ansonia, to discuss the initial report findings. As a part of those discussions, Ken and Jim outlined what the follow-up analysis will entail. Ken and Jim made a request for additional information from each department to be analyzed. Currently, the IMRP is working to map all stops by census tract or corridor. A second meeting will be scheduled with departments in the spring to discuss additional analysis. A supplemental report will be produced with the researcher's findings and published later this summer. Ken stated that he would keep advisory board members informed of the process as it moves forward.

IV. Data Working Group Update

The Data Working group met in January 2018 to discuss a number of agenda items. Ken Barone informed the advisory board that the working group made a recommendation to change the categorization of “blind” stops to “technology” stops. Many officers were defining a “blind” stop as any time they could not determine the race or ethnicity of the driver prior to stopping to vehicle. The stop category was intended to help researchers know if technology (i.e. radar, laser, etc...) was used to make the stop determination. Changing this category should eliminate much of the confusion on the part of officers and provide researchers with the necessary information for analysis. There was no objection to making this technical revision to the data collected.

The working group also discussed the peer review commissioned by the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association. Ken Barone stated that some of the recommendations made by reviewers are helpful and modifications to the methodology are currently being reviewed by the research team. He also stated that a number of the recommendations were based on an inaccurate understanding of some aspects of the methodology. Researchers will continue to review the peer review and discuss potential modifications at a future meeting.

Chief Fusaro commented that the Chief’s Association would like the advisory board to explore the potential use of crash data in our future analysis. The use of crash data as a potential indicator of driving populations was a recommendation of the peer review. He also asked that the advisory board consider waiting to publish any analysis until it includes an in-depth analysis of departments identified with disparities.

The advisory board briefly discussed both the use of crash data as a possible analytical tool and the incorporation of the in-depth department level analysis into any future published report. It was determined by the Chair that both of these issues should be discussed by the Data Working Group and recommendations should be presented at a future meeting.

V. Additional Post-Stop Information Presentation

Ken Barone and Jim Fazzlaro provided a brief presentation summarizing some additional post-stop data that has not been previously reported on. The information presented included additional information on the reason for stopping drivers, the length of traffic stops, and the outcome of traffic stops. A copy of the full presentation can be found on our website at www.ctrp3.org.

VI. Police Department Complaint Update

The IMRP provided an updated list of complaints alleging racial profiling that have been filed with local police departments since October 1, 2013. To date, the Office of Policy and Management has received a copy of 73 complaints filed. Please note that this does not include complaints filed with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities.

VII. Fair and Impartial Policing Program Evaluation

Matt Ross, Jesse Kalinowski (members of the current IMRP research team) and Dr. Stephen Ross from UCONN have proposed evaluating the U.S. DOJ sponsored Fair and Impartial Policing program. This would require police departments to share limited information about officers that have participated in this training program. The IMRP has offered to assist in data collection efforts, but will not be involved in any evaluation of the program due to our involvement in bringing this program to CT.

VIII. Upcoming Events at CCSU

Michelle Alexander will be at CCSU on February 28, 2018 to participate in a discussion about her book, "The New Jim Crow." This is a ticketed event and all advisory board members are invited to attend. Please contact Ken Barone for tickets.

The IMRP is hosting the Building Bridges Conference on March 1, 2018. There will be a panel discussion on 21st Century Policing and Former Director, U.S. Department of Justice COPS Office, Executive Director, President's 21st Century Task Force on Policing, and Retired Police Chief: Ron Davis will be participating. All advisory board members are invited to attend this event.

IX. General Discussion

The next Data Working Group meeting will be scheduled for a date in March. There was no other discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.