



Pinellas Police Standards Council
Pinellas Park High School – Criminal Justice Academy
6305-118th Avenue
Largo, FL
Agenda: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 – 8:30 AM

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Rick Stelljes
2. **Approval of PPSC Minutes** –Draft Attached
3. **Guest Speakers** –
Assistant Principal/Program Coordinator Cassandra Cummings will provide a brief update regarding the Pinellas Park High School Criminal Justice Academy.
4. **PASS Update** – Director Waters
5. **Committee Reports** –
 - ❖ Legislative Committee – Chief Haworth
 - ❖ Training – SPC Dean Brian Frank
 - ❖ Standards Review Committee – Chief Rob Vincent
 - ❖ Finance – Chief Bill Sohl
 - ❖ Pinellas County Safety & Emergency Services – Director Mike Cooksey
 - ❖ Pinellas County Justice Coordination – Operations Manager Deborah Berry

6. New Business

7. Old Business

8. Roundtable

❖ Pinellas County “Blue Laws”

<http://www.wtsp.com/story/news/2016/02/04/blue-laws-booze-may-vanish-pinellas-county/79836386/>

9. Adjourn

Next Meeting
Wednesday, March 9, 2016 – 8:30 AM
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
4000 Gateway Centre Boulevard, Suite 100
Pinellas Park, FL



**Pinellas Police Standards Council
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
4000 Gateway Centre Boulevard, Suite 100
Pinellas Park, FL
Agenda: January 13, 2016 – 8:30 AM**

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Rick Stelljes
2. **Approval of PPSC Minutes** –
 - ❖ Motion by Chief Sohl and Chief Boudreau – The Council unanimously approved the December 9, 2015 PPSC Minutes.
3. **Guest Speakers** –
 - ❖ Manager Bianca Kendall gave a brief presentation regarding the upcoming MADD 1st Annual *Thank You Pinellas* Dinner and Awards. Manager Kendall distributed a flyer on the event and went through the various nomination categories (see attached). Manager Kendall applauded the interagency working relationship within the Pinellas County law enforcement community and for their continuous support of MADD.
 - ❖ Dr. Max Bromley, Director of the USF Master of Arts in Criminal Justice Administration (MACJA), gave a brief announcement concerning the USF cohort set to begin August 2016 (see attached). Dr. Bromley advised since inception that the MACJA has developed over 180 graduates from over 60 different law enforcement agencies. He stated the cohort offers great networking opportunities while earning a MACJA.
4. **PASS Update** – Director Waters
 - ❖ Director Waters distributed the annual law enforcement salary survey (see attached) and advised the survey will be posted electronically on the PASS website shortly.
 - ❖ Director Waters stated Attorney Jaensch of FordHarrison completed her validation analysis of the PASS questionnaires. He stated the analysis was extremely informative and too voluminous for thorough summary presentation at today's meeting. Director Waters advised he would submit the analysis via e-mail for their individual review and that formal discussion is set for the SRC to review at the February 10th PPSC meeting.
 - ❖ Director Waters advised the comparative report between year ending 2014 and year ending 2015 showed PASS had an overall decrease of just under 21% enrollment of combined PASS and Single Agency applicants. He advised despite the lower percentage of applicants, the confirmed hire ratio actual rose by a percent compared to year ending

2014. Director Waters offered some possible reasons for the decline in applications may be due to current societal conditions and to a much lesser extent PASS's enhanced registration communication to ensure applicants truly understand their commitment prior to monetary payment.

- ❖ Director Waters advised four Background Investigator applicants are being processed for interviews to fill the position vacated by Investigator Trehy. The interviews are set for January 20, 2016 and unless an issue arises the position will mostly likely be filled by the second week of February.

5. **Committee Reports –**

- ❖ **Legislative Committee – Chief Haworth**

Chief Haworth provided an abbreviated text of the 1500 legislative bills that have been filed for the 2016 Legislative Session. The Council discussed some of the substantial law enforcement implications within the upcoming 2016 Legislative Session.

The Council expressed their continued concern for the disagreement between the Florida Police Chiefs Association (FPC) and the Florida Sheriff's Association (FSA) regarding SB 300/CS/CS/HB 163 Weapons and Firearms (Open Carry) legislation. The Council stressed their standing affirmation that Florida's enforcement community should always endeavor to speak uniformly toward matters of public safety and provide for the general welfare of Florida. The Council hopes the FPCA leadership will reconsider and withdraw their conditional support of this legislative act.

- ❖ **Training – SPC Dean Brian Frank**

Dean Frank advised the Corrections Academy started January 11, 2016. He stated the SPC Allstate Center will remodel their "Mat Room" during the upcoming Spring Break (3/7 thru 3/11). Dean Frank stated Dr. Fronrath is also making arrangements to further improve the driving pad/skid pad area at the SPC Allstate Center.

- ❖ **Standards Review Committee – Chief Rob Vincent**

Chief Vincent reminded everyone there are three applicant appeals set for review immediately following the PPSC meeting.

- ❖ **Finance – Chief Bill Sohl**

Covered within the PASS Update.

- ❖ **Pinellas County Safety & Emergency Services –Director Michael Cooksey**

Director Jackie Weinreich updated the Council on the Multi-Tower Replacement Project advising three of the five towers have been constructed (Highway, Toytown and Dunn). She stated the construction at the Eldridge Wilde site should begin in early February and Ft. Desoto will begin in April, after some eagles leave their nest.

Director Weinreich advised that after completion of this project, Radio and Technology will start the replacement of the towers at St. Petersburg Police and Ridgecrest. Additionally, they will then perform shelter replacements and integrate security at all radio sites.

Director Weinreich discussed the WAVE application for public safety use. She stated WAVE is a smart phone application that allows authorized users to connect to the Pinellas County Public Safety radio system via their cell phones. The intended users should be high level personnel as the WAVE application is not a public safety grade solution (requires internet and cell service to be functional).

Director Weinreich stated there is a one-time cost per talk group (channel) of \$2995 and licenses are \$295 per device. The licenses can be purchased in bundles of 10 or 25. The recurring costs are maintenance related and will be based on the number of talk groups and devices for each agency. She stated interested agencies should contact her or Donna Beim to obtain specific pricing germane to your organization. Director Weinreich stated all channels are automatically encrypted via the application.

Director Weinreich advised the WAVE system is not currently operational and won't be until the ISSI switch installation is complete. She stated she will provide an update on the ISSI timeline soon. Director Weinreich stated the express purpose of her information is to allow budgeting time for interested agencies. She said those interested agencies would be updated on agency activation and training essentials as connectivity is initiated.

- ❖ Pinellas County Justice and Coordination – Operations Manager Deborah Beery
Manager Beery advised that she has received several inquiries from the public regarding potential issues with the Crime Viewer application. She asked that any agency experiencing or knowing of a problem with Crime Viewer to keep her informed so she can properly track and/or modify BTS's corrective response.

6. New Business

Chief Hendry announced the Florida Council Against Sexual Violence (FCASV) is now accepting applications for the Excellence in Sexual Assault Response Project (ESARP). He advised the project is a collaboration between FCASV and the criminal justice community that is funded through the Department of Justice and the Office on Violence Against Women. The project offers free training, policy development consultation and technical support to four selected law enforcement organizations and their state attorney's officers on responding to sex crimes against victims 12 years old and above. Chief Hendry provided a flyer (see attached) outlining the ESARP and advised the deadline for application is March 7, 2016.

7. Old Business

- ❖ Chief Stelljes stated he would like to convene a meeting of interested Council members to discuss the progress of the Pinellas County Collaborative Agreement which was implemented in 2014. He stressed that there has been a philosophical shift to have schools take care of nonviolent misdemeanors such as disorderly conduct, thefts, criminal mischief, trespassing and gambling instead of law enforcement. Chief Stelljes cited some of the myriad of meetings he has recently attended where various entities are presenting stats from the DJJ website depicting reduced juvenile arrests through civil citations, diversions and other alternatives. Some of the agencies displaying reduced arrest numbers compared to Pinellas County are Dade County, Broward County and Palm Beach County.

Chief Stelljes stated his review of the arrest statistics showed a disparity (approximately 150 less arrests) between his recorded arrests and those shown on the DJJ website. He

stated the difference is most likely attributed to non-arrest juvenile referrals being disseminated through the clerk's office and being tallied among the DJJ juvenile arrest records.

Chief Probation Officer Adrienne Conwell agreed with Chief Stelljes assessment of the disbursement of juvenile referrals. State Attorney Bernie McCabe and Sheriff Gualtieri both stated that the juvenile referrals absent charges should not be disseminated within the clerk's office. Chief Stelljes stated that he would work with those involved to correct these issues.

Chief Stelljes stated as a side note to his review of juvenile referrals, there appears to be a thought amongst the law enforcement community that referrals are somehow required in all investigative contact with juveniles. He stated this is clearly not the case but officers should follow their department policies and procedures governing juvenile investigative contact.

Chief Stelljes spoke about the School to Prison Pipeline meeting he attended on December 17, 2015 sponsored by the Micah Project, Bethel Community Church and the Southern Poverty Law Center. He said issues raised during the meeting included alleged disparity among black youth suspended and arrested, seeking a reduction of school suspension from 10 days to 5 days and abatement of arrests for deemed minor offenses of disorderly conduct and possession of marijuana.

Chief Stelljes stated the Pinellas County School Board, at a recent workshop meeting, is considering many codes of conduct changes to include the possible reduction of 10 day suspensions to 5 day suspensions and allowing students to recover credit (partial to full) while serving in school suspensions (ISS). He stated other topics discussed were to clearly define discipline infractions, increased sensitivity and de-escalation training of SROs, aspect of mandatory inclusion of parent/guardian for all law enforcement investigative interviews, reduction of law enforcement involvement for any minor offenses such as disorderly conduct with heightened emphasis on programs such as peer mediation and other forms of counseling.

State Attorney McCabe offered a comment encapsulating the discussion that unfortunately the symptoms of problematic juveniles manifest in school whereas the actual disease occurs outside the school. The Council was in firm agreement with Mr. McCabe stressing the much larger societal issue.

8. Roundtable

- ❖ Sheriff Gualtieri announced the restart of the violent crime task force. He stated the task force will operate on a permanent basis from this point forward.
- ❖ State Attorney McCabe and Sheriff Gualtieri spoke about the recent meeting attended by representatives of the Clerk of the Court, the SAO and other Pinellas County law enforcement agencies to discuss an adult diversion program model for minor offenses such as misdemeanor possession of marijuana. They advised discussion continues and that any formulated program will have to incorporate a consensus agreement by all Pinellas County law enforcement agencies.

- ❖ Chief Vincent discussed the recent Florida Police Chiefs Association Board of Directors Meeting he attended where information was disseminated on the following items:
 - FDLE is compiling a report from their recent sexual assault kit audit. FDLE will advance strong recommendations for improvements to evidence tracking procedures of sexual assault kits.
 - DJJ reported an 123% increase in prevention services since five years ago. Civil Citation recidivism rate is less than 5% as measured during a one-year time frame. Additionally, only 44% of eligible youths received civil citations. However, there was a 32% decline in arrest over the prior year. A concern noted by DJJ is the 9% increase in robbery/firearm related felony arrests and the 28% increase of vehicle thefts arrest. DJJ staff are delving into these cases and want to be part of the solution (i.e. curfew checks, gang awareness training, etc...). The DJJ touted that 95% of civil citation violators do not recidivate but cautioned this was only a one-year study period.
 - Attorney General Office (AGO) discussed the use of drones commenting that the FCC regulates all use of drones. All requests on drones must come from the head of the political subdivision (i.e. mayor, BOCC, etc...).
 - Bill of Rights case update (Legal Alert by the Florida Sheriffs Association -see attached) concerning investigations by non-employing agencies. The legal alert summarized the Third District Court of Appeal ruling (Miami-Dade County v. Dade County Police Benevolent Ass'n, 2014 WL 6612901 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2014) that external investigations of a law enforcement or correctional officer by a non-employing agency does not violate the Bill of Rights, section 112.533 FSS, provided that the investigation is not intended to provide a basis for potential disciplinary action.

9. Adjourn

Chief Sohl and Chief Vincent

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