



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

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Rick Stelljes
2. **Approval of PPSC Minutes** –Draft Attached
3. **Guest Speakers** –  
Attorney Tracey Jaensch of FordHarrison Labor Law Firm will provide a brief overview of current labor laws and their potential impact within governmental agencies.
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**

**9. Adjourn**

**Next Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 13, 2016 – 8:30 AM**  
**Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council**  
**4000 Gateway Centre Boulevard, Suite 100**  
**Pinellas Park, FL**



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

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Rick Stelljes
2. **Approval of PPSC Minutes** –
  - ❖ Motion by Chief Undestad and Chief Holloway – The Council unanimously approved the January 13, 2016 PPSC Minutes.
3. **Guest Speakers** –
  - ❖ Assistant Principal/Program Coordinator Cassandra Cummings and Department Chair Rachel Spivey welcomed the Council to the Pinellas Park High School Criminal Justice Academy (CJA). AP Cummings stated the CJA was recently granted the “Academy of Distinction” designation based upon the CJA ability to prepare students for postsecondary careers and education. She advised this award was only awarded to five of the 30 academies within the District.

AP Cummings stated that last summer four CJA students participated in the SkillsUSA competition in Louisville, Kentucky. The “Crime Scene Investigation” team won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the National and their “Criminal Justice” competitor won 14<sup>th</sup> in the Nation. AP Cummings expressed her sincere appreciation for the many law enforcement agencies and affiliations, to include the St. Petersburg Police Department, Pinellas Park Police Department, the FOP and PBA, that helped sponsor the trip.

Department Chair Rachel Spivey informed the Council that the CJA currently has 11 students enrolled as interns within many Pinellas County criminal justice affiliated professions to include the State Attorney’s Office, Pipas Law Group, Barnett & Woolums Law Firm, St Petersburg Police Department, Pinellas County Schools Police, Pinellas Park Police Department, Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office and Police Applicant Screening Service.

DC Spivey stated that in the fall of 2015, the CJA students hand constructed tree ordainments memorializing fallen police officers (2012-2015) that was auctioned by UPARC as part of the 2015 Festival of Trees. She advised the tree was on full display at the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office during the holidays.

DC Spivey also wished to thank the law enforcement agencies and their affiliates for their support and contributions toward the CJA participation in SkillsUSA. She advised that it is only through the support such was provided this past year that CJA students are able to travel and compete in SkillsUSA.

**4. PASS Update – Director Waters**

- ❖ Director Waters announced the hiring of Brian Lightfoot as the new PASS Background Investigator replacing the position vacated by Investigator Tina Trehy. Investigator Lightfoot's service includes four years within the United States Air Force and seven years within the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office as a Crime Scene technician. Investigator Lightfoot is scheduled to start employment on Monday, February 15, 2016 and the PASS staff is very excited to welcome him aboard.
- ❖ Director Waters advised that the PASS Background Investigator Manual is complete and has received copyright approval from FDLE and California POST. Director Waters distributed a copy of the manual for the Council review. Director Waters specified that although the manual defines the PASS investigative process, it is also a valuable template for any agency performing background investigations of potential law enforcement applicants. The Council acknowledged the extensive work performed creating the manual and thanked the PASS staff for their effort.
- ❖ Director Waters provided a brief summary of the recent Florida Selection Center Directors Association meeting he attended in Lake Mary, Florida. He advised the main topic of discussion was an inquiry by the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) of Florida's Criminal Justice Basic Ability Test (CJBAT) used for law enforcement academy admission. The inquiry began in June 2015 and raised concern regarding the three FDLE approved CJBAT vendors along with FDLE's recently submitted legislative proposal consolidating CJBAT into one FDLE approved test.

Director Waters stated the concern centered upon grading standards used by the three vendors (I/O Solutions, Morris & McDaniel, and Miami Dade College) had a disparate impact on African Americans and Hispanics. Through a series of extensively detailed correspondences between FDLE staff and DOJ a consensus was established to change the current procedure of officially identifying score percentages to purely pass/fail which is in line with other FDLE tracked scoring such as the State Officer Certification Examination (SOCE) and firearms qualifications.

Director Waters advised the vendor, I/O Solutions, (shown to have had an increased disparate impact) also agreed to analyze and modify its BAT to fall within the same relative pass rate as the other BAT providers' tests. Further, I/O Solutions would retroactively rescore all their administered BATs from the time period June 1, 2010 forward to reflect the modified scoring passing criteria.

Director Waters stated PASS does not use I/O Solutions but rather Morris & McDaniel for all CJBAT. Therefore, the only change foreseen in the CJBAT is the deletion of official percentage test scores to pass/fail status. Director Waters stated FDLE is creating an announcement pertaining to the retroactive rescoring of I/O Solutions BAT examinations from June 1, 2010. Once completed, PASS will display FDLE's notification on our website and within our office.

## 5. Committee Reports –

### ❖ Legislative Committee – Chief Haworth

Pinellas Park Police Captain Mike Darroch for Chief Haworth stated that as reported within the news media the 2016 Florida Legislative Session has been very active. He said that it appears the SB 300/CS/CS/HB 163 Weapons and Firearms (Open Carry) will most likely not make it out of committee hearings within the Senate. Captain Darroch stated there are two separate forfeiture bills moving forward that eventually may merge into one bill. He stated that it appears some type of restrictions will pass within the forfeiture act.

State Attorney McCabe spoke on the topic of civil citations current being considered within the legislative session. Mr. McCabe advised the Pinellas County Clerk's Office recently held a meeting on the aspects of an adult diversion program geared toward minor marijuana offenses and other minor adult offenses. The current thought is for the creation of a Pinellas County Ordinance delineating the diversion stipulated offenses where municipalities were free to enjoin or opt out. He advised the diversion program would be functionally administered by the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Probation Department.

Mr. McCabe stated the difference between the current adult Pre-Trial Intervention (PTI) program and adult diversion program under consideration is the affected adult will not be entered into the judicial system under the diversion program.

### ❖ Training – SPC Dean Brian Frank

N/A

### ❖ Standards Review Committee – Chief Rob Vincent

Chief Vincent reminded everyone that the SRC is set to review the Administrative Interview Questionnaire Validation Analysis performed by FordHarrison Labor Law Firm.

Chief Vincent drew attention to the observed decline in PASS applications. He postulated this decline is similar to one being felt by all law enforcement agencies not only in Pinellas County but nationwide. He advanced for further consideration the prospect of PASS engaging in recruitment measures.

The Council, although fully appreciating Chief Vincent's comments, stated this was tried in the past with mixed results; especially weighing in the budgetary impact. The Council agreed to discuss further for a minor recruitment role but the overall consensus was recruitment should still be the predominant role of employing law enforcement agencies.

### ❖ Finance – Chief Bill Sohl

N/A

### ❖ Pinellas County Safety & Emergency Services –Director Michael Cooksey

N/A

### ❖ Pinellas County Justice and Coordination – Operations Manager Deborah Beery

N/A

**6. New Business**

- ❖ Chief Holloway advised that in conjunction with the 2016 St. Petersburg Grand Prix (March 11th through March 13<sup>th</sup>) there will be presidential candidates visiting the area. He advised that the Secret Service will be making all necessary contact with the local law enforcement agencies potentially impacted by visiting presidential candidates.

Chief Holloway spoke about the success of the vehicle theft task force and a planned full year implementation. He said measuring strategies used to evaluate the success of the task force has yielded many favorable results in the effort to combat vehicle thefts.

- ❖ Chief Stelljes wished to re-emphasize the extreme importance of local law enforcement agencies commitment toward notifying affected Pinellas County Schools of in progress calls meriting school contact. He advised that if a school does not have an SRO on campus, Pinellas County Schools Police will send someone immediately to the school to perform the “lock down” procedures.

**7. Old Business**

- ❖ Chief Stelljes advised that since the previous meeting of the PPSC, he has worked with Sheriff Gualtieri and his staff to examine the flow of paperwork associated with juvenile referrals. He was very complimentary of the staff provided by Sheriff Gualtieri with their tireless effort toward reconciling the discrepancy between the juvenile arrest numbers shown by the DJJ and those of the Pinellas County Schools Police. Chief Stelljes advised they are still working through the numbers and hopes to disseminate the results and moving forward approach in the near future.

- ❖ Chief Slaughter advanced on the continued topic of juvenile diversions that the Clearwater Police Department has seen significant numbers of juveniles slated for juvenile diversion not take advantage of offered diversion. He stated their internal statistics indicate the juvenile and/or involved parent does not want to participate or complete the ordered diversion program.

- ❖ Chief Holloway spoke in reference to last month’s discussion of school administrators taking custody of marijuana found in possession of school students and the inherent problems associated with not notifying/involving school police officers. He said this was a topic of discussion at the recent Florida Police Chiefs Conference for liability concerns both criminal and civil.

- ❖ State Attorney McCabe spoke in reference to last month’s discussion regarding the SB300/CS/CS/HB 163 Weapons and Firearms “Open Carry” legislation. He stated that in the event this bill does not come out of committee (dies), he hopes the Florida Police Chiefs and the Florida Sheriff Association will reconcile their recent divergence of agreement to present a united front should this bill or a similar in construct bill be brought forward again. The Council was in full agreement with State Attorney McCabe’s comments.

**8. Roundtable**

- ❖ Chief Undestad brought forward the posted agenda item “Blue Laws” for possible comment and/or discussion. The Council advised that they had viewed the WTSP news

segment hyperlinked within the agenda and were inclined to offer no comment on the topic.

- ❖ Chief Probation Officer Adrienne Conwell announced she is leaving her current position to accept a new role as Reform Specialist within the DJJ. She advised that although sincerely enjoying her appointment as Chief Probation Officer, she very much looks forward to her new responsibilities. She advised that once a replacement is announced for her position, she would introduce this person to the Council.

**9. Adjourn**

Chief Stelljes and Chief Undestad

**Next Meeting**  
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