



**Pinellas Police Standards Council
Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
Administration Building
10750 Ulmerton Road
Largo, FL
Agenda: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 – 8:30 AM**

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Rick Stelljes

2. **Approval of PPSC Minutes** –Draft Attached

3. **2016/17 PPSC Budget Review and Approval**

4. **Annual Nomination and Election of PPSC Chair and Vice Chair**
 - **Committee Chairs – Reappointment confirmation and/or open seat consideration**

5. **PASS Update** – Director Waters

6. **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

7. New Business

8. Old Business

9. Roundtable

10. Adjourn

**Next Meeting
Wednesday, June 8, 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: April 13, 2016 – 8:30 AM**

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Rick Stelljes
2. **Approval of PPSC Minutes** –
 - ❖ Motion by Chief Kochen and SPC Dean Frank – The Council unanimously approved the March 9, 2016 PPSC Minutes.
3. **Guest Speakers** –
 - ❖ Tampa Bay Rays President Brian Auld announced the expansion of the Rays Voucher Baseball Card Program that was initiated last year with the St. Petersburg Police Department. He advised that the Rays donated 2,500 vouchers (each voucher was good for four free tickets) to the St. Petersburg Police Department for their discretionary distribution toward advancing the quality of life within the St. Petersburg community. Mr. Auld stated Chief Holloway nicknamed the program “park, walk and cheer” and by all accounts, the voucher program was a tremendous success.

Mr. Auld stated this year’s expansion of the program would work similar to where interested law enforcement agencies would enter an agreement with the Rays to ensure the vouchers are utilized in a judicially prudent manner and can be tracked. He advised that the Rays recently added the Clearwater Police Department to the voucher program and asked Chief Slaughter to comment on the participation agreement. Chief Slaughter was very complimentary of the program and advised the Rays organization will customize the voucher baseball cards (graphics) for each agency’s intended use. Chief Slaughter said the Clearwater Police Department has geared their baseball cards this year toward the importance of citizens locking vehicle doors to help prevent vehicle burglaries and vehicle thefts.

Mr. Auld provided his contact information and advised that interested law enforcement agencies wishing to participate should contact his office. Additionally, he stated the Rays organization is dedicated to the Tampa Bay community and the voucher baseball card program is just one way of advancing their overall commitment.

- ❖ Dr. Erin Kimmerle, Associate Professor of Anthropology at USF and Scientific Director of the school's Forensic Anthropology Laboratory, gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on the multifaceted research and work being performed within her field of expertise. Dr. Kimmerle touched upon her onsite forensic research of the Dozier School for Boys case and her onsite forensic research within the genocidal cases of mass graves in the Balkans.

Dr. Kimmerle stated the forensic laboratory at USF has the ability to bring specialized equipment to a scene and they are always willing to share resources and tools with law enforcement. She stated the State of Florida currently has over 900 unidentified remains on file and over 3500 missing persons. Dr. Kimmerle spoke of her involvement within the "Tampa Bay Cold Case Project" and the "Left for Dead Task Force" that will utilize an intelligence lead approach involving new methods and tools to investigate these unsolved cases. She stated the "Tampa Bay Case Project" will also investigate regional homicide patterns along with creating a database relevant to local population and natural environment to assist in human identification. Dr. Kimmerle advised the "Left for Dead Task Force" will concentrate primarily on female victims between 1970 to 1985 with an additional emphasis on identifying serial offenders. She advised she is currently working with Pasco County Sheriff Chris Nocco on cold cases of female victims.

Dr. Kimmerle provided a list of some upcoming events that the Council might be interested in attending:

- Art of Forensics 10/21/16 at the Tampa Bay History Center
- Missing in Florida 12/3/16 at USF Tampa Campus

4. **PASS Update** – Director Waters

- ❖ Director Waters advised the PASS Active Report reflects new applications are steady and the overall budget remains within guidelines.
- ❖ Director Waters provided the Council with the preliminary FY2016/17 PPSC Budget report (handout) for their review and consideration. He advised the Council is set to provide approval consideration at the PPSC May 11, 2016 meeting. Director Waters summarized some of the findings of the budget report to include revenue from assessed traffic citations continues a downward trend perpetuating the overt requirement of direct Council contributions to offset the revenue decline. He advised on a positive note, a five-year fiscal comparative analysis revealed a streamlined PASS operation with significantly lower expenditures.
- ❖ Director Waters introduced Investigator Lightfoot to the Council. Director Waters advised Investigator Lightfoot is quickly learning all aspects of his responsibilities and is expected to take over the SRC applicant appeal presentations within a short period of time.

5. **Committee Reports** –

- ❖ Legislative Committee – Chief Haworth

- Chief Haworth stated that in the interest of time, he will provide Director Waters with the list summarizing the remaining bills pending 2016 legislative enactment for the e-mail dissemination.
- ❖ Training – SPC Dean Brian Frank
 - Dean Frank reminded the Council of the Region 9 meeting set for Thursday, April 14, 2016 at the St. Petersburg College Allstate Center. He also advised a new police recruit academy starts at the Allstate Center on Monday, April 18, 2016.
- ❖ Standards Review Committee – Chief Rob Vincent
 - Chief Vincent called attention to the PASS Administrative Interview Questionnaire set for full Council review and consideration. He advised that all members should have received a summary report by e-mail last Friday. Chief Vincent stated the SRC has spent considerable research time on this project. He had Director Waters expound upon some of the research established within the summary review points and asked if there were any Council questions.

No questions were raised by the Council. Chief Riley made a motion to approve the PASS Administrative Interview Questionnaire and it was seconded by Chief Stelljes. The Council voted unanimously to approve the updated questionnaire for immediate PASS use (Resolution 2016-2).

 - Chief Vincent reminded everyone that the SRC is set to hear two applicant appeals immediately after the general meeting today.
- ❖ 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

- ❖ Sheriff Gualtieri announced the PCSO is advancing a grant opportunity to expand their use of license plate reader technology. He advised the PCSO currently has 6 license plate readers through ELSAG (ELSAG North America, LLC Law Enforcement Systems) and the grant opportunity will necessitate switching over to Vigilant (Vigilant Solutions). Sheriff Gualtieri stated the grant allows for the attachment of other law enforcement agencies to use Vigilant license plate readers at no charge. He stated the use of Vigilant offers a host of advantages to include the use of a database containing tens of millions of records. He said the only real drawback is ELSAG and Vigilant databases do not support each other and therefore accumulated records within ELSAG cannot be shared. Sheriff Gualtieri stated a signed “Letter of Support” is the only requirement for outside agency participation. He said he will distribute the Letter of Support to each agency for their consideration.

7. Old Business

- ❖ Sheriff Gualtieri updated the Council on the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners contemplation of a pre-arrest county ordinance for low level crimes committed by adults. Sheriff Gualtieri stated that while communicating overwhelming support for an adult pre-arrest diversion program, he is opposed to a county ordinance for its implementation. He stated the adult pre-arrest program has to ensure uniform application and treatment throughout the county for everyone. Sheriff Gualtieri advised that he is in favor of an adult pre-arrest diversion program operated similar to the existing PCSO Juvenile Diversion Program.

The Council fully agreed with the assessment provided by Sheriff Gualtieri. The Council discussed their opposition to county and municipal governments adopting individualized pre-arrest adult diversion ordinances for low level crimes as it creates inherent inequities and unfairness of application. The Council expressed their opposition to a civil citation program that is currently trending through many localities within the State of Florida. A core concern is that civil citations still create a formal record receipt negating its overall benefit whereas successful completion of the pre-arrest adult diversion program proffered by Sheriff Gualtieri excludes a formal record.

The Council agreed the essential framework of the pre-arrest adult diversion program should be consensus driven by all Council members. The Council stressed that operational procedures have to be clearly defined to include an assessable database for street level law enforcement officers to make informed decisions. Equally, safeguards such as conceivably an objective review by an independent party at the PCSO booking facility should be in place to ensure uniformity of service throughout the county.

Chief Slaughter moved for a resolution, embodying the above principles, be drafted communicating their overwhelming support for adopting a pre-arrest adult diversion program for low level crimes within Pinellas County. Chief Kochen second the motion and the Council unanimously agreed (Resolution 2016-1).

- ❖ Chief Stelljes updated the Council on current pressure being applied by community advocacy groups such as Faith and Action for Strength Together (FAST) to eliminate the physical arrest of students for disorderly conduct while on school property. These advocacy groups enlist there are better ways to deal with violent kids and are looking for the school system and government entities to fund alternatives. Chief Stelljes advised that while being open to the advocacy groups concerns, reality predicates physical arrests are sometimes necessitated to ensure public safety and order. He stressed the Pinellas County School District and the Pinellas County Schools Police SRO Program is committed toward advancing alternative non-arrest diversion and reach out programs for students committing low level crimes on school property.

Chief Slaughter echoed Chief Stelljes comments describing the “Teen Court (Restorative Justice) Program” instituted at Countryside High School. He advised the focus of the teen court program is on teen truancy and juvenile arbitration. Chief Slaughter stated each school has its own unique set of issues and a teen court should not be considered an absolute for every school but rather as another viable alternative diversionary program.

Chief Stelljes stated physical arrests of students on school property continue a clear downward trend in favor of alternative diversionary programs; a statistic seemingly overlooked by many advocacy groups demanding change.

8. Roundtable

N/A

9. Adjourn

Chief Riley and Chief Stelljes

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