



**Pinellas Police Standards Council
Wednesday, April 12, 2017 – 8:30 AM
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
4000 Gateway Centre Boulevard, Suite 100
Pinellas Park, FL**

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Jeff Undestad

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

3. **Guest Speakers** –
 - Pinellas County Safety & Emergency Services Director Jackie Weinreich will facilitate a demonstration of WAVE (smart phone access to the radio system)

 - Pinellas County Marketing and Communications Director Barbra Hernandez will provide a brief presentation on “Penny IV”.

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 Jim Fogarty

❖ Pinellas County Justice Coordination – Operations Manager Deborah Berry

6. New Business

7. Old Business

8. Roundtable

9. Adjourn

Next Meeting
Wednesday, May 10, 2017 – 8:30 AM
Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
Administration Building
10750 Ulmerton Road
Largo, FL 33779



Pinellas Police Standards Council
Wednesday, March 8, 2017 – 8:30 AM
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
4000 Gateway Centre Boulevard, Suite 100
Pinellas Park, FL

ATTENDANCE: Chief Investigator Rick Hart (SAO), Chief Bill Sohl (Belleair PD), Chief Probation Officer Melissa Fuller (DJJ), Chief David Hendry (USF St. Petersburg), Chief Kevin Riley (Kenneth City PD), Chief Mike Haworth (Pinellas Park PD), Chief Anthony Holloway (St. Petersburg PD), Chief Rick Stelljes (Pinellas Schools PD), Chief Jeff Undestad (Largo PD), Chief Dan Slaughter (Clearwater PD), Field Representative Scott Ballard (FDLE), Director Jackie Weinreich (PC-Safety & Emergency Services), Chief Rob Vincent (Gulfport PD), Manager Deborah Berry (PC Justice Coordination), State Attorney Bernie McCabe (6th Judicial Circuit), FDLE ASAC John Vecchio

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Jeff Undestad

2. **Approval of Previous Month PPSC Minutes** –
Motion to approve by Chief Sohl and seconded by Chief Riley – The Council unanimously approved the February 8, 2017 PPSC Minutes.

3. **Guest Speakers** –
Dr. Max Bromley was unable to attend but cordially asked that his USF information flyer, communicating the 2017 Criminal Justice Cohort, be disseminated amongst the Council membership. The flyer was approved by the Council for e-mail dissemination.

4. **PASS Update** – Director Waters
 - ❖ Director Waters went over the PASS Activity Report to include a two-year statistical analysis of the applicant appeals heard in front of the Standards Review Committee.

 - ❖ Director Waters advised that the Pinellas County Combined Mutual Aid Agreement has been fully executed and recorded with FDLE. He advised that he will forward (by e-mail) a copy of the signed agreement along with the FDLE E-Receipt for Mutual Aid Agreement.

 - ❖ Director Waters advised that he will present the DRAFT 2017/18 PPSC Budget at the April 12, 2017 PPSC meeting. He advised that the only known significant increase in expenditures will be within polygraph examination costs due to increase amount of

exams created by the realignment (8/16) of the polygraph test timeline. Director Waters stated that he firmly believes the additional cost of providing this testing up front, rather than waiting for an agency conditional offer, has produced higher quality candidates not only for the purpose of PASS but also for the St. Petersburg College Police Academy.

5. Committee Reports –

❖ Legislative Committee – Chief Haworth

- Chief Haworth provided a handout of the law enforcement relevant legislation being considered during the 2017 Florida Legislative Session. The Council discussed the multitude of carrying concealed/open carrying firearm legislative bills being presented. The Council referenced House Bill 6005 “License to Carry Concealed Weapons or Firearms” (removes provision prohibiting concealed carry licensees from openly carrying handgun or carrying concealed weapon or firearm into colleges or university facilities) is moving forward despite stiff opposition from the Florida Sheriffs Association and the Florida Police Chiefs Association. Chief Hendry reiterated that all Florida University and College law enforcement agencies oppose this legislation. He advised that significant revisions within campus law enforcement reception and response protocols are now being considered should this legislation become law.

State Attorney McCabe advised that the juvenile civil citation bills (various) are facing strong resistance due to the word “shall” being used prohibiting law enforcement discretion. He stated officers are mandated to issue a civil citation or require the juvenile offender participation in a diversion program for certain first time misdemeanor offenses. Chief Stelljes commented that special interest groups, such as FAST, are fiercely advancing juvenile civil citations as a mechanism to vacate misdemeanor physical arrests of juveniles. He said this is especially true for FAST’s intended goal of eliminating all physical arrests for disorderly conduct offenses committed on school grounds.

State Attorney McCabe advised he has spoken to the FAST membership and has encouraged them to meet with juvenile offenders and their family for solutions. He stated schools are learning institutions not meant to provide the social structure for raising children. The Council was unanimous in their concurrence with State Attorney McCabe’s observations.

State Attorney McCabe commented on the continuing criminal justice reform legislation and advised some of the reform measures included reducing minimum/mandatory sentencing guidelines as well as revamping point system sentencing guidelines. State Attorney McCabe discussed the current sequential lineup legislation commenting that evidently some judicial circuits still have not developed and/or adhered to the “Photographic Array Policy” pilot project by the PPSC and later instituted by the 6th Judicial Circuit.

State Attorney McCabe stated there is legislative proposal (SB 128) to shift the burden of proof within the “Stand Your Ground” law (current practice, supported by the Florida Supreme Court, requires defendants to prove before trial why they are entitled to such immunity) to, if passed, require the prosecutors to prove at pretrial “beyond a reasonable doubt” why a defendant couldn’t claim they lawfully stood their ground. He advised the law would thereby create prosecution “beyond a reasonable doubt” twice (first at a pretrial hearing and then at a

subsequent trial). He said the Florida Sheriffs Association and the Florida Police Chiefs have yet to weigh in on this legislative proposal. State Attorney McCabe stated that this is bad public policy and he hopes the FSA and FPC will join in opposition to this legislation.

❖ Training – SPC Dean Brian Frank

N/A

❖ Standards Review Committee – Chief Rob Vincent

- Chief Vincent advised that there are three candidate appeals scheduled for today. He thanked the PASS staff for the annual SRC analyzes of applicants appeals for the two last years as well as employment placement of “grant” appeals during the last two years (see attached).
- Chief Vincent brought up for discussion the procedures used by PASS to perform background investigations of “single agency candidates” compared to “self-sponsored candidates”. He advised with more agencies relying upon PASS for the initial background screening service it seems an appropriate time to revisit the topic to ensure continuity of understanding and practice. He stated, in brief, self-sponsored candidates will adhere to all provisions outlined within the PASS Selection Standards whereas selection standards for single agency candidates will adhere to those internally of each individual agency’s hiring standards.

Chief Vincent reminded everyone that the standards applied by the PPSC, created through Chapter 72-666 FSS, are non-binding and are meaningfully intended to cultivate high quality candidates for the Pinellas County law enforcement community. He advised that in the rare event a single agency candidate is removed from agency hiring consideration, the identified candidate will have to meet all conditions of a self-sponsored candidate in order to remain and/or apply for PASS consideration. The Council thanked Chief Vincent for the update and was unanimous in agreement with the outlined procedures.

❖ Finance – Chief Bill Sohl

- N/A

❖ Pinellas County Safety & Emergency Services – Director Jackie Weinreich

- Director Weinreich provided a brief update of current projects underway which was followed up by a written summation:

*Florida FirstNet will be conducting a pilot study in Pinellas County and is requesting data from each public safety agency. FirstNet is the name representing the public safety broadband spectrum (spectrum 14) set aside to support wireless services for emergency responders and government agencies. This spectrum will be deployed throughout the state and will be available to agencies should they decide to join (not mandatory). Additionally, this spectrum is expected to receive higher priority (remain functional or be repaired faster) in the event of major events, such as terrorism or weather related disasters. If any agency has not provided data, it is likely they will be contacted by a team member to obtain, at a minimum, the number of personnel employed.

*Replacement of the South Tower, as well as construction of a category 5 radio equipment shelter, will begin in the next month. Once the new tower is active, the geo-diverse master/prime will be relocated from the Ridgcrest site to the site in St. Petersburg to provide more appropriate geographic distance. There is no interruption in service anticipated during the project, which should be completed on or before 12/31/17.

*A demonstration of WAVE (smart phone access to the radio system) will be provided at the next PPSC meeting.

*Assistant County Administrator, John Bennett, is in the process of hiring a Safety & Emergency Services Bureau Director (to replace Mike Cooksey who retired). A decision is expected in the next couple of weeks.

- ❖ Pinellas County Justice Coordination – Operations Manager Deborah Berry
 - N/A

6. **New Business**

- ❖ Chief Slaughter advised the Tampa Bay Area Chiefs of Police Education and Research Foundation along with the Tampa Bay Area Chiefs of Police Association have generously donated funding to provide two free training courses for Train-the-Trainer “FCASV Trauma Informed Sexual Assault Investigations”. He advised the training incorporates the Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview (FETI) training program. Chief Slaughter advised the first training opportunity will take place in Pinellas County followed by one in Hillsborough County.

Chief Slaughter highly endorses attendance of this training opportunity and wishes to thank Sheriff Gualtieri for facilitating the Pinellas County host site at the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office main headquarters. He advised the training class is scheduled for May 1st – 5th 2017 and they are holding 40 seats open. Chief Slaughter advised the TBACPA will disseminate an e-mail flyer advertising this event. He advised the training course information for Hillsborough County has yet to be determined but will occur later this year.

Chief Slaughter advised the TBACPA will also be hosting guest speaker Retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Dave Grossman at their August 2017 meeting. He advised that Colonel Grossman is a very dynamic speaker and highly encourages attendance. Chief Slaughter stated they anticipate a large audience and the event will hold 200 seats.

7. **Old Business**

- ❖ Chief Vincent advised that he recently made an inquiry if the PPSC had a standing resolution or memorandum of understanding regarding the interaction among the Pinellas County law enforcement agencies executing PC Advisories within VIPER. A check revealed that although Council members all remembered unanimous agreement to work with one another to facilitate local PC Advisories (arrest and transport), none could recall a formal written agreement specifying the interaction parameters among agencies. Chief

Vincent concurred with this observation and advised the Council may wish to formalize the interaction between agencies for continuity of intention and execution.

The Council agreed and decided to table the topic until Sheriff Gualtieri could attend and join in the discussion. In the interim, the Council asked if agencies possibly having an internal policy and procedures governing VIPER PC incidents to forward this to Director Waters for e-mail dissemination prior to the next scheduled meeting. Among the Council present, Chief Slaughter advised that the Clearwater Police Department has a policy and procedures for PC VIPER incidents.

8. Roundtable

- ❖ Chief Stelljes advised that as a follow up to last month's discussion regarding the Pinellas County Public Schools system, the school administration appears steadfast in preparing to implement a teen court program within all Pinellas County public high schools. He stated that Clearwater Police Officers Josh Jewett and Cathy Long have recently provided presentations to school district administrators and all have been thoroughly impressed with the teen court program concept. Chief Stelljes praised the presentations by Officer Long and Officer Jewett and thanked Chief Slaughter for providing the services of two dedicated and highly professional officers. Chief Stelljes stated he would be remiss if he did not include Teen Court Coordinator Tom Toy's instrumental inclusion within the ongoing presentations and the overall implementation aspects of the teen court program.

Chief Stelljes encouraged agency leaders who have not had the chance to see a teen court in session to attend. He advised the interaction between all parties (peer students, law enforcement and the alleged student violator) is simply amazing. Chief Stelljes stated that although the teen court program is predominantly hearing truancy cases it appears to be paying off dividends.

- ❖ Chief Stelljes advised that he will be sending out an SRO meeting invitation in the next few weeks. He asked for agency indulgence in permitting all SROs to attend this very beneficial meeting with school leadership. Chief Stelljes stated it will not be an all-day event and the information and interaction between the school administration and officers is extremely well warranted.
- ❖ Chief Stelljes advised that school arrests have slightly risen (school year through February) in comparison to the same time period last year. He said this was expected as they have been very busy from the start of the school year. Chief Stelljes stated the numbers reflected 333 arrests for this year compared to 287 for the last school year. He stated that 40 of the arrests this year stemmed from home VOPs.
- ❖ Chief Slaughter brought attention to a recent publication addressing exhaust issues with the 2014 Ford Explorers. He advised that he will e-mail the publication for those agencies that may have this type of vehicle in their fleet.

9. Adjourn

Chief Vincent and Chief Haworth

Next Meeting
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