



**Pinellas Police Standards Council  
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council  
4000 Gateway Centre Boulevard, Suite 100  
Pinellas Park, FL  
Agenda: Wednesday, November 13, 2019 – 8:30 AM**

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman David Hendry
  
2. **Approval of PPSC Minutes** – Draft Attached (requires motion and vote)
  
3. **Guest Speaker** –
  
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 Rick Doyle
  
  - ❖ 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 -** (requires motion and vote)

**Next Meeting**  
**Wednesday, December 11, 2019 – 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  
Wednesday, October 9, 2019 – 8:30 AM**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chief David Hendry (USF Police at St. Petersburg), State Attorney Bernie McCabe (6<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit), Sheriff Bob Gualtieri (Pinellas County SO), Chief Deputy Dan Simovich (Pinellas County SO), Assistant Chief George Steffen (Pinellas County SO), Assistant Chief Antonio Gilliam (St. Petersburg PD), Assistant Chief Mike Kovacsev (St. Petersburg PD), Chief Robert Vincent (Gulfport PD), Chief Michael Haworth (Pinellas Park PD), Chief Dan Slaughter (Clearwater PD), Deputy Chief Eric Gandy (Clearwater PD), Chief Luke Williams (PC Schools Police), Chief Rick Swann (Indian Shores PD), Captain Glen Smith (Indian Shores PD), Lieutenant Brian Beery (Belleair PD), Detective James Rudd (Belleair PD), Investigator Rick Hart (SAO), Dean Brian Frank (SPC College of Public Safety Allstate Center), Deputy Chief Mike Loux (Largo PD), Major Michael Trill (Tarpon Springs PD), Special Agent in Charge Mark Brutnell (FDLE), Chief Probation Officer Melissa Fuller (DJJ), Operations Manager Deborah Berry (PC Justice Coordination), Director Jim Fogarty (Pinellas County Emergency Services), Director Mike Dibugno (SPC College of Public Safety Allstate Center), Chief ASAC John Vecchio (FDLE), Director Kimberly Swain (Pinellas County Court & Operational Services), Manager Velym Anderson (Pinellas County Court & Operational Services), ASAC David Kamantz (ATF), ASAC Craig Kalimai (ATF), Investigator Brian Lightfoot (PASS) and Director Mike Waters (PPSC)

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman David Hendry
2. **Approval of Previous Month PPSC Minutes -**  
Chief Luke Williams introduced a motion to approve the September 11, 2019 PPSC Meeting Minutes and it was seconded by Chief Robert Vincent. The Council unanimously approved the September PPSC Minutes.
3. **Guest Speakers – N/A**
  - ❖ Chief Williams introduced Dr. Julie Mastry and Executive Director Lindsay Carson of the Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas County to the Council. Dr. Mastry advised there are approximately 250 preschool centers (serving children years five and under) located within Pinellas County. She advised they work directly with the Pinellas County Licensing Board. Dr. Mastry expressed concern toward notifying preschools when area

public schools are being lockdown. She stated to her knowledge there is no current notification mechanism in place for the preschools within Pinellas County.

The Council took up discussion on various ways to provide notification to the county preschools. Some of the suggestions included the possible use and/or combination of the Everbridge notification system and Schools Police Dispatch Center aligned with the maintenance of a preschool emergency onsite call list. After considerable discussion the Council advocated, as an interim step, for Chief Williams to work directly with the Early Learning Coalition to develop a “preschool contact list” that the Pinellas County Schools Police Dispatch Center will maintain. The preschools (through the Early Learning Coalition and the Pinellas County Licensing Board) will be responsible for ensuring the contact numbers are updated (at least twice a year) and correct. In the event of a lockdown and/or other specified emergency the Pinellas Schools Police Dispatch Center will notify the affected area preschools.

- ❖ Director Kimberly Swain announced Pinellas County, in unison with many other Florida Court Clerks & Comptrollers offices, has initiated “Operation Green Light” whereby motorists will have the opportunity to pay overdue court-ordered obligations, while saving additional fees during the month of October 2019. Director Swain provided handout material (brochure) explaining Operation Green Light.

**4. PASS Update – Director Mike Waters**

- ❖ Director Waters stated PASS remains active with a steady flow of agency sponsored candidates as well as self-sponsored candidates. He stated the fiscal year ending September 30<sup>th</sup> showed continued decline of revenue received through the PPSC Special Act (Chapter 72-666). He stated he is very grateful for the PPSC membership contributions that helps offset this seemingly decreasing fund.
- ❖ Director Waters provided a handout of the proposed 2020 PPSC Meeting dates and advised barring any objections to the projected dates, he will disseminate electronically to the Council Membership e-mail group (see attached).

Director Waters stated PASS received five inquires to the open PASS Background Investigator position. He advised for various reasons only one of the original five inquires submitted formal application. Director Waters stated he plans to proceed with a formal interview process that will take place on October 24, 2019. He stated Chief Vincent has agreed to participate within the interview panel. Director Waters advised he will continue to update the Council until the position is filled.

**5. Committee Reports –**

- ❖ Legislative Committee – Chief Haworth
  - Chief Haworth stated there are at least 20 law enforcement related bills heading for the 2020 Florida Legislative Session. He stated one of the bills is locally initiated and is in reference to the parking of marked police vehicles within neighborhoods where homeowner associations have deemed prohibited. Chief Haworth advised the bill is being sponsored by Representative Ed Hooper and Representative Chris Sprowls.

State Attorney Bernie McCabe stated Representative Hooper and Representative Sprowls have scheduled a press conference toward the introduction of this bill. State Attorney McCabe stated the bill is well intended and he is very supportive of this legislative act. Chief Dan Slaughter interjected the Clearwater Police Department

was one of the agencies affected by the homeowner association prohibition of marked patrol vehicles. He stated he is very supportive of the hopeful passage of this legislative act.

- State Attorney McCabe and Sheriff Bob Gualtieri brought attention to the Criminal Justice Reform Bill for the 2020 Florida Legislative Session. They stated agencies would be well advised to stay informed as to all aspects of this bill. They advised the bill contains continuing language to reduce mandatory/minimum sentencing guidelines with the intended goal of reducing inmate population. They advised the bill also contains language outlining and specifying the recording of suspects within law enforcement buildings.
- ❖ Training – SPC Dean Brian Frank
  - Dean Brian Frank advised SPC Allstate Center’s fitness room is still open to all law enforcement members. He stated there has recently been some confusion regarding the use of the fitness room and he wanted to ensure clarity with the Council.  
  
Dean Frank advised the SPC Allstate Center is seeking a grant for a 360-degree simulator for firearms training.
- ❖ Standards Review Committee – Chief Rob Vincent
  - Chief Vincent advised the SRC has two PASS applicant appeal reviews that will commence immediately after the PPSC meeting.
- ❖ Finance – Chief Rick Doyle
  - N/A
- ❖ Pinellas County Safety & Emergency Services – Director Jim Fogarty
  - Director Jim Fogarty advised Pinellas County is reviewing the application of “Yellow Dot” for passage within the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners. The program gives motorists a voice when seriously injured following a traffic crash. The Yellow Dot sticker, displayed on the rear driver’s side window alerts first responders to valuable health care information located in the vehicle’s glove compartment. This information helps in decisions made about the motorist’s treatment that may help save their life.
  - Director Fogarty advised the regional 911 is undergoing a CADS review and he will advise the Council of the outcome.
  - Director Fogarty advised the Growth Management Evaluation currently being performed showed Pinellas County is experiencing approximately 10,000 to 15,000 additional calls for service. He stated the evaluation seeks to find alternative solutions for handling the calls including priority dispatching.  
  
Director Fogarty stated an outgrowth of this evaluation has been a public relations initiative to educate the public on what is considered a “true emergency” for 911 assistance response.
- ❖ Pinellas County Justice Coordination – Operations Manager Deborah Berry

- Operations Manager Deborah Berry advised the FY2019 JAG was approved and in a few months the FY2020 JAG application process for agencies will begin.

## 6. **New Business -**

- ❖ Sheriff Gualtieri stated, as denoted within the September PPSC Minutes, the enactment of the State Hemp Program has created problematic issues for law enforcement. He reiterated his researched understanding of the complex nature of the statute (previously provided over many PPSC Meetings) that legally defines and differentiates hemp versus cannabis. Sheriff Gualtieri stated his office along with likely many other law enforcement agencies are going through an investigative adjustment period to ensure adherence to the new statute.

Sheriff Gualtieri advised his staff has worked with State Attorney McCabe's office to create a guidance memorandum for cannabis enforcement. He stated internally, his staff has created an additional memorandum, through PCSO General Counsel Shannon Lockhart, providing a detailed explanation of new law and its law enforcement investigative implications. Sheriff Gualtieri provided a copy of each memorandum to the Council.

State Attorney McCabe stated his office will be using the guiding principles set forth within the "Guidance for Cannabis Enforcement" memorandum during prosecutorial review. He stated he highly recommends agencies consider adopting similar guidelines within their own organizations. Sheriff Gualtieri advised his office will provide an electronic copy of both memorandums upon request of Council members.

The Council was very receptive and appreciative of the proactive and informative initiative by the PCSO and the SAO. Major Michael Trill suggested agencies should also consider adopting a CBD policy within their agencies. Major Trill stated CBD, purportedly containing no THC, can be tested/validated by authorized and reputable testing laboratories. He stated the Tarpon Springs Police Department recently adopted a policy on CBD and he can make this available to the Council.

- ❖ Sheriff Gualtieri advised he recently conducted a review of civil citations issued for tobacco use on school property. His review encompassed all Pinellas County law enforcement agencies and the number of citations were minimum. Sheriff Gualtieri stated it seemed as though some schools applied civil citations for tobacco use while others most likely addressed administratively. He stated with this recognition his office will discontinue the issuance of civil citations for tobacco use on school property. The Council agreed with Sheriff Gualtieri and will follow accordingly within their own agencies.
- ❖ Deputy Chief Eric Gandy stated his agency recently ran into an issue with the new Interlogix security system installed throughout Pinellas County Schools. He stated while admiring the lockdown security features of Interlogix, it also prevented officers from internal access during a recent alarm call. Deputy Chief Gandy stated the call ended up being a false alarm but it did give officers pause toward how to gain school entry without performing a breach. He stated the Clearwater Police Department, like other Pinellas County Law enforcement agencies, were only given one proxy card per school to gain interior school access and this really isn't practical for an emergency response.

Chief Williams advised the lockdown feature for every school has override capability that can be performed through the Pinellas Schools Police Dispatcher. He stated all 124 schools can be remotely unlocked and the override feature allows all entry points/doors to be unlocked. Chief Williams advised the specific entry point/door can also be localized and unlocked. Chief Williams stated his department is finalizing the response protocol for just such an event and he also expects to perform training for all area law enforcement shortly.

The Council recommended the override feature also be added to county's 911 dispatch center. Chief Williams agreed and stated his department has also finished the emergency response/incident operational plans (incident command to logistics) for every Pinellas County public school. He stated this information has been placed into CADS and is readily available to all emergency responders. Chief Williams stated he could schedule a demonstration of the Interlogix system and other school emergency initiatives for the December PPSC Meeting and the Council welcomed the presentation.

**7. Old Business -**

- ❖ Chief Dan Slaughter advised the Pinellas Regional Public Safety CADS/RMS Exploratory Workgroup (PRPSEW) is still identifying a pathway forward and needs to determine how many mobile licenses exist within the county. He stated he will send an e-mail out asking each agency for a count of their mobile licenses. Chief Slaughter stated he sincerely appreciates the Council involvement in this endeavor.

**8. Roundtable -**

- ❖ Sheriff Gualtieri brought up the recent law allowing SWAT Medics to carry firearms. He stated his office will arm their SWAT Medics and made an inquiry about possible other agencies within the Council. Several members of the Council, to include Largo PD, Clearwater PD, and Pinellas Park, stated they will arm their SWAT Medics. The Tarpon Springs PD is still considering the initiative and the St. Petersburg PD has decided not to presently arm.

**9. Adjourn -**

Chief Deputy Dan Simovich and Chief Vincent

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