



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

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Kevin Riley
  
2. **Approval of PPSC Minutes** – Draft Attached (requires motion and vote)
  
3. **Guest Speaker** –
  
4. **PASS Update** – Director Mike Waters
  
5. **Committee Reports** –
  - ❖ Legislative Committee – Chief Haworth
  
  - ❖ Training – SPC Dean Brian Frank
  
  - ❖ Standards Review Committee – Chief Rob Vincent
  
  - ❖ Finance – Chair 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, April 10, 2019 – 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**  
**Wednesday, February 13, 2019 – 8:30 AM**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chief Anthony Holloway (St. Petersburg PD), Chief Robert Vincent (Gulfport PD), Chief Michael Haworth (Pinellas Park PD), Chief Dan Slaughter (Clearwater PD), Chief Armand Boudreau (Treasure Island PD), State Attorney Bernie McCabe (6<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit), Chief Jeff Undestad (Largo PD), Chief Deputy Dan Simovich (Pinellas County SO), Chief Investigator Rick Hart (6<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit), Chief Kevin Riley (Kenneth City PD), Chief David Hendry (USF Police at St. Petersburg), Chief Rick Doyle (Town of Belleair), Chief Luke Williams (Pinellas County Schools Police), Dean Brian Frank (St. Petersburg College), Supervisory Senior Resident Agent Joe Boland (FBI), Captain Maurice Hensley (FHP), Chief Probation Officer Melissa Fuller (DJJ), Major Jeff Young (Tarpon Springs PD), Director Mike Dibugno (St. Petersburg College), Deputy Chief Eric Gandy (Clearwater PD), Assistant Chief Deputy Sean Jowel (Pinellas County SO), ASAC John Vecchio (FDLE), Investigator Brian Lightfoot (PASS) and Director Mike Waters (PPSC)

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Kevin Riley
2. **Approval of Previous Month PPSC Minutes** –  
Chief Deputy Dan Simovich introduced a motion to approve the January 9, 2019 PPSC Meeting Minutes and it was seconded by Chief Michael Haworth. The Council unanimously approved the January 2019 PPSC Minutes.
3. **Speakers** –
  - ❖ Pinellas Park High School Assistant Principal/Criminal Justice Academy Program Coordinator Cassandra Bogatz provided a brief update regarding the Pinellas Park High School Criminal Justice Academy. She advised their academy extracurricular clubs consist of the Mock Trial Team, Special Operations Club, Debate Team and Law Honor Society. AP Bogatz stated the Special Operations Club will compete during Law Day on March 1, 2019. She stated Pinellas Park Police Officers Harold Behar and Christopher Piccione are coaching the Special Operations Club and she is very appreciative of their support. AP Bogatz advised the Debate Team will compete at the Clearwater Courthouse at the end of April 2019. The Law Honor Society will organize the academy’s upcoming

annual Law Day set for March 1, 2019 at 0800 hours (set up begins at 0700 hours). She stated any support for this day is welcome and their contact person for this event is Mrs. Erica Pierce at piercee@pcsb.org.

AP Bogatz advised there were over 400 student applications for their Criminal Justice Academy and they only have seats available for 144 students. She stated their applications were one of the highest in the county. AP Bogatz advised student interest varies from attending law school to potential law enforcement and/or military careers.

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

- ❖ Director Waters advised the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission Quarterly Meeting was held in Orlando, FL last week. Topics of discussion from the Selection Center Directors Subcommittee Meeting included FDLE’s pending removal of the Physical Ability Test (PAT) and FDLE’s Office of General Counsel response to medical marijuana’s potential impact on Florida law enforcement officers. He stated FDLE representatives explained PAT was being removed due to a general lack of updating since inception and in recognition of each law enforcement agency holding their own physical assessment/ability employment requirements.

Director Waters stated he provided, via e-mail, the Council and their assigned recruiters last week with the detailed report by FDLE on medical marijuana and officer certification. He stated the report included a question and answer memorandum from FDLE Bureau Chief Glen Hopkins where he solicited inquiry responses from the FDLE Office of the General Counsel. Director Waters discussed one of the listed questions that dealt with how federal firearms laws impact an officer’s ability to possess a firearm if he/she has a valid certification for low-THC cannabis or medical marijuana. He stated according to the answer provided by the FDLE Office of General Counsel, the federal law dictating the “unlawful use” of marijuana prohibits an officer from carrying a firearm and may expose the agency to violation if they know the officer is under a medical use card. FDLE’s Office of General Counsel referenced the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives 2011 “Open Letter to All Federal Firearm Licensees” and stipulated this appears to be their (ATF) continued position on the matter (see attached document).

- ❖ Director Waters stated FDLE’s planned transition of CJBAT in August 2019 is on schedule with one addendum. He stated FDLE will add a non-cognitive component to CJBAT through consultation with the Department of Justice. FDLE will provide a more in-depth analysis of CJBAT at the May 2019 CJSTC Meeting.

**5. Committee Reports –**

- ❖ Legislative Committee – Chief Haworth
  - Chief Michael Haworth provided the Council with a handout outlining the current law enforcement related bills for the 2019 Florida Legislative Session. The Council presented and/or discussed aspects of several bills to include:
  - Senate Bill 182 “Smoking Marijuana for Medical Use” – Requiring a second physician concurrence to certify a patient not diagnosed with terminal cancer to smoke marijuana for medical use. Additionally allows a medical marijuana treatment center to dispense pipes, bongs and wrapping papers.

- State Attorney Bernie McCabe advised Senator Jeff Brandes is very much concerned with the ever increasing costs of prison housing. He stated to look for Senator Brandes to introduce and/or support legislation that would curve the current prison population. State Attorney McCabe stated this legislation will be in the form of reducing/eliminating mandatory sentencing guidelines to increase diversion programs.
- Senate Bill 406 Theft – State Attorney McCabe stated the felony theft threshold legislation, spoken of at the last PPSC meeting, is still being actively discussed within committees. He believes the threshold will definitely be raised but to what extent is still uncertain. State Attorney McCabe stated it appears the threshold of either \$750.00 or \$1,000.00 has gained the most attraction. He suggested the Florida Sheriffs Association (FSA) and the Florida Police Chiefs Association (FPC) take an active role to discuss what threshold amount will have the most favorability within the law enforcement community.

State Attorney McCabe stated Senator Brandes is supporting legislation (HB589) that would create two levels of felony theft. Under this legislative act, it would take three petit theft convictions to lead to felony theft. Additionally, the third petit theft would have to occur within three years of the second petit theft.

State Attorney McCabe stated he understood the FSA or the FPC may have expressed favorability for amending the felony theft statute. Chief Dan Slaughter stated it was his understanding that preliminary favorability was given by the FPC only as it relates to the monetary threshold (with a yet to be determined amount). This preliminary favorability was given with the understanding of making petit theft a warrantless misdemeanor exception arrest.

- Senate Bill 204 “Detention Facilities - Requiring custodial interrogation at a place of detention be electronically recorded in its entirety in connection with certain offenses; requiring law enforcement officers who do not comply with the electronic recording requirement or who conduct custodial interrogations at a place other than a place of detention to prepare a specified report...”
- ❖ Training – SPC Dean Brian Frank
  - Dean Brian Frank stated Academy Class 212 (now enrolled) is the first class to be trained under the new Pinellas County Active Assailant Training. He stated he incorporated this module of training without exceeding the current academy training hour curriculum. Dean Frank stated four hours will be devoted to patrol while eight hours will be devoted to critical incident training.
- ❖ Standards Review Committee – Chief Rob Vincent
  - No appeals
- ❖ Finance – Chief Rick Doyle
  - Chief Rick Doyle stated the PPSC FY2018/19 Budget looks good with no issues to report.

- ❖ Pinellas County Safety & Emergency Services – Director Jim Fogarty
  - N/A
- ❖ Pinellas County Justice Coordination – Operations Manager Deborah Berry
  - N/A

**6. New Business**

- ❖ Assistant Chief Deputy Jowel advised the PCSO is continuing to work with FDLE regarding their recent audit and he expects some potential changes within their use of Odyssey. He stated he has sent e-mails regarding this progress to agency representatives and will continue to update.
- ❖ Assistant Chief Jowel stated the PCSO has made changes within VIPER to accommodate the right to victim privacy enacted within Amendment 6. He stated VIPER now has a check box to indicate if the victim wishes for their information to be confidential. Assistant Chief Jowel stressed the importance of obtaining this designation from the victim at the time of initial reporting to ensure privacy, if designated, is secured.

Assistant Chief Deputy Jowel stated the PCSO does have a process whereby a later designation of victim confidentiality can be performed by editing VIPER. The time period for this editing is within 24 hours of submission and the law enforcement officers must access the SONET “Help Desk Function”. The law enforcement officer will list the case number and indicate the box to be checked for victim confidentiality. Assistant Chief Deputy Jowel stated they have prioritized this function within VIPER and a PCSO IT representative/response will follow notifying the requesting law enforcement officer the change has occurred.

Chief Anthony Holloway stated St. Petersburg police officers, in addition to providing a victim rights brochure, are instructed to ask and receive verbal confirmation from victims at the time of reporting if they wish for their information to be confidential.

- ❖ Chief Luke Williams stated tomorrow (February 14, 2019) will mark the one-year anniversary of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School tragedy. He stated school districts across the state will hold a moment of silence in recognition and remembrance of the lives lost.
- ❖ Chief Williams thanked the Council for the quick support toward his request of agency patches for a child suffering from cancer in Texas. He stated he has reached out to Chief Ray Garivey of the Freeport Police Department, recently appointed the child (Abigail) as an honorary member of the department, and he will gratefully accept and deliver the police patches. Chief Williams stated for those agencies still sending their patches, he plans to send all donated patches out next Wednesday, February 20, 2019.

- ❖ Chief Holloway stated HB 75 “Expanded uses of Unmanned Aircraft” (Drones), discussed at the previous PPSC meeting, is now out of committee and it passed 5-0. He expects the bill will have a favorable standing throughout the 2019 Florida Legislative Session. Council discussion took place about law enforcement use of drones after a natural disaster such as a hurricane. State Attorney McCabe did not readily foresee an issue with specific use.
- ❖ Chief Deputy Simovich stated Brian Smith of the PCSO Flight Section will commence a meeting in the near future regarding helicopter safety. He stated although the meeting date is TBA, interested attendees should contact Brian Smith directly.
- ❖ Chief Holloway stated his department has seen an upsurge of doctor offices contacting their agency for Baker Act transports. He stated although technically allocated within statute, it has the real potential to create other law enforcement service related time delays and corresponding issues. He stated he is working with local mental health professionals for remedies that may discourage this trend.
- ❖ Deputy Chief Eric Gandy provided an overview of the expectations of the Mobil Crisis Response Team (MCRT). He stated an initial first step is to secure a MOU between the school district and the MCRT. Deputy Chief Gandy stated there are some real challenges to establishing a MOU as the school district already has existing licensed mental health personnel with a projected twenty-minute response team. He hopes to work through some potential barriers whereby the school district will also share information with the MCRT for the overall welfare of the community.

Deputy Chief Gandy stated the scheduled February 22, 2019 of the MCRT was canceled and he hopes to reschedule for a date within the last week of February 2019. He stated he will send (via e-mail) the conceptual guidelines of the MCRT to the Council (see attached).

Chief David Hendry stated colleges would also benefit from this type of initiative whereby information, when appropriate, can be shared pertaining to existing K-12 information. He mentioned the Virginia Tech tragedy and the possibility that a legislative act may have to occur to allow the dissemination of relevant information to avert potential future tragedies.

- ❖ Captain Hensley stated the second annual “Skyway 10K” will occur on March 3, 2019. The Skyway will be closed in both directions from 0300 hours to 1100 hours.

**7. Old Business**

- ❖ N/A

**8. Roundtable**

- ❖ Chief Williams wishes to sincerely thank all agencies for their assistance this past year since the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School tragedy. He stated we, Pinellas

County, have accomplished a lot this past year and he is extremely grateful for the support shared among agencies.

State Attorney McCabe echoed Chief Williams sentiment stating the Pinellas County law enforcement community has timely responded to all mandates of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Public Safety Act. He stated other areas and other agencies do not conduct meetings to discuss challenges and implement solutions like its done in Pinellas County by this Council.

**9. Adjourn**

Chief Haworth and Chief Vincent

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