

Minutes of the Public Safety Oversight Committee Meeting (PSOC) November 17, 2016

In attendance: Russell Carey, Mark Porter, Bruce Holt, Michelle Nuey, Samuel Ortiz, Peter Holden, Joseph Johnson, James Simmons, Samuel Koch, Eli Binder, Alexandria Volkening, Patricia Falcon, Peter Heywood, Lt. Joseph Donnelly, and James Green.

Absent: Eric Estes, Charles Carroll, Katie Biello, Dilum Aluthge, Liza Cariaga-Lo, and Amy Greenwald.

I. Russell Carey, Executive Vice President for Planning and Policy, began the meeting with an introduction to the Public Safety Oversight Committee for new and returning members. Russell shared a historical overview of the functionality of the committee indicating it grew out of more informal committee and provided an opportunity for the Department of Public Safety to get feedback in a focused way. The committee also has created a venue for the department to impart important campus safety and crime information to the group for review and recommendation. Specific issues around campus safety have, and will continue to be addressed as they arise.

Russell indicated a primary objective moving forward will be to assess the effectiveness of the groups function.

II. Mark Porter, Chief of Police, and Michelle Nuey, Manager of Community Relations and Outreach, provided the committee with an update on the department's Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) process. Colonel Porter indicated that he hopes that committee members will be engaged in the department's process of addressing diversity and inclusion in its practices, policies and programs. Michelle Nuey provided an overview of the department's establishment of DIAP Working Group, consisting of a diverse group of DPS personnel from all patrol classifications and identities. The Working Group convened in the Summer of 2016 and successfully drafted the department's Diversity and Inclusion Vision and Mission statements, as well as six primary DIAP goals for the department focusing on the recruitment and retention of diverse candidates for administrative and patrol positions. The DIAP process aided the department in identifying department strengths highlighted areas for improvement, to include a focus on recruitment and retention of staff.

The minutes of the May 5, 2016 were approved.

III. Colonel Porter provided a comprehensive report on campus crime activity and fielded questions from the committee. On a monthly basis the department reviews all crimes and incidents that occur on Brown's campus and in the vicinity of Providence with a focus on seven (7) crime categories: Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Simple Assault, Sex Offenses, B&E/Burglary, Larceny and Motor Vehicle Theft. There has been a reduction of violent crimes since 2015 and a decline in robberies in the area of Brown University. There has also been a reduction of Breaking and Entering (B&E's). The department has seen a spike in Bicycle thefts

on campus. Theft locations vary across campus and include some very visible areas. It is believed that more than one group have been targeting bicycles.

The department's Outreach and Investigations personnel have initiated a targeted bike theft prevention and awareness campaign to include the giveaway of free U-shaped locks.

Crime and incident trends inform department patrol deployment strategies.

Committee Members Feedback/Questions:

1. Committee feedback during this topic discussion included questions about Rave Guardian and a recommendation to have student organizations assist the department with promotion and publicizing programs.

Colonel Porter also provided the committee with a review of the Department's Motor Vehicle and Field Stop and Citizen Complaint report. Seven (7) complaints have been received thus far in 2016. All information related to complaints are reported in an aggregate, not in any identifiable manner. Case outcomes, to include officer discipline, are not made public. The report is available online on the department's website.

In 2006 the department initiated a motor vehicle and field stop data collection initiative, and introduced a review of all traffic stops for the last five years. The objective to the data collection is to review and monitor for disparities in police and security actions (bias-based policing). To date, the data has never reflected any concerned trend.

Colonel Porter went on to explain motor vehicle, traffic stops. When responding to a suspicious person or circumstance, the officer must view a visible infraction (speeding, running a stop sign, etc.) identify suspicious activity (i.e. circling block, etc.). An officer must always be able to demonstrate probable cause for a stop, and articulate facts justifying the reason for the stop. Traffic stops also contribute to pedestrian safety - a traffic calming initiative. As crime decreases, there is a downtrend of stops.

Lieutenant Bruce Holt provided an overview of the department's robust in-service training program.

Committee Member Feedback/Questions:

1. How does the department assess the impact of the training with regards to performance and behaviors?
2. What is a building guard? We have two (2) Building Guards a List Art and on (1) in the CIT building.

IV. Michelle Nuey, Manager of Community Relations and Outreach, reviewed the bureau report with the committee.

The committee was informed that the department sent out PSOC appointment invitations to the Brown Center for Students of Color and the Sarah Doyle Women's Center. Meeting adjourned!