

## **Minutes of the Public Safety Oversight Committee Meeting (PSOC) November 2, 2017**

Members in Attendance: Russell Carey, Mark Porter, Michelle Nuey, Kate Felder, Kristen Wolfe, Joie Steele, Peter Heywood, Bruce Holt, Joseph Donnelly, Justin Pace, Samuel Koch, and Alexis Grant.

The minutes from the April 13, 2017 meeting were approved.

The meeting opened with Russell Carey facilitating introductions and offering an overview of the functionality of the committee for new members.

### **Campus Crime Activity Update**

Mark Porter, Chief of Police, reviewed the findings from the Campus Crime Activity Report and spoke about the department's monthly process of monitoring potential crime trends both on campus and the vicinity of campus that have potential to impact the University community. Crime trends occurring in the city at large have potential to shift towards campus. Committee members were directed to review the crime categories and definitions also provided in the report packet to ensure greater understanding of the types of crimes noted in discussion. Report findings discussed included the comparative crime data from 2016 and 2017. There has been a decrease in robberies and assaults, a slight uptick in B&E, burglaries, and an increase in property theft, mainly the theft of bicycles on campus (a trend seen across campuses in New England). Within a five year span of crimes, robberies are down significantly noting crime trends can fluctuate.

Kate Felder provided an overview of a Bike Theft Prevention Plan that has been implemented and yielding some positive results. The bike theft report indicates the most popular month for theft is October. We have seen a decrease of 75% in bike theft from October 2017 which can be attributed to an increase in property registration events include U- Lock upgrades, greater awareness campaigns on social and printed media, and a closer analysis of bike theft locations. Through a partnership with Bikes at Brown, we have accessed a data collector application for all campus bike racks. Each bike rack has a number and the system identifies racks that are getting hit the hardest. Additional issues were discussed that impact the bicycling community to include abandoned bikes on campus, bike-sharing, and the Bikes@Brown bike-safe and bike-friendly campus project.

An overview of a robbery involving the use of a pellet gun that occurred in the Fall was discussed. Both Chief Porter and Lt. [ ] from the Providence Police Department shared information to include a case update regarding the investigation and subsequent arrest of two juvenile suspects.

In response to an inquiry regarding sex offenses, Chief Porter also shared information regarding of the Department of Education (DOE) regarding the compilation of crime information for the

annual security report. The department compiles all University sexual assault cases that are received for the entire calendar year. Reports come from CSA reporting structures from divisions across the campus. The Clery report offers a more broad representation of campus report of sexual assaults. Students are more likely to report to other University, confidential offices.

### **Professional Standards Report – Complaint and Stop Data Update**

There have been five (5) Citizen Complaints received in 2017 year-to-date. All complainants are affiliated with the University. The department follows a thorough intake process and there are multiple methods to submit (online, in-person, and by mail). Field Inquiry, Complaint, and Commendation forms can be found on the Department's website.

In response to an inquiry regarding officer disciplinary actions, Chief Porter explained that if a complaint has been sustained, potential disciplinary outcomes could include training, counseling, or range of discipline to include probation and termination. In accordance to the union contractual agreement, an officer also has options that are governed by the contract. All disciplinary actions are confidential.

No disparities have been discovered in our review of stop data. Our current systems track the purpose of every field and traffic stop, the race of parties involved, time, location, etc. With this information we can monitor officer activity trends. We look at overall statistics and how they match up with campus demographics and community demographics.

### **Training Report**

The department offers a robust in-service and specialized training program for patrol personnel. The core areas of training include diversity and bias-based policing. Over the past year, we have hired three (3) new officers and update our Field Training Program. We were able to significantly diversify our applicant pool.

Students on the committee expressed interest learning more about the content and scope of trainings. A suggestion was made to post related information on the department website. A committee member shared positive feedback about the department hosting an Environmental Health and Safety Bloodborne pathogen/animal care training program for officers.

### **Community Relations and Outreach Report**

Michelle Nuey provided an overview of the department's community relations and outreach initiatives and solicited feedback from committee members about how to enhance engagement with students. Committee members took interest with the department's Listening Session Initiative and provided several recommendations, sharing candid feedback about student perceptions about Public Safety, identified barriers in engagement, and potential solutions through engaging Campus Life and Student Activities partners.