

**PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES**

Thursday, September 24, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.

Meeting was held online via Zoom

Members Present

Chief Sean Brammer, Chairman, Florida Atlantic University Police Department
Chief Clint Shannon, Vice Chairman, Palm Beach Gardens Police Department
Chief Frank Kitzerow, Palm Beach County School District Police Department
Chief Michele Miuccio, Boca Raton Police Department
Chief Brian Smith, Juno Beach Police Department
Chief Hal Hutchins, Ocean Ridge Police Department
Chief Thomas A. Ceccarelli, Palm Springs Public Safety Department
Chief Nathan Osgood, Riviera Beach Police Department
Chief Ed Allen, Gulf Stream Police Department
Sheriff Ric Bradshaw, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (Represented by Chief Frank DeMario, Commander Law Enforcement Operations)
Major Fred Rondeau, Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission
Captain Frank Briganti, Bureau of Insurance Fraud
Eric Chan, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Robert Cekada, Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Christopher Orcinolo, Resident Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Angel Belen, Patrol Agent in Charge, U.S. Border Patrol

Members Absent

Chief Richard Jenkins, North Palm Beach Police Department
Chief Javaro Sims, Delray Beach Police Department
Chief Robert Mangold, Atlantis Police Department
Chief Michael Gregory, Boynton Beach Police Department
Chief Craig Hartmann, Highland Beach Police Department
Chief Dan Kerr, Jupiter Police Department
Chief John Pruitt, Jupiter Inlet Colony Police Department
Chief Wes Smith, Lake Clarke Shores Police Department
Chief Sean Scheller, Lantana Police Department
Chief Carmen Mattox, Manalapan Police Department
Chief Nicholas Caristo, Palm Beach Police Department
Chief Gus Medina, Tequesta Police Department
Chief Frank Adderley, West Palm Beach Police Department
Major Robert Chandler, Florida Highway Patrol
Troy Walker, Special Agent in Charge, Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Frank Mercurio, Resident Agent Supervisor, Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Bill Fraser, Chief Investigator, State Attorney's Office 15th Judicial Circuit
Captain Juan Torres, Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco
Thomas Jones, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Sheldon Burkett, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Drug Enforcement Administration
Assistant Chief Deputy Dan Torchia, U.S. Marshals Service
Timothy Donohue, Resident Agent in Charge, U.S. Secret Service
David Brant, Supervisory Special Agent, Internal Revenue Service
Pete Garcia, Federal Security Director, Transportation Security Administration
Chief Robert Crawford, VA Health Administration

Advisory Members Present

Director Joseph Tata, Criminal Justice Institute of Palm Beach State College
Dr. Wendolyn Sneed, Palm Beach County Chief Medical Examiner (Representative)

Ellen Cohen, Assistant US Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office
Hon. Dave Aronberg, State Attorney, 15th Judicial Circuit
Shawn Fagan, CJSTC Field Services Specialist, Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Stephanie Tew, Chief Assistant, Attorney General's Office of Statewide Prosecution

Advisory Members Absent

Gregory Starling, Chief Probation Officer, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
Michelle Johns, Circuit Administrator, Florida Department of Corrections

Guests

Scott Penney, Chief Investigator of the Public Defender's Office
Travis Jones, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Judge James Martz, Circuit Court Judge
Angelique Pickett, Intelligence Led Policing Manager, Boca Raton Police Department
Eddie Thompson, Section Manager, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Palm Beach Regional Fusion Center
Greg Kridos, Chief of Intake, State Attorney's Office
John Carey, Inspector General, Palm Beach County
Lieutenant John Haseley, Gulf Stream Police Department
Captain Joel Rossi, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
Lieutenant Eric Monath, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
Lieutenant Kevin O'Brien, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
Latrona Hayes, Manager Court Services, Public Safety
Lieutenant Kevin Lashells, Florida Department of Financial Services
Lieutenant John Scanlan, Palm Beach Police Department
Louis Tomeo, Director - Court Operations, Clerk & Comptroller Palm Beach County
Mike Edmondson, Executive Assistant, State Attorney's Office
Megan Legall, Communications Supervisor, Atlantis Police Department
Ted Gonzales, Director of Business Development, LEX
Commander Tom Mitchell, Lantana Police Department
Paul Petrino, Manager of Medical Examiner Operations, PBC Medical Examiners Office
Judge Kathleen Kroll
Michelle Cruz, Director of Case Management, Court Administration

CJC Staff Present

Regenia Herring, Executive Director
Katherine Shover, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst

- I. Opening comments by Chief Sean Brammer, Chairman.
 - a. Reminded members that elections will be held at the October 22nd LEPC meeting.
 - b. Noted that a law enforcement briefing will be held by the FBI after the LEPC meeting. Since, this is an information briefing involving law enforcement sensitive information all attendees must be CJIS certified meeting all CJIS certification standards.
- II. Roll Call
- III. Introduction of Guests
- IV. The Agenda was Approved by Consent.
- V. New Business

- a. Body Worn Cameras – Chairman Brammer recognized Judge Kroll and noted that the Chiefs Association is working with the State Attorney’s Office to address this issue.
- b. Chairman Brammer noted a bylaws change to move elections from November to October to reflect the revised meeting schedule. A motion was made by Chief Frank Kitzerow and seconded by Chief Hal Hutchins. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

VI. Old Business

- a. Policing Forum Update: Director Regenia Herring advised that in the wake of the George Floyd death, the Black Elected Officials (BEO) went before the PBC Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and asked that they look into policing in Palm Beach County. The nine key elements from the BEO included banning chokeholds, duty to intervene, use of body worn cameras, public access to complaints about officers, civilian review boards with subpoena power, countywide database to report police misconduct, active community policing, civilian death investigations, and racial sensitivity training. This information was used to prepare a PowerPoint that was presented at the Policing Forum. She advised that the Criminal Justice Commission was formed to report as an advisory board to the BCC. As such, the BCC directed the format of the first forum. Director Herring noted that based upon the survey results, Palm Beach County looks like it is a far step ahead of other areas.

There was a discussion about the format for future forums. Director Herring noted that the format will change to have more community involvement and also may include a presentation about use of force. She mentioned that Troy Walker, Special Agent in Charge, Florida Department of Law Enforcement recently provided a presentation about use of force to the Community Engagement Task Force. It helped to change their perceptions as many believe that what is happening on a national scale is happening here. It encouraged the community to want to have more dialogues with law enforcement. So far forums have been scheduled in October at the Arts Garage for Delray Beach/Boynton Beach and November for West Palm Beach/Riviera Beach. The Sheriff will be involved in sessions starting in the beginning of the year. She noted that their goal is to be accommodating with agencies, but the CJC is also tasked by the BCC to do this research. Just like the LEPC is looking into different issues that affect police and coming back with solutions to improve collaboration.

Chairman Brammer reiterated the importance of the data that SAC Walker shared at the use of force presentation for the Community Engagement Task Force meeting. That information will also be shared with the LEPC at the next meeting. Chairman Brammer noted that there was only one officer involved shooting in Palm Beach County for 2020.

- VII. Law Enforcement Training - Captain Joel Rossi, Lieutenant Eric Monath and Lieutenant Kevin O’Brien of the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office provided information about Emergency Field Force training. The course is a one day course with the first half being

classroom and second half is practical. This training has traditionally been held at the Cherry Road training facility, but they are also able to come to agencies and bring equipment needed for the training. In addition, the Sheriff's Office has instructors for the EFF 3 day course. A flyer will be sent out to agencies with additional information. Chief Frank DeMario mentioned that if agencies aren't able to send their officers he would recommend sending command staff to at least the first four hours for the strategies and information that is provided.

VIII. Liaison Updates

- a. **Data Sharing:** No report.
- b. **Community Engagement Team:** No report.
- c. **Criminal Justice Institute:** Director Joseph Tata reported that they are having a DOJ De-escalation and strategies 3 day train the trainer course that is covered under their trust fund. They are also offering all instructor certification courses including vehicle operations, drift driving, simunitions, firearms instructor, and first aid training. He also noted that they are having a graduation on Tuesday and two classes are starting in January.
- d. **SART:** Report was included in the packet.
- e. **Communications/Interoperability:** No report.
- f. **State Attorney's Office:** No report.
- g. **School Safety:** Judge Martz provided a report about a recent meeting after being off due to COVID. He noted that there is vast array of mental health professionals involved with the group. Approximately 45 attended the last meeting. Judge Martz mentioned working with JFK on Baker Acts for children to be able to covert them over from a Baker Act hold to voluntary treatment. The goal is to continue treatment while the child is stabilized and amenable to treatment. This is an example of issues that have come forward as the group continues to collaborate. The *Aware and Care* website is up and running; however improvements will be made as needed. The next step is to work on coordination of PSAPs. Judge Martz recognized the CJC and LEPC for their insight in forming this committee after Stoneman Douglas as this issue is now in the national focus of how mental health interacts with law enforcement. As they get more coordinated with the mental health professionals, he would like to weave law enforcement back into the mental health track to facilitate communication between the two groups.
- h. **Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office:** Chief Frank DeMario noted two upcoming rallies. He also thanked everyone for their help with the South Florida Task Force and noted that St. Lucie County is now participating with the Task Force.
- i. **Palm Beach County School District Police Department:** Chief Frank Kitzerow thanked all of their partners especially with the COVID 19 challenges and typical safety issues. He mentioned that school is open and all of the 187 campuses are occupied. For the first time in school police department history the school police are

now covering every campus. Their primary mission is to keep their students, faculty, and staff safe. They have 60,000 students on campuses right now on the way to 197,000. He asked that law enforcement agencies restrict visits to official business. He mentioned the visitor policy in which non-emergency visitors must go through the COVID 19 screening that takes about a minute to review the CDC questions and take temperatures. If there is an emergency they won't be screening emergency responders. Chief Kitzerow noted that he also follows these procedures. They are on schedule for mid to late October to start the football schedules. He also thanked everyone that is helping them with the Behavioral Services Team and threat assessments.

- j. State and Federal Updates - Ellen Cohen, US Attorney's Office, mentioned that the leadership of their office has changed as Ed Nucci retired and is with the Sheriff's Department now. Their new leader is Anthony Lacosta. The leadership of the violent crimes section (Ellen Cohen) and financial section (Adrienne Rabinowitz) will also change as they are both retiring at the end of the year. She mentioned that they are also working on a full day virtual training for the State Attorney's Office, local, and federal law enforcement partners on how they can better handle gun violations as it relates to domestic violence cases. They intend to have the training district wide. Most of their staff are still telecommuting, but they are still working on prosecutions. Chairman Brammer recognized Ms. Cohen on her upcoming retirement and recognized her service to the organization.

IX. Member Comments - Chairman Brammer noted that the BWJP would like to have training in November. He recommended that the training be postponed until January.

X. Attachments

- a. SART Update
- b. LEPC Bylaws