

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

FINAL MINUTES

Thursday, September 1, 2011 – 9:30 a.m.

Clayton Hutchinson Agricultural Center
Exhibit Hall "B"
559 North Military Trail
West Palm Beach, Florida

Members Present

Chief Frank Kitzerow, Chairman
Chief Clarence Williams, III, Vice-Chairman
Chief Matt Immler
Chief Anthony Strianese
Chief John Stewart
Chief Wes Smith
Chief Jeff Tyson
Chief Clay Walker
Chief Christopher Yannuzzi
Chief Stephen Stepp
Director Kirk Blouin
(Represented by Deputy Chief Daniel Szarszewski)
Chief Steve Kniffin
Chief Roger M. Crane
Chief Pete Pitocchelli
Sheriff Ric Bradshaw
(Represented by Chief Deputy Mike Gauger)
Chief James Kelly
Mike Waites, Chief Investigator
Steven Burdelski, Senior Supervisory Resident Agent
John McKenna, Assistant Special Agent in Charge
Edward (Eddie) Thompson, Resident Agent in Charge
Glen Wilner, Assistant Chief

Members Absent

Chief Robert Mangold
Director Michael Porath
Chief Garrett Ward
Chief Craig Hartmann
Chief Brian Smith
Chief Robert O'Neill
Chief Mark Hall
Chief Delsa Bush
Chief Charles Lowe
Major Luis Ramil
Michael Driscoll, Resident Agent in Charge
Major Jeffrey Hubert
Lt. Anthony Stafford
Major Carol Owsiany-Himmel
Dana Morrison, Special Agent Supervisor
Stephen Barborini, Resident Agent in Charge
Matthew Lynch, Resident Agent in Charge
George Sanders, Supervisory Special Agent in Charge
Pete Garcia, Federal Security Director

John Modlin, Patrol Agent in Charge

Advisory Members Present

Director Larry Schroeder
Rolando Garcia, Deputy Chief
Hon. Michael McAuliffe, State Attorney
Rosalyn Baker, Circuit Administrator
Julie Hogan, Deputy Statewide Prosecutor

Advisory Members Absent

Dr. Michael Bell
Joni Livingston, FDLE
Feirmon Johnson, Chief Probation Officer

CJC Staff

Katherine Hatos

- I. Welcome and opening comments by Chief Frank Kitzerow, Chairman
 - a. Chairman Kitzerow announced that the October 6, 2011 meeting will be held at the Seacrest Training Center, and requested RSVPs as seating is limited. Chief Strianese mentioned that the Center is a partnership between Delray Beach Police Department and the Palm Beach County School Board. A tour of the facility and demonstrations will be provided after the meeting. Chief Kelly also invited everyone to see the facility. He mentioned that it is a great partnership and that the facility is open to everybody.
- II. Roll Call
- III. Introduction of Guests
- IV. Approval and/or additions to the agenda
 - a. The September 1, 2011 agenda was approved.
- V. Approval of the minutes
 - a. The August 4, 2011 minutes were approved.
- VI. Under Chairman's Comments, Chairman Kitzerow:
 - a. Advised that a Status Check on the Replacement Facility for the Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) will be held after the meeting at 10:30 AM.
 - b. The location of the October meeting will be held at the Seacrest Training Facility in Delray.

VII. Discussion

Chairman Kitzerow recognized Chief Judge Blanc for his support of LEPC and for helping to setup the organization. Chief Judge Blanc addressed the group concerning a recent issue in which a Court Officer badge with a process server's number was found and turned over to him. He advised that for years process servers have been issued small identification cards with their picture that could be modified, but the process servers would prefer to have badges. A prior request in 1990 for badges to address safety concerns was rejected by a committee that existed at that time. He advised that he didn't want to minimize their safety concerns, but at the same time didn't want to create problems for the potential misuse of badges.

The Chief Judge requested input from law enforcement as to whether or not process servers should be carrying badges. Chief Immler inquired if anyone that serves process would be able to get a badge. The Chief Judge advised that the badge came from an online ordering site. To serve process legally in Palm Beach County you must be approved and training is held annually. Training hasn't covered the proper use of badges, as they weren't aware that they had badges. He wasn't sure if this was an isolated incident, but the feedback that he has received is that there may be several process servers that have badges. The Chief Judge is also concerned that although they are an arm of the court, they aren't Court Officers. Chief Immler expressed concern that there is the possibility of hundreds of badges out there.

Several other issues were discussed concerning the design of the badge and corresponding statutes. State Attorney McAuliffe recommended a larger and clearer identification that includes a picture and looks official, but is short of a badge as there are inherent risks of misuse either intentional or the impression you convey to see if it addresses safety concerns. Chief Kelly agreed with the State Attorney about having a larger identification that is clearly stated. Chief Walker also suggested including language in their procedures that they cannot have anything that replicates a badge. The Chief Judge noted that the issue hasn't come up since 1990, but they will try to setup a refresher training session in October to address the issue. Chief Crane also noted that sometimes there are issues with attorneys serving process and agreed that it would be good to have a larger identification card that states the statute on the back of the card to help alleviate confusion about their role. The Chief Judge also mentioned that there isn't a mechanism to retrieve badges if a process server is removed from the approved list or if they retire. He thanked everyone and welcomed them to call him with any other changes or thoughts.

VIII. Presentations

- a. **Youth Violence Prevention Project (YVPP) 4th Year Evaluation:** *Youth Violence Prevention Planning Coordinator Brenda Oakes & Criminal Justice Manager Becky Walker, CJC; Chief Clarence Williams, LEPC Vice-Chairman* Ms. Oakes presented the 4th year evaluation for calendar year 2010 of the Youth Violence Prevention Project (YVPP). The project was formed in response to the high profile shootings and gang violence in 2004 and was modeled after the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang model with the ultimate goal of reducing youth violence through joint efforts of the four components. Highlights of the report include:

Prevention: comprised of the Youth Empowerment Centers that are strategically located in the five high risk communities of Riviera Beach, Northwood area in West Palm Beach, Lake Worth, Cherry Hill area in Boynton Beach, and Belle Glade Weed & Seed area.

- 94% of YEC participants were not arrested after attending YEC structured programs; 83% of participants are from the top 10 DJJ referral zip codes
- Boynton Beach YEC participant arrests dropped 16% from 2009 to 2010
- The average age of new 2010 participants was 14; females made up 45% and males made up 55%; and 95% of participants had 'black' listed for race
- A correlation exists between longevity and frequency of participation at YECs to reducing youth violence
- YECs provided 2,844 structured program sessions to 864 participants in 2010, focusing on areas such as: education, employment, life skills, recreation, and mentoring

Corrections: comprised of a Justice Service Center located in Riviera Beach that serves all of the ex-offenders returning to Palm Beach County.

- Served 181 ex-offenders in 2010
- The JSC continues to assist the entirety of Palm Beach County- 62% of JSC clients reside outside of Riviera Beach
- A wide age range of ex-offenders were provided re-entry assistance (ages 15-69)
- The Riviera Beach JSC began an initiative called R2 which trained and supported 7 ex-offenders who received on-the-job training while rebuilding a fire damaged home in the community

Law Enforcement & Courts: countywide efforts

- The Office of Statewide Prosecution and the Office of the State Attorney collaborated on gang racketeering cases related to Buck Wild, MLK, and 13th Street Gang

- Increased number of staff trained to use forensic technology to solve firearm-related crime
- Violent Crime Task Force(VCTF)/Gang Task Force reported an over 50% drop in percentage of gang-related homicides from 2006 to 2010
- COMBAT (Community-Based Anti-Crime Task Force), a program of the Office of the State Attorney, initiated prosecution of 526 individuals during 2010

Law Enforcement Workgroup 2010 Accomplishments:

- Purchasing equipment to enhance forensic technology in multiple locations
- 537 BrassTRAX entries made in 2010 resulted in 41 NIBIN hits and 3 BrassTRAX hits
- Coordinating and sponsoring training to preserve crime scenes
- Developing the PBC Crime Gun Protocol Policy Recommendations

Ms. Oakes also discussed some of the other accomplishments of the Law Enforcement Workgroup from prior years including enhancements to auto theft efforts and the DNA lab, as well as funding overtime for various taskforces and operations.

Future of the Project:

- Many changes have occurred that will likely impact the Project and youth violence in Palm Beach County:
 - Juvenile and gang-related crimes are decreasing
 - CJC was awarded 2 competitive grants that will enhance Prevention and Corrections strategies in the County
 - Department of Juvenile Justice funding cuts
 - Municipalities and the County are being asked to do “more with less”
 - Staff and youth safety at YECs is a concern after cuts to funds that allowed for security or a law enforcement presence
 - Future of the Project is not clear due to funding uncertainty

Vice-Chairman Williams noted that the program is working well in his area. He recognized Commander Laurie Van Deusen for leading the charge on the crime gun protocol. That model now is being replicated not only nationally, but also internationally. He noted that there is tremendous work and success that is a result of the project. Vice-Chairman Williams also indicated that they have noticed a substantial decrease in overall crime in Riviera Beach particularly in the targeted area. He mentioned the broader law enforcement impact of the project for the county in addition to the targeted five areas. Chairman Kitzerow thanked everyone for their efforts and requested that a copy of the report be sent out to the members.

- b. **Crime Stoppers:** *President John Shwiner & Program Coordinator Sergeant Jim DeFago* President Shwiner presented information concerning the Crime Stoppers program. Some of the highlights of the presentation are that since 1981 104 homicides have been solved and \$7,500,000 property has been recovered in Palm Beach County. Also, 408 weapons have been removed from Palm Beach County Schools since 1994 including 43 loaded handguns. For the first six months of this year, 784 tips have been distributed from PBSO and 115 through police agencies. He also mentioned that their multi-lingual call center is open 24/7. Sergeant Jim DeFago discussed their online service. He asked agencies to consider including information on their webpage about Crime Stoppers to provide another avenue to report crime anonymously. Chief Strianese also suggested that agencies include information on Facebook.

IX. New Business

X. Old Business

- a. Chief Strianese asked if the LEPC as a group is going to readdress the Homeless Resource Center interlocal agreement. Chairman Kitzerow's understanding was that the LEPC as a group supported the initiative and left it up to individual jurisdictions as to whether they wanted to participate by entering into an agreement or incorporating it into their policies. Chairman Kitzerow also mentioned that the presentation has gone to the city managers. Chief Yannuzzi agreed with Chairman Kitzerow. Chief Strianese expressed concern about unfunded mandates in the agreement and would not recommend signing it to his city manager or mayor.

XI. Committee Reports

- a. Book and Release Committee: No report was presented.
- b. Recruitment and Retention Committee: Chief Yannuzzi advised that a reminder for the upcoming quarterly report will be sent out on September 15th.
- c. Traffic Committee: No report was presented.
- d. Sexual Assault Response Team: No report was presented.

XII. Liaison Updates

- a. Data Sharing: Chairman Kitzerow advised that the consultant's report will be out in September on the strategic planning process for LEX regarding the new platform and how they will integrate the analytical tools.

- b. Child Abuse Protocol: Chief Strianese advised that there is no update and they haven't met in over a year due to concerns about the Sunshine law. He would recommend formally disbanding the oversight committee if they are not going to meet as it is mandated by the Grand Jury ruling. Colonel Stormes mentioned that an enormous amount of work went into developing the protocol, and he was concerned that the protocol will only work if there is some level of oversight. He also noted that the specialists are still meeting. Chief Strianese's legal advisor indicated that if the meetings are posted and minutes prepared she didn't see any concern with him participating and bringing back information to the LEPC. Chief Strianese will draft a letter and send it to the original parties on the interagency management team to see if they will attend or assign a designee. Chief Walker recommended reaching out to other agencies if they aren't willing to participate. However, Chief Strianese advised that the members would need to reach out in their agency to assign a designee as it is made up of the State Attorney's Office, Children Family Services, and the Public Defender's Office.
- c. Crime Prevention Officers Association: No report was presented.
- d. Criminal Justice Commission: Vice-Chairman Williams thanked Chief Immler for all his hard work in helping to develop some of the law enforcement initiatives.
- e. Criminal Justice Institute: Director Schroeder reported that BLE-159 will begin Tuesday night, September 6, 2011. FDLE will be certifying their driving range in September. They also reached an agreement with UASI to provide training for all the agencies in Palm Beach County using UASI funds.
- f. High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area: Nothing new to report.
- g. High School Criminal Justice Academies: No report was presented.
- h. Municipal Public Safety Communications Consortium: No report was presented.

XIII. Training Announcements

- a. Firearms, Ammunition, & Protocol Familiarization Course: Commander Laurie Van Deusen provided information about the training. Palm Beach Gardens Police Department is hosting the training at the EOC Center on October 19, 2011.

XIV. Member Comments

XV. Attachments

- a. Status Check on the Replacement Facility for the Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) Agenda
- b. Firearms, Ammunition, & Protocol Familiarization Course
- c. Purdue working with police on gang-graffiti, hazmat tools, Emil Venere, Purdue Newsroom, August 18, 2011