

Law Enforcement Contacts Policy and Data Review Committee (LECC)

MEETING MINUTES

8/14/2015 10:00 AM – 2:00 p.m.

Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST)

4190 Aumsville Highway

Salem, Oregon 97317

LECC Members Present

Dave Fidanque, Former American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon
Todd Anderson, Department of Public Safety Standards and Training
Jeffrey Lewis, Oregon State Police (stand in present)
Chief Pete Kerns, Eugene Police Department
Sheriff Jason Myers, Marion County Sheriff's Office
Annabelle Jaramillo, Benton County Commissioner
Angie Hedrick, Salem Police Department
Gilbert Carrasco, Commission on Hispanic Affairs, Willamette University

LECC Staff Present

Brian Renauer, Criminal Justice Policy Research Institute, Portland State University

Guests

Nicole Brown, Center for Intercultural Organizing
Salome Chimuku
Linda Hamilton
Darlene Huntress
Henry Reimann, Hillsboro Police Department

Welcome / Introductions

Dr. Renauer welcomed all members and staff of the committee.

Approve Agenda

The agenda was approved.

Discussion of Openings at the LECC

Dr. Renauer made note to the group that there is at least one vacant seat at the LECC that needs to be filled. Chief Justice DeMuniz is stepping down from the committee. This also leaves the Chair position for the LECC open. There is also question if Kevin Diaz will be able to continue as a member. Members and guests were asked to come forth with potential candidates they feel are suitable for the LECC and nomination forms were made available. There was some discussion of the possibility the legislative work group to HB 2002 will consider changes to the composition and size of LECC membership. Persons interested in being a part of the HB 2002 work group were asked to contact Ms. Chimuku after the meeting to learn more.

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Overview of LECC Historically and Training Updates

Dr. Renauer gave a brief history of what the LECC has done, and is currently doing. Given the changes put forth in HB 2002 and the eight-year history of our training initiatives a discussion about future needs ensued. Ms. Hedrick suggested the training curriculums should consider updating or incorporating new material related to national (e.g. Ferguson) and local events. Ms. Brown pointed out that since the HB 2002 definition of “profiling” expands to more communities we will need to consider training curriculum to meet each community’s needs. There is also a need to recruit new trainers and invigorating other trainers who have been less involved in recent years. Eugene PD representatives also noted that their new stops data collection system should be launched in 2016.

HB 2002 requirements for LECC

Ms. Chimuku led the group through a review of the major highlights under HB 2002. HB 2002 mandates the LECC to develop a process to collect profiling complaints from the public directly about any level of law enforcement in the state. The LECC is required to submit those complaints to the municipalities. Oregon law enforcement is also mandated to forward all profiling complaints and dispositions of complaints to the LECC. The LECC is not investigating these complaints but acts as a resource of unbiased collection and information about profiling complaints for the state.

Creating a complaint form

Dr. Renauer passed out data points for possible questions to be on an LECC profiling complaint form.

There was a long discussion about the purpose of the form. Discussion centered around whether it would be best to have a short form that only asks for basic information and may be supplemented by staff calling complainants for additional information deemed necessary, or should there be a longer form that tries to capture as much information as we can up front. There was consensus that the more we ask through a form, the more the public will be deterred from participating.

Sheriff Myers brought up the issue around people remaining anonymous. The statute says that complainants have the right to remain anonymous if they choose to do so, however, it was pointed out that it is much harder to do thorough investigations that way. Ms. Chimuku brought up that in other states they found that the individuals who remain anonymous understand that by doing so action would most likely not be taken against the law enforcement agent. There are situations where the public may only want to give feedback to the supervising officer that can be used as a teachable moment for all as opposed to opening an internal investigation. There was heavy discussion on the topic of whether we can promise anonymity, and whether a disclaimer on the form or through a phone call to the complainant is necessary.

Other issues raised about the nature of the form included many immigrant and refugee community members do not trust institutions. Therefore, the form may need to provide some explanation for why certain demographic or personal information is necessary.

There was discussion on whether or not the form had to be physically signed by the complainant. Ms. Chimuku was tasked with speaking to BOLI about how they handle that question. Someone else brought up a 3rd party

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who wishes to file complaints on behalf of someone. Many wondered if it's worth verifying those 3rd parties and what personal information we need of that third party person.

There was also discussion about possible non-compliance on the part of law enforcement in either the adoption of HB 2002 requirements or reporting practices, or whether they had to adopt a form developed by the LECC.

As time was running out members and guests were asked to think about and provide feedback by Sept 10th about what questions they think should be on the form.

Future Dates of LECC Meetings

The LECC will meet September 18, 2015 at 10am-2pm at DPSST

Other Business / Open Comments from LECC or Public

There was no public comment or other announcements.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Further information on the LECC is available at:

<http://www.cjpri.ccj.pdx.edu/LECC/index.php>

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