

Center for Public Safety Innovation (CPSI)
Florida Regional Community Policing Institute (FL RCPI)
St. Petersburg College
Advisory Committee
April 11, 2012

Minutes

Present: Dr. William Blount, University of South Florida
Major Matthew McKinney for Chief Charles Harmon, St. Petersburg PD
Asst. Chief Marc Hamlin for Chief Jane Castor, Tampa PD
Captain Terry Dioquino for Sheriff Bob Gualtieri, Pinellas County SO
Mr. Bernie McCabe, State Attorney, Pinellas/Pasco Counties
Mr. Rick Ramirez, FDLE, Tampa Bay Region
Mr. Daniel Mangru, U.S. Probation, MDFL
Mr. Will Daniels, U.S. Attorney's Office, MDFL
Asst. Chief (Ret.) William LePere, Lakeland PD
Captain John Green, Pinellas Park PD
Ms. Sandra Lyth, InterCultural Advocacy Institute
Chief Dorene Thomas, Pinellas Park PD, Chairperson, FL RCPI Advisory Committee

Staff: Ms. Eileen LaHaie, Executive Director
Mr. Todd Kirchgraber, Training Manager
Ms. Gail Walker, Training Coordinator
Ms. Laura Heisler, Training Coordinator
Ms. Trenette Brown, Project Admin. Services Manager
Ms. Carolyn Geck, Grant Writer, SEPSI
Ms. Barbara Kieta, Executive Assistant to the Director
Dr. Gary Graham, Academic & Student Affairs, St. Petersburg College

Absent: Chief John Carroll, Largo PD
Mr. Emery Gainey, Florida Attorney General
Chief Tom Gavin, Pinellas County Schools PD
Sheriff David Gee, Hillsborough County SO
Dr. Ernesto Fernandez, Puerto Rico Training Initiative
Chief Tony Holloway, Clearwater PD
Chief David Romine, St. Pete Beach PD

I. Welcome/Introductions/Approval of Minutes

Chairperson, Chief Dorene Thomas, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. She welcomed the committee and asked each attendee to identify themselves. Chairman Thomas then asked for approval of the minutes from April 6, 2011. Minutes approved.

A. Donna Schulz Retirement – Welcome Will Daniels

It was announced that Donna Schulz has retired from the U.S. Attorney's Office-MDFL and Mr. Will Daniels will replace her on the FL RCPI Advisory Committee. Ms. Schulz will continue to work with the FL RCPI on the Law Enforcement Suicide Prevention project. Ms. Schulz was an integral part of this training and it was her personal experiences and passion that helped make it the success it is today.

B. Retirement of Mayor Bill Mischler

Mayor Mischler is no longer the mayor of Pinellas Park and sent in a letter of resignation to Eileen as he will no longer be on the FL RCPI Advisory Committee. Chief Thomas announced that the new mayor is Sandra Bradbury.

II. Administrative Update – Eileen LaHaie

Director LaHaie welcomed the committee members and explained why it has been awhile since the group has met formally. Due to grant submission season and Eileen’s temporary (year) assignment as Grants Director for the entire college, her availability was very limited. She is happy to have the committee together again.

A. FL RCPI Current Funding Levels

Ms. LaHaie reported that the FL RCPI’s current funding level is \$1.4 million. This amount represents many small projects rather than funding from one large entity. Most of the funding is from BJA not COPS. FL RCPI has a residual balance of \$250,000 which comes from some of our projects in Central America and other areas, and is used for start-up initiatives and other identified needs.

Eileen mentioned that recently FL RCPI was asked to submit a proposal from the U.S. Attorney’s Office-MDFL, for a Project Safety Neighborhoods (PSN) grant from BJA. FL RCPI had previously been selected as fiscal agent for a PSN grant in the MDFL several years earlier. This current funding proposal is to provide/coordinate the training throughout the district as it relates to gang and gun prevention. Eileen asked the committee to contact us if you would like a training or conference provided for your agency or community.

Earlier this year, CPSI brought in a speaker, Alfred Lomas, former gang member from LA who has begun providing Gang Abatement seminars. We had almost 200 people attend and also filmed him in the studio. He is affiliated with a group called “A Better LA.” A similar group is starting up in the Tampa Bay area called “A Better Tampa Bay” and Eileen has been meeting with some of the individuals and deciding if some of the PSN monies could help in this area and gave the committee an overview of what the group does. She asked if the committee might be interested in this kind of project for our area.

Ms. LaHaie informed the committee of some of the federal government changes that have recently gone into effect relating to food or other areas of spending for trainings and conferences. There are now new processes that are lengthy and are taking much more time in the planning stages of any event tied to federal monies.

B. New Federal Funding Guidelines – Eileen LaHaie

Ms. LaHaie informed the committee of some of the new federal government guidelines that have recently gone into effect relating to food or other areas of spending for trainings and conferences. The new guidelines as they relate to training are taking much more time in the planning stages of any event tied to federal monies.

Ms. LaHaie mentioned that federal funding requests for contract proposals had not come out at this time. **Note: COPS funding proposals have just come out. FL RCPI submitted three (3) to COPS, one (1) to Department of Homeland Security and one (1) to Department of State.**

III. FL RCPI Program Update – Eileen LaHaie

A. Human Trafficking Initiative

a. Human Trafficking Conference – May 30-31, 2012, Sheraton Sand Key Resort, Clearwater (handout)

This is our first Human Trafficking conference targeting investigators and prosecutors. FL RCPI is working in partnership with the International Association of Human Trafficking Investigators (IAHTI). James McBride,

Clearwater PD and another investigator started this association. We are hoping for a good turn out and encourage you to send your investigators and/or prosecutors to support this conference. This conference is not for NGOs due to the content of the training. **Note: This conference was very successful, with 100 participants in attendance, even though many agencies were not allowing officers to attend due to RNC training. Evaluations were all positive and the selection of speakers was applauded. Thank you for supporting this important training.**

b. Human Trafficking Broadcast

FL RCPI was also funded by BJA to do a broadcast and selected Human Trafficking as the topic. Several subject matter experts in the Human Trafficking arena participated. We had the highest number of viewers to date for any broadcast. 6,000 people viewed it. It is available as a webcast and is also available to view on our website @ <http://cop.spcollege.edu> and click on the link for **Human Trafficking: Slavery in the 21st Century**.

c. Human Trafficking Public Service Announcement

Also we are working with the Clearwater PD and the Clearwater Area Human Trafficking (HT) Taskforce to develop a PSA. In the past, Federal funding would only allow us to concentrate on International Human Trafficking, but now we are able to address the issue of Domestic HT. By doing a PSA with a concentration on the domestic issues, we will now have covered, in English and Spanish, most of the areas where Human Trafficking is being affected.

d. Update on HT Investigator's Curriculum

The Upper Midwest RCPI also asked us to provide an update on the Human Trafficking Investigator's course curriculum.

Eileen completed the topic of human trafficking by asking the committee to please keep the FL RCPI updated on any initiatives they may be involved in where we can be of help. Remember that our **speaker's bureau** has SMEs available that can educate various groups about the issues relating to Human Trafficking. Visit our website at <http://halht.spcollege.edu>.

B. Law Enforcement Suicide Prevention – Best Practice Registry

Director LaHaie reported that the FL RCPI has been involved in Law Enforcement Suicide Prevention for many years, even prior to receiving federal funding to promote training and awareness of this major issue facing the law enforcement profession. Donna Schulz, even in retirement, will continue to work with “In Harm’s Way” by speaking at conferences and trainings. Ms. Schulz was instrumental in obtaining federal funding for the FL RCPI to be able to continue to provide the training on a national level.

Recently, FL RCPI was listed on the Best Practices Registry as a Suicide Prevention Resource Center, federally funded through SAMHSA (Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Agency). We were granted the *Adherence to Standards* registry and posting. We’ve received many emails since the listing was posted asking to be involved in our suicide prevention program. This will be a tremendous help us as we move forward. To date, in our Law Enforcement Suicide Prevention endeavor, we have held 13 training of trainers for a total 369 students trained. We’ve also held 4 national conferences. Currently, FL RCPI is working with New York PD through Dr. John Violanti, a national expert on our Speaker’s Bureau from New York. NYPD has already had five suicides this year.

Finally, FL RCPI is submitting a proposal for funding from BJA to address *Firefighter Suicide Prevention*. We intend to use our already existing Law Enforcement Suicide Prevention curriculum and customize it for firefighters.

C. Law Enforcement Executive Session

Ms. LaHaie reported that the third session for the Executive Session will be scheduled for Fall 2012. We are now working on a website that will be focused on police leadership Issues of the Future. Areas will be designated for posting articles, position papers, etc. **Update: Three Executive Session meetings are being planned; two small sessions with a core group of Principals and project directors, and one larger meeting that will include the entire group of Principals and a select number of Innovation Team Leaders. The first small meeting is planned for June 20-21 here in Florida. The larger meeting is being planned for November.**

D. Fund 10 Activities

CPSI is now scheduling some of its training through the college's Fund 10 accounting system which is the fund account used for all SPC revenue generating classes. Grant funded programs are funded out of a Fund 20 account. The Fund 10 system allows CPSI to charge either students or agencies for training. CPSI has already generated revenue of over \$120,000 and was given \$50,000 by the college as start-up money in a Fund 10 account. Many of the courses that have generated income have been community policing courses, such as Introduction to Community Policing, Partnership and Problem Solving. These have been held in Ft. Myers, Coral Gables and in Central America. Participants registering for the Human Trafficking Conference will be charged a \$99 registration fee that will go through the Fund 10 accounting system, as well. By utilizing this new system for registering students or charging agencies, it allows CPSI to show the college that we can generate revenue. This is part of CPSI's sustainability plan for the future as federal funding continues to diminish.

Another conference that CPSI is utilizing this Fund 10 account for is in your handouts and entitled: *Child Lures: Power of Prevention*. The training will be held on April 30 here at the Allstate Center and the cost is \$35. **Note: 75 participants attended the training on April 30.**

E. CPSI Update

The Center for Public Safety Innovation as a whole has a total of \$8million that covers 25 projects.

MCTFT is losing 56% of its funding next year, from \$3.2 million to \$1.4 million. With that information, another reduction in MCTFT staff has taken place, to include two non-renewals of staff contracts and one staff member had a reduction in work hours. MCTFT training will be focused on regional locations in the future to keep costs down.

A CD was produced entitled "Drug Dependent Newborns" and was distributed in March. This was a request from the Florida Attorney General's Office.

NTPI projects include SPAWAR training support packages for the military; K2-Share project which is to create training components for the Raven (unmanned aircraft); a career pathways website for the Pasco Hernando Community

College; a police line-up video (photo array line up). This was explained by State Attorney Bernie McCabe.

IV. Upcoming Activities – Eileen LaHaie

A. Critical Incident Peer Support for Law Enforcement (CIPS) Training

Director LaHaie reported five trainings, for a total of 96 students, were held in Texas, Louisiana, South Carolina, Kentucky and Florida. Michigan and Gainesville, FL are scheduled to receive the training. Jim Sewell and Tom Acker were the trainers.

B. Law Enforcement Tools for Supporting Veterans in Transition

Formerly titled "*Law Enforcement Tactics for Dealing with Veterans in Crisis*," Eileen explained the history of this training project and the different problems that caused delays in finalizing the training package. The name of the course was recently changed and curriculum updated to better reflect veteran issues. A discussion followed. Eight trainings have since been held with a total of 210 students trained.

C. International Initiatives

Eileen discussed how FL RCPI became involved in providing community policing training internationally and how it has helped FL RCPI due to the ongoing decreases in federal funding. Central America and areas in the Caribbean are beginning to embrace the concept of community policing in an effort to curb the problems of drugs/gangs in their respective countries, and they realize that they need to build trust within their communities in order to be effective. In 2009, FL RCPI was asked to speak to representatives of the Department of State's International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) representatives to see if we could work with them to provide training through the embassy in El Salvador. We have been doing training there since then, including a couple of trainings here in Florida. We've now developed a new manual for Central America, entitled "Community Policing: From Theory to Practice," which provides the officers with practical problem solving applications to utilize in their communities. Bill LePere actually wrote this curriculum based on input from the officers and instructors and his own experiences while training in El Salvador.

Since that time, FL RCPI has been asked to provide Community Policing training in Panama to an elite group of border patrol officers, called SENAFRONT, that are stationed in the remote Darien Province of Panama. The officers are trying to partner with the community from that area and build their trust as they patrol the area that borders Columbia (see pictures in packet). The training was successful although the conditions in the area where they live and work were desolate and bleak.

We've also been asked to present at a USAID conference in the Caribbean to discuss our community policing practices and training capabilities. We continue to explore more opportunities as they become available.

Eileen also discussed recent issues that are going on in the Puerto Rico Police Department concerning a Department of Justice Report outlining problems with corruption, ethics and human rights violations, to name a few. Because of our long-time history with working in Puerto Rico, providing not only community policing but also counter-drug training, FL RCPI is now working with PRPD through our contact with Dr. Ernesto Fernandez and also with the COPS Office to identify the appropriate training to provide officers and community representatives in the Commonwealth with limited funding. This will be an ongoing process as different groups and funding sources collaborate to identify the training that is necessary for PRPD to succeed and move forward.

V. **Round Table Discussion – Chief Dorene Thomas**

Chief Thomas asked the committee members for any announcements, etc.

Dr. Graham, SPC -The college had sent out an online survey requesting feedback from the various college advisory committees and requested the members to please respond if they have not done so.

Next, Dr. Graham discussed last year's SPC Joint Advisory Committee appreciation event from last November and how successful it was. The college would like to have that event again this year in September, at the college's Epi Center. FL RCPI will be sending out dates and times in the near future. The luncheon, breakfast and dinner are followed by a short update by President Law and will not be a lengthy event. **Update: FL RCPI has emailed the RCPI Advisory Committee dates for this event. RCPI will be invited to attend the luncheon event at noon on September 7. Prior to the luncheon, RCPI will hold its Advisory Committee meeting at 10 a.m. in a room near the luncheon facility. Invitations and directions will be forthcoming as time draws near. Please mark your calendars.**

Asst. Chief Hamlin, Tampa PD – The Assistant Chief discussed the upcoming Republican National Convention and how law enforcement from throughout Pinellas and Hillsborough counties, including 2,500 officers from outside the bay area will be involved. Tampa PD is working hard to prepare and cover any issue that may arise. They have hired a company to help construct a plan and blueprint for the event. This will be a major training event for all of the police officers that will be involved in the August event.

Will Daniels, U.S. Attorney's Office – Mr. Daniels reported that the Jacksonville Police Academy received RCPI's *About Face, Turning Away from Hate* training recently. FDLE came to the training to assess it for its own use. That area of the state is revitalizing its Hate Crimes Working Group and this training was very appropriate. He suggested a new supply of CD-ROMs be ordered as more training may be requested in the near future.

Will also discussed that his agency has been working with the Sanford shooting investigation and it has been found that community policing has not been prevalent in that area. The Community Relations Service, through the Department of Justice, has been discussing the issue of community policing training being brought to the area. Will thought that the RCPI may be getting a call regarding that training need.

Daniel Mangru, U.S. Probation – Mr. Mangru announced that Chief Elaine Terenzi would be retiring in May and asked members to send her their well wishes if they get a chance. Probation is working with Bureau of Prisons to work with inmates about to be released to make sure they have all their needs and paperwork met so they are prepared for release. Unfortunately with the lack of funding, it is hard to provide the inmates with all of the items necessary. Daniel mentioned that they would love to find funding to update RCPI's *FedFacts* CD ROM that has been very educational for schools, etc. but is now out of date and there hasn't been any funding available to provide an updated version. Eileen mentioned that with funding proposals coming out, there may be an opportunity to look for a funding source there.

Bill Blount, USF – Dr. Blount reported that USF has a Master's degree program in Criminal Justice Administration that is about a 1 ½ year program and is only held on Saturdays. Most of the students are full-time employees at agencies and hoping to advance within their agencies through this obtaining this higher education degree. A discussion followed concerning this program and doctorate programs.

Sandra Lyth, Hispanic Outreach – Ms. Lyth announced an upcoming annual luncheon on May 11 (handout in packet). She discussed how the demographic in Pinellas County is

changing rapidly. Largo has had a 140% increase in Hispanic population since the 2000 censuses. Training will need to be adjusted to accommodate the changes in the demographics of the community. Sandra mentioned that she and Director LaHaie have been in discussions regarding these changes and needs.

Meeting adjourned.