

St. Petersburg College  
Florida Regional Community Policing Institute (FLRCPI)  
Center for Public Safety Innovation (CPSI)  
Advisory Committee Meeting  
April 15, 2015  
Location: SPC Allstate Center

**Meeting Notes**

*Present:* Chief Dorene Thomas, Pinellas Park PD, RCPI Committee Chairperson  
Chief Anthony Holloway, St. Petersburg Police Department  
Chief Daniel Slaughter, Clearwater Police Department  
Captain Mark Berger, Pinellas Park Police Department  
Captain Martin Gonzalez *for* Chief Jane Castor, Tampa Police Department  
Lt. Gary Dukeman, St. Petersburg Police Department  
Mr. Will Daniels, U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO), MDFL  
Captain Adrian Arnold *for* Sheriff Robert Gualtieri, Pinellas County SO  
Captain Glen R. Smith *for* Chief Jeff Undestad, Largo Police Department  
Dr. William Blount, University of South Florida  
Mr. Bernie McCabe, State Attorney, Pinellas/Pasco Counties  
SAC Rick Ramirez, FDLE, Tampa Bay Region  
Ms. Deborah McDonald, FDLE, Tampa Bay Region

*Staff:* Ms. Eileen LaHaie, Executive Director  
Mr. Todd Kirchgraber, Training Manager  
Ms. Trenette Brown, Project Administrative Services Manager  
Ms. Laura Heisler, Training Coordinator  
Ms. Kadell Ford, Executive Assistant to the Director

*Absent:* Chief Joe Collins, U.S. Probation Office, MDFL  
Mr. Nick Cox, Office of the Florida Attorney General  
Major Tom Feeney, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office  
Ms. Sandra Lyth, Intercultural Advocacy Institute

**Welcome/Introductions/Approval of 9/10/14 Minutes – Chief Thomas, Chairperson**

Chief Thomas welcomed the committee members and asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance. Executive Director LaHaie advised that there was a correction to the minutes from the September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. It was stated that the inaugural year of the Hate Crimes Working Group was 2003. Mr. Will Daniels provided the correct date of 1997. The minutes reflecting the correction have been updated on St. Petersburg College's Advisory Committees' website. Chief Thomas then asked the members for approval of the corrected minutes from September 10, 2014.

Chief Holloway motioned to approve and Mr. Ramirez seconded. All approved. Executive Director LaHaie then presented Chief Thomas with an appreciation plaque recognizing her service to and support of the FLRCPI Advisory Committee as well as her retirement as Chairperson from the FLRCPI Advisory Committee and as Chief of Police for the Pinellas Park Police Department.

#### **Administrative Update – Eileen LaHaie**

- A. FLRCPI/CPSI Funding Levels** – Executive Director LaHaie began the meeting discussing RCPI's current funding, which includes eleven funding lines with three different funders for a total of \$3.5 million. Primary funding is now through the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The other two funders are the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). In addition to the RCPI's \$3.5 million, another \$1.2 million is available through the counterdrug and other DOD funding, bringing CPSI's total funding to approximately \$4.7 million. This budget represents funding for staff salaries and operational expenses supporting the development and delivery of training products.
- B. COPS 2015 RFPs** – Executive Director LaHaie discussed the grants that CPSI will be applying for in the FY 2015 funding cycle. CPSI will apply for continuation funding for the Law Enforcement Executive Session project in the amount of \$400K that is due by April 30, 2015. The El Salvador funding proposal totaling \$200K was temporarily suspended but will be available again in July. COPS RFPs will be available in late April 2015. The *Gannett Foundation* request for \$5K is pending. This funding was requested to support CPSI's Youth Summer Camp, scheduled for June.

#### **FLRCPI Program Update – Eileen LaHaie**

- A. USAO Hate Crimes Working Group** – Will Daniels, Public Affairs Specialist for the USAO-MDFL, gave a summation of their March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Tampa. Working Group members discussed producing public service announcements, and updating and revising the *About Face: Turning Away from Hate* video learning tool to reflect changes in Hate Crime statutes and to broaden the program's scope by focusing on federal regulations instead of only Florida statutes. Funding for this project is through a grant awarded to the RCPI by BJA, and needs to be completed by March 31, 2016 as that is when the grant expires. Mr. Daniels mentioned that the work the Hate Crimes Working Group accomplished at their meeting in Atlanta, GA, is now going to the White House for review. As a result of the White House's review, the U.S. Attorney's Office may receive an invitation to give a presentation on the group's accomplishments at the White House. Mr. Daniels will be traveling to Miami, FL, in October to attend the DOJ Hate Crimes training. FDLE Regional Training Coordinator, Deborah McDonald, noted that it is important that Leadership is committed to this cause, so the work can be continued.
- B. Executive Session on Police Leadership:** Executive Director LaHaie updated the committee on this *National Police Leadership* project that is being funded by BJA to identify what *21<sup>st</sup> Century Police Leadership* will look like and what skills will be necessary for those future leaders to succeed. More resources are being added to the project website, which will be reviewed with the help of volunteers, including Chiefs of

police, academicians, law enforcement and leadership trainers, etc. The website address is included in the materials provided. Executive Session Co-Director Darrel Stephens is serving on one of President Obama's subcommittees of the *21<sup>st</sup> Century Police Leadership Taskforce* and has had the opportunity to introduce the availability of this website and its resources to multiple stakeholders at the national level. The next Executive Session meeting on Police Leadership will be held on June 9-10, 2015, at the Sheraton Sand Key Resort.

- C. Puerto Rico, Central America and South America Training Initiatives** – Executive Director LaHaie discussed continuing training efforts in Puerto Rico and Central America. FLRCPI completed its third community policing Train the Trainer (TOT) class in Puerto Rico this reporting period, with a total of 28 participants. RCPI is getting ready to roll out training next to the 13 regional areas around the Island. RCPI taught six iterations of Introduction to Community Policing and Advanced Community Policing (each course 40 hours) in El Salvador as part of our contract with the Department of State. Training Manager, Todd Kirchgraber, stated that CPSI just received \$81K from Peru and will be conducting an assessment of training needs, making this the first time CPSI has trained in South America. FLRCPI also recently conducted human trafficking training for law enforcement officers and NGOs in the Dominican Republic.
- D. Public Safety Suicide Prevention Training** – Executive Director LaHaie reported on Law Enforcement and Firefighter Suicide prevention trainings. BJA-funded law enforcement suicide prevention courses: 11 completed this reporting period; 9 currently scheduled. FEMA-funded firefighter suicide prevention courses: One completed this reporting period; 9 currently scheduled.

The COPS Suicide Resources Working Group met in November of 2014 at the Franciscan House in Tampa to discuss best practices, alternative delivery of peer support trainings, model programs for families, funeral protocols, etc. Group members are also working on an executive component entitled, *Why Should they Care?* Executive Director LaHaie commented on the great job CPSI Training Coordinator, Laura Heisler, is doing with coordinating all of the trainings.

- E. Various ongoing training programs** – Executive Director LaHaie gave an update on various ongoing training programs.
- An 8-hour pilot course was held on March 26<sup>th</sup> entitled, *Effective Communication Strategies for Law Enforcement When Dealing with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing*. A total of 18 students attended at a cost of \$49 per student. The training received great reviews. Executive Director LaHaie spoke about CPSI staff member, Chris Littlewood, who is a training coordinator and instructor for CPSI. Mr. Littlewood has worked with law enforcement in the past. Deaf himself, he is a champion of the deaf and hard of hearing community and is committed to doing this training. Mr. Littlewood was recently appointed to *FEMA's National Advisory Council* to advise council members on the needs of people with disabilities.

- A BJA-funded documentary focusing on issues facing returning veterans is in production. This broadcast is set to air in September 2015. The documentary highlights justice-related programs helping returning veterans.
- A BJA-funded broadcast on underage drinking and issues faced by law enforcement and the juvenile justice system is in production and also set to air in September 2015.
- Work continues on the Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) project funded by BJA. Four PSN courses representing 300 total students have been taught at various locations throughout the Middle District of Florida, including Orlando, St. Augustine and at St. Petersburg College's Allstate Center. Topics include *Street Gangs*; *Wiretap*; and *Campus and Student Safety*. These courses are offered with guidance provided by the U.S. Attorney's Office. Classes will continue to be scheduled as funding permits.

#### **Upcoming Activities – Eileen LaHaie**

- A. Panamanian National Police Site Visit** – Executive Director LaHaie reported on the upcoming visit from a delegation from the Panamanian National Police in coordination with the U.S. Embassy scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup> through May 8<sup>th</sup>. Attending will be Panamanian top law enforcement commanders, U.S. Department of State Liaison, and representatives from the CPSI staff. Site visits with Clearwater Police Department, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, and St. Petersburg Police Department have been arranged, giving the delegation the opportunity to discuss with the various agency heads and their staff how they use technology to make resource allocation decisions, communicate with citizens, and hold officers and commanding staff accountable.
- B. Human Trafficking Training Activities** – Executive Director LaHaie announced the upcoming International Association of Human Trafficking Investigators (IAHTI) conference scheduled for May 27<sup>th</sup> through 29<sup>th</sup> at the Sheraton Sand Key Resort. This training initiative was started by two local law enforcement HT investigators. One is retired from the Clearwater Police Department and the other is retired from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office. RCPI has been a sponsor of this conference since its inception.

Executive Director LaHaie stated that CPSI was also approached by the Department of Homeland Security to participate in a Human Trafficking awareness program with the Department of Homeland Security titled, *The Blue Campaign*. The program is designed to educate students and college employees about human trafficking.

- C. Youth Public Safety Summer Camp (June 8<sup>th</sup> – June 19<sup>th</sup>)** – Executive Director LaHaie reported on the upcoming “Youth Public Safety Summer Camp,” and directed members to the flyer in the materials provided for more details. The camp is scheduled for two weeks this year and will accept up to 40 middle school students. Various agencies pledging support include St. Petersburg Police Department (SPPD); Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PCSO); Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE);

Pinellas County School Board (PCSB); Juvenile Welfare Board (JWB); Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD); St. Petersburg Firehouse; United States Coast Guard (USCG); and Clearwater Police Department (CPD).

### **CPSI Updates**

- A. Advanced/Specialized Training (In-Service)** – Executive Director LaHaie gave an update on In-Service training opportunities, including new course offerings and upcoming scheduled courses. LaHaie asked the advisory committee to please contact her directly with any training needs or ideas for new training topics, etc.
  
- B. MCTFT Funding Status** – Executive Director LaHaie updated the committee on the 2015 Department of Defense (DOD) budget and her ongoing discussions with the FL National Guard regarding funding. As of April 1<sup>st</sup>, CPSI has received \$750K and is expecting another \$1 million by the end of the federal fiscal year. The scope of work includes some strategically offered counterdrug training for law enforcement, but also delivery of multimedia resources to support the military priorities, including the National Guard Bureau’s emphasis on Combating Transnational Organizational Crime (CTOC). Current funding is also being used to update online CD courses, which are all available at no cost to the students. A new course titled, *Transitional Criminal Organizations*, held on March 17<sup>th</sup> had 63 students in attendance; the cost was covered by MCTFT funding.
  
- C. Upcoming Courses** – Executive Director LaHaie asked the advisory committee to refer to the materials provided for upcoming courses and to please share them with colleagues. Some courses will be trust funded, some will be grant funded, and some will be fee pay. Executive Director LaHaie distributed a list of topics for which subject matter experts are needed for upcoming program initiatives. She asked that if any committee members are interested in providing subject matter expertise or know of a colleague that has a wealth of knowledge in any of the topic areas to please contact her directly. CPSI has funding to develop the trainings on the list, but there is a deadline to use the funding.

**Round Table Discussion** – Chief Thomas held a short, round table discussion and gave a heartfelt thank you and note of appreciation to Executive Director LaHaie for her hard work. Chief Anthony Holloway was elected to be the new chair of the RCPI Advisory Committee due to the retirement of Chief Thomas.

**Next Meeting: Fall** – Thursday, September 24, 2015, at the St. Petersburg College Seminole Campus Conference Center. Breakfast: 9 – 10:30 a.m. RCPI Advisory Committee Meeting: 10:30am –12noon.

Meeting adjourned.