

Minutes

Racial Profiling Prevention and Data Oversight Board Regular Meeting

Pursuant to section EXECUTIVE BRANCH 20 ILCS 2715
Racial Profiling Prevention and Data Oversight Act
(625 ILCS 5/11-212)

Thursday September 15th 2022

10:00 am- 12:00 pm

Location

Via WebEx Video Conference/Teleconference

Call to Order and Roll Call

Tobara Richardson (CHAIR) calls the meeting to order. The CHAIR explains the governor's disaster declaration and proclaims the meeting is being held virtually under the conditions listed under the declaration. CHAIR asks for roll call of the members, states a quorum for the meeting has NOT been met.

Attendees

Tobara Richardson (CHAIR)
Marcus Gipson
Phyllis Logan
Carmen Patlan
Shareese Pryor.
Holly Bieneman
John Thompson

Also present were:

Jessica Keldermans – IDOT Bureau Chief – Data Collection
Sean Berberet – IDOT – Data Collection
Nayak Polissar – Mountain Whisper Light Ltd.,
Ellen Bruce – IDOT – Deputy Chief Counsel, Ethics Officer

Approval of Minutes

July 28th, 2022 Minutes were not approved as a result of quorum not being met. The CHAIR instructed members to vote on July 28th and September 15th minutes at next meeting which is tentatively scheduled for November 17th, 2022.

2021 Illinois Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Study Report

Nayak Polissar from Mountain Whisper Light provided an overview of the 2021 Annual report, explained new benchmarks, and then replied to questions and concerns voiced by members.

- Stop rates increased for African Americans in 2021
- Approximately 800 Police and Law Enforcement Agencies contributed complete traffic data sets for the Annual Report
- Of the 800 Police and Law Enforcement Agencies that contributed data, it is possible that NOT all stops were reported. This would be a topic for the Non-Compliance Subcommittee to explore further.

Carmen Patlan then asked Nayak if he could explain why Africans were being pulled over at a higher rate than Whites. Michael Newman responded to Carmen's question. Mr. Newman stated that most officers are trained to "patrol" aggressively and most are trained in lower income areas. He admitted this practice is unfortunate but believes this leads to the subconscious custom to pull over people of color more often even when the officers are in predominantly white areas.

Ms. Patlan then commented Mr. Newman's comments appear to be the "definition" of "racial profiling".

Mr. Newman then provided examples of pedestrian arrests resulting in many lower income areas having poor sidewalks due to overgrown bushes or inadequate maintenance. This results in probable cause to stop a Pedestrian.

Ms. Logan commented that she along with other members of her community will walk in the streets of low-income areas instead of sidewalks due to the number of dogs not being "fenced-in" properly.

Ms. Patlan then commented to the Board regarding early police training in lower income areas or areas with higher amounts of criminal activities that "Police should really shift from a Warrior mentality to a Guardian mentality."

- New benchmarking consisted of traffic data which considered people passing through a certain community or jurisdiction. The actual location of the stop is not currently known. Changes to the Data Collection from to include coordinates or precise locations of stops would assist analysis for both Traffic and Pedestrian Stops.

- Currently, pedestrian stops that do not result in a “Pat Down/Frisk”, or a “Search Beyond” or a “Warning/Citation” are not submitted to the Stop Study System. This is a result of how statute defines a “Pedestrian Stop”.

Subcommittee Appointments

The CHAIR confirmed subcommittee members from prior meeting and polling data. The CHAIR also recommended the subcommittee members try to meet at least once prior to the Oversight Board’s next scheduled meeting.

- Law Enforcement Compliance Subcommittee
Holly Bieneman - Carmen Patlan - Marcus Gipson
- Data Collection Forms Subcommittee
Holly Bieneman - Carmen Patlan - Stephen Rushin - Phyllis Logan -
- Model Policies and Trainings Subcommittee
Shareese Pryor - Marcus Gipson - Phyllis Logan –

Required Training for all Board Members

Ellen Bruce provided an oral presentation along with PowerPoint slides informing the Board Members of required Ethics, Discrimination & Sexual Harassment Prevention Training. Training materials and tracking of courses are located on OneNet. Certification is also provided from OneNet. Board Members were urged to get registered immediately into after the meeting.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Open Meeting Act (OMA) training was also discussed. These trainings are also required from Board Members

The CHAIR instructed Board members to complete all required training by next scheduled meeting, November 17th, 2022.

Housekeeping Items from the CHAIR

Please contact Sean or Jessica at IDOT if Board members are unable to attend future Board Meetings.

Contact Ellen Bruce regarding any issues regarding training requirements

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Public Comment

(none)

Upcoming Meetings

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 17th, 2022 10am – 12pm .

Adjournment

The CHAIR called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Bieneman moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pryor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.