

## 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)

February 20, 2025

10:00 am- 12:00 pm

#### Location

Via WebEx Video Conference/Teleconference

#### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Bass-Ehler (CHAIR) calls the meeting to order at 10:07 am. The CHAIR explains the meeting is being held virtually under the conditions listed within the Board's by-laws. CHAIR announces roll call of the members. Quorum for the meeting was achieved.

#### **Board Members Present & Absent**

| <b>Member Names</b>   | <b>Present</b> | <b>Absent</b> |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| Bass-Ehler, Karyn (CHAIR – Attorney General Designee)             | x              |               |
| Bieneman, Holly (IDT Designee)                                    | x              |               |
| Curran, John (IL State Senator)                                   |                | x             |
| Davis, William (IL House Representative)                          | x              |               |
| De Jesus, José (IL State Police Designee)                         | x              |               |
| Dominguez, Dulce (Community Org. Representing Minority Interests) | x              |               |
| Garcia, Delila (Law Enforcement)                                  |                | x             |
| Harris, Jermaine (CO-CHAIR – Law Enforcement)                     | x              |               |
| Newman, Michael (Law Enforcement)                                 |                | x             |
| Logan, Phyllis (Community Org. Representing Minority Interests)   | x              |               |
| Rinehart-Kochel, Tammy (IL Academic Community)                    | x              |               |
| Thompson, Amy (Community Org. Representing Minority Interests)    | x              |               |
| VACANT - (Member appointed by Senate President)                   |                |               |
| VACANT - (Member appointed by House Minority Leader)              |                |               |
| VACANT – (Member Community Org. Representing Minority Interests)  |                |               |

#### **Also present were:**

IDOT – Jessica Keldermans, Bureau Chief of Data Collections

ACLU – Khadine Bennett, Director of Advocacy and Governmental Affairs

ICJIA – Emilee Green, Research Analyst

## **Call to Order and Approval of Minutes**

November 21st, 2024, Board meeting minutes were unanimously approved. Rinehart-Kochel made the motion to approve, and Dominguez seconded.

Lt. Col. Marcus Gipson has retired, and Lt. Col. Jose De Jesus has been appointed from the Illinois State Police (IPS) to replace Lt. Col. Gipson. De Jesus is the Assistant Deputy Director for the Internal Investigation division and has been with ISP for 20 plus years.

Bass-Ehler stated there is a continued recruitment effort to expand Board representation and asked for members to pass along the names of any interested in participating to her, Keldermans or Berberet. Bass-Ehler asked for any questions or comments regarding recruitment.

## **Discussion Items**

*Board Recommendations and Next Steps:* Berberet will be sending the activities memo to the Governor's Office, Secretary of State and to the 104<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. The deadline for submission is April 1. Members should review and advise if there are any questions. The activities report is an overview of what the Board has accomplished during the past year and lists the new members.

*Vice Chair Appointment:* Bass-Ehler reiterated the purpose of a Vice Chair is to lead the Board if she has a scheduling conflict and would be unable to attend. It also grows the leadership of this increasingly active Oversight Board.

In the previous meeting both Dominguez and Harris were nominated for the position. Harris said he would be honored to accept the opportunity. Dominguez respectfully declined and thanked Harris for taking on the role.

## **Subcommittee Updates**

*Law Enforcement Compliance:* Harris stated the goal of the subcommittee has been to get as close to full compliance as possible. The subcommittee has been focusing on internal processes and practices which ensure any barriers to compliance were removed. Barriers identified were:

- Identifying disbanded or non-operational agencies for elimination from the Illinois Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Study (ITPSS) system or database. The process of identifying and eliminating law enforcement agencies should be transparent so the Board or public can follow the steps.
  - Disbanded means the agency has been closed and duties have been transferred.
  - Non-operational means an agency still exists and not formally disbanded and does not have sworn law enforcement with constitutional authority to conduct stops.

- There may also exist agencies with sworn police on staff but do not conduct stops. In those cases, they are required to confirm NO STOPS in the ITPSS system annually.

Bieneman said there is an opportunity for more agencies to report NO STOPS in the ITPSS but have been failing to do so. When an agency has been non-compliant for 2 years it will be flagged. Once flagged IDOT will reach out through written communications to the agency. If no one can be reached, escalated communications will be sent to larger jurisdictions (i.e. mayor, county, etc.) until a definitive response is received. This will ensure due diligence in determining whether an agency is disbanded, non-operational or non-compliant. As part of the process, communication types and frequency will be documented. Process will start with 2024 data and will be conducted every 2 years.

Drafts of the processes and procedures are still being created with the ultimate goals of greater transparency, accountability, and better data to make better decisions. Once completed, the policy document will be reviewed and approved by the Oversight and Racial Profiling Board and IDOT's policy division.

Rinehart-Kochel asked if the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR), Cops Offices or other law enforcement databases have been considered to identify Illinois law enforcement agencies required to report annually to cut down on the manpower of identifying active agencies. Bieneman responded these databases had not been considered and thanked Rinehart-Kochel for the suggestion and stated follow up would begin.

Logan asked how agencies not responding are being held accountable if they are removed from the list. Harris explained these agencies in question are not removed from the list for non-response, they are removed from the list when the agency has been deemed disbanded or non-operational.

Bass-Ehler asked how the change would be implemented, specifically, if there would be a change within the policies and procedures of IDOT or if it would require JCAR or legislative action. Bieneman responded this is an internal policy at IDOT and would not require JCAR or legislative action.

Bass-Ehler asked Rinehart-Kochel if she had knowledge of the non-compliance reporting at the Federal level using these previously mentioned databases. Rinehart-Kochel stated regarding UCR, she did not know the percentage of federal agencies submitting data. Having worked at the Cops Office for a few years, she did know it was a substantial list but did not know the frequency in which it was updated. Rinehart-Kochel believed the databases would be a good starting point to reconciling the data. The UCR is the Uniform Crime Reporting where law enforcement agencies are expected to report index crimes to the FBI annually based on a shared set of definitions of crimes, compiled by the FBI and eventually made public.

Rinehart-Kochel confirmed to Harris her recommendation to use these databases was only to confirm which agencies were actively conducting traffic stops and should be held accountable to complying with report information. She was not recommending using other information from the database.

Thompson added while an agency may be active and reporting, they may not be reporting all stops and may be non-compliant for under reporting. She noted news stations reported the Chicago Police Department (CPD) had under reported traffic stops by around 200,000 in 2020. There is not currently an audit function as part of the study process.

Thompson continued to say the subcommittee is looking at understanding the technical capabilities and difficulties of departments for collecting and reporting traffic stop data as part of the study. Site visits may also be used to study the issues. Board members interested in participating in these are encouraged to reach out to the subcommittee.

Lastly, Thompson added the subcommittee is also considering potential consequences for noncompliant agencies.

*Data Collection Forms:* Dominguez stated due to illness the committee was unable to meet. The priority of the subcommittee is to continue research on the self-reporting mechanism. More information will be available at the next meeting as well as a proposal.

*Model Policies and Training:* This is a new subcommittee. Keldermans said Berberet mailed information to Board members requesting involvement and filling vacancies but has not received feedback by the time of this meeting. Bass-Ehler asked anyone not currently on a subcommittee to consider assisting with this one.

### **Amy Thompson (ICJIA Task Force) Presentation**

Thompson is also on the Illinois Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Data Use and Collection Task Force administered by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority or ICJIA. As there is overlap between the Task Force and the Oversight Board, Thompson would like to bridge communication between the two. ICJIA Research Analyst, Emilee Green, also in attendance and presented on the Task Force recommendations.

Green communicated within the ICJIA Task Force they don't only home in on the technology used to collect and analyze traffic stops statistical study data but have also included pedestrian stop data and discuss the entire process more broadly.

The first time the task force came together was the end of 2020 until early 2022. It consisted of learning and getting up to speed with statutory requirements surrounding traffic and pedestrian stops in Illinois. The forms the police officers used, how police departments submit information to IDOT, how contracted statisticians analyzed the data, and how the information gets reported to the public were all reviewed. The previous task force approved 19 total recommendations. Recommendations covered topics:

- New data elements to be included in the traffic and pedestrian collection forms.
- Strategies for measuring overrepresentation of minority drivers.
- Utilization of ITPSS results by local agencies.
- Modifications to annual reports and availability

Green noted the task force, by legislation, is to publish a report every three years. The last report was published in 2022. The next report is due soon. The task force has been meeting since July 2024. Members consist of academics who have studied relevant topics, a professor specializing in policing and racial equity, law enforcement, advocacy, and community organization representatives in addition to the ACLU. During recent meetings, the Task Force focused on utilization of stop data and reports. Law enforcement gave feedback on the analysis and reporting of results. Community views regarding accessibility of data and reports, as well as work the members have done to engage with law enforcement in their communities, were also reviewed. Green commented Thompson had become aware of Connecticut's Racial Profiling Advisory Board which began discussing and researching many of the same topics since 2012. ICJIA chose to spend a couple of meetings reviewing and discussing methods Connecticut utilizes their stop data for individual law enforcement studies as well as public studies.

Thompson reported there are six recommendations approved by the task force.

1. The task force would remain active during the intervening time periods between the statutorily required reporting deadlines. This is currently every three years.
2. Employ multiple scientifically accepted benchmarking and disparity measures to analyze every jurisdiction's traffic and pedestrian stop data.
3. Develop a strategy to provide support to law enforcement agencies considered to have minority over representation within traffic and pedestrian stops.
4. Develop a strategy to provide community advocates and member(s) support in understanding key study results and meaningfully engage local government officials regarding traffic and pedestrian stops results.
5. Assess current practices for disseminating or publishing ITPSS data, including whether the public is adequately informed on the location of results. Educate the public and law enforcement to interpret the results. Assess short-term and long-term remedies for various issues surfaced because of findings. As part of the assessment, consider the role of media and the role of Task Force members in creating public understanding of the ITPSS results.
6. Develop interactive statewide dashboard for local agency leadership to view and detect patterns in individual law enforcement officer or unit stops. Dashboard would only be accessible to agency leadership. It would not be publicly available.

ICJIA will vote on the full report February 20, 2025, and the final report will be published March 1, 2025.

Logan asked if the ICJIA was familiar with the Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability or CCPSA in Chicago and if efforts could be combined with ICJIA. Thompson

answered CCPSA is a civilian oversight agency or board. CCPSA organizes “listening” sessions on traffic stops to create dialogue between community members and other agencies. ICJIA is not currently involved with this program but once the report is adopted, it may be something to consider and determine if their “listening” sessions could be adopted by other cities.

### **Open Discussion**

Logan asked once all recommendations have been received, will the proposals or amendments have to go to legislation or if it will be sent directly to the Governor. Bass-Ehler responded recommendations for internal IDOT policies and procedures will go to internal committees for review, changes, and considerations. Legislative change will have to be taken up by someone in legislature. Davis is a member of legislature and may be interested in taking some of this on as well as others.

Dominguez thanked the Board for its dedication and commitment in continuing to perform this important work in a time in history when the black and immigrant communities are being particularly racially profiled. She added it is essential to do everything to ensure this work continues to protect people from unfair treatment and the elimination of due process in the system. Bass-Ehler and Logan added their agreeance to this sentiment. Logan also shared it would be good to add the stops done under ICE at a federal level but did not know if the board would have access to this THAT information. Bass-Ehler said the topic can be added to the next agenda and Keldermans will have Berberet investigate it.

### **Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

### **New Business**

The next meeting will be moved to May 15 to accommodate possible legislative requirements for Davis or any of the other people in office. If members are unable to make this time, please let Bass-Ehler, Keldermans or Berberet know in advance so quorum can be made.

### **Adjourn**

Logan moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Thompson. The motion to adjourn was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 am.