

**Brown University
Public Safety Oversight Committee**

**Meeting Minutes of
November 20, 2008**

Committee Members in Attendance:

Brenda Allen, Russell Carey, Dan Feinglos, Christopher Harwood, Bruce Holt, Margaret Klawunn, Mark Porter, John Ryan and Edward Von Gerichten (*representing James Green*)

Absent:

Elayna Boucher, Albert Carter, Bochay Drum, James Green, Curtis Harris, Tom Lasater, Steven O'Donnell, James Simmons, Tracey Simmons and Terri-Lynn Thayer

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

The meeting minutes of May 12, 2008 were approved.

Goals and Objectives for 2008-2009:

Russell Carey discussed the goals and objectives for the 2008-2009 academic year. In addition, Russell mentioned that the PSOC committee has been operating quite effectively and the membership serves as a great source of advice and input.

Chief's Report:

•
2008 Campus Crime Report: Chief Porter stated that the increase in the number of officers patrolling the campus area has resulted in a decrease in the number of robberies on public property from sixteen (16) reported in 2006 to five (5) reported in 2007. A campus crime update for August to November 17, 2008 indicated a total of seventeen (17) laptop thefts were reported (14 were stolen from residence halls) in comparison to thirteen (13) laptop thefts reported from August to November 2007. A total of twelve (12) assaults and six (6) robberies were reported between August and November 2008 in comparison to a total of eight (8) assaults and two (2) robberies reported during August and November 2007. The chief reported that between January and November 2008 there was a total of eighty-one (81) laptop thefts reported, a total of thirty-one (31) assaults and a total of ten (10) robberies reported. The 2008 Crime report is posted on the Department of Public Safety website and was also sent to the campus community.

•
Field Stop & Motor Vehicle Stop Data: A review of the Fall Semester Investigatory Field Stop & Motor Vehicle Report for January to October 2008. The Field Stop & Motor Vehicle Stop Data included the total number of Field Stops and Motor Vehicle Stops by race, gender, university affiliation, officer initiated stop or report made to DPS. Based on the report the majority of the stops were made as a result of a report made to DPS. The Category's utilized are standard, and include Asian/Pacific Islander; Black; American Indian / Alaskan Native; White; and Unknown. All persons are also recorded as being perceived as Hispanic or not of Hispanic origin. The Investigatory Stop Data indicated a total of 127 investigatory stops were made with a total of 212 people being identified, of those 77% were identified as White, 18% were identified as Black and 5% were identified as Asian. It

was noted that of the 212 people identified, 6% were entered as being perceived as Hispanic. It was noted that DPS adjusted their policies and practices to eliminate the “unknown” category listing that appeared under Race on their reports. In January 2008, DPS authorized officers to conduct motor vehicle stops of suspicious vehicles and vehicles posing a danger to the community. The chief reported that the policy for motor vehicle stops is going extremely well in terms of deterring crime, and providing officers with the ability to do more in the field. The 2007 Field Stop Data Report is posted on the DPS website and the 2008 Field Stop Data will be posted at the end of the calendar year.

•

Citizens Complaints: There was a review and discussion of the Fall Report on Citizen Complaints for January 2008 to November 2008. A total of five (5) complaints were reported in 2008 in comparison to fifteen (15) civilian complaints received in 2007. It was noted that the Citizens Complaint data for the last three (3) years is posted on the DPS website and will be reviewed and analyzed by the Office of Institutional Diversity. In addition, DPS will continue to track, monitor and post the statistics to the DPS website.

•

Patrol Operations, Staffing and Training: There was a review of DPS Professional Standards Bureau Training Report for January 2008 to November 2008. DPS hired and/or promoted ten (10) new officers who received a total of 3,360 hours of field training in 2008. In addition, DPS officers received 49 hours and 15 minutes of Annual In-Service Training in areas such as Firearms, Use of Force, Pepper Spray, Active Shooter, Diversity, Policy & Procedures, Vehicle Stops, Community Policing, Legal Updates and Emergency Preparedness. Department staff also obtained 150.5 hours of Professional Development Training and a total of 1,327 hours of Specialized Training in areas such as Management Development, First Line Supervisors School, Internet Predators Training, Siren System Training, Grant Writing, Background Investigations, Crime Prevention, Interview and Interrogation, Digital Photography (RI State Crime Lab), IMC Crime Analysis and Administrative Training, Power Phone Re-Certification, Elicitation and Interview Training, Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings and Prevention of and Response to Suicide Bombing Incidents, Threat Assessment and Threatening Behavior on Campus. It was noted that Brown's DPS has one of the most aggressive officer training programs in the State. Russell Carey added that the extent of the training and improvements being made by DPS is very impressive and the review of the reports provides a clear picture of the many improvements being made.

Law Enforcement Technology Initiatives: Chief Porter provided an overview of the following new technology being implemented by the department.

Radio System: Installation of a new 800 Mhz Trunk Radio System has been completed which enables, in addition to higher quality radio communications within the department, interdepartmental communications compatibility with all Providence and Rhode Island public safety first responders, including Providence Police and Fire.

Laptop Computers: Installation of Laptop Computers in DPS Cruisers: allowing Officers to complete reports in their cruiser and the laptops will be installed with campus building floor plans.

CCTV/Exterior Cameras: The installation of new CCTV security cameras includes the

technology to provide higher resolution images, appropriate storage space, and the ability to black-out certain areas as desired. The committee discussed the issue of whether to post warning signs at the site where cameras are installed. It was mentioned that based on prior experience, the warning signage is a deterrent. As part of this initiative, 19 exterior security cameras are being installed in various locations on campus. The project is 90% complete, the expected completion time is in January 2009 at which time the project will go live.

Emergency Call Boxes: Security cameras will be affixed on three (3) to five (5) Emergency Call Boxes.

Communications Center Project: Chief Porter provided a brief update on the progress of the Communication Center Renovation Project.

Community Outreach and Safety Education: The committee reviewed a report prepared by the DPS Community Relations and Outreach Bureau. The report provided an update on the many community outreach efforts conducted by DPS over the past year which included:

○

Cultural Competency Training with the Providence Police Department.

○

Participated in various student meetings such as: minority student panel discussions, student orientation sessions and diversity advisory board meetings.

○

DPS conducted numerous Safety Awareness and Crime Prevention workshops and events including the Fourth Annual DPS Campus Resource Fair, Self-Defense Workshops, Home Burglary Prevention, Building Security and Safety Awareness Forums. In addition, DPS will be participating in the upcoming Habitat 4 Humanity Community Build Project with a Brown Student, and The Helping Hearts "Giving Project" in partnership with the RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence, SOAR Program. The report also included a list of the various informational bulletins, notifications and alerts that continue to be provided to campus community.

Additional Discussion Items:

Chief Porter was asked if there is a way to provide protection from the elements in inclement weather for Sterling security officers patrolling outside details such as the parking garage in the frigid cold. Chief Porter stated that the company is responsible for supplying the appropriate winter outfits and clothing such as snowsuits and hats, and he will ensure that this is being done. In addition, he will explore the idea of portable security enclosure booths or kiosks for security guards. There was a brief discussion regarding Brown's policy and guidelines relating to student protests on campus. It was noted that the policy and guidelines are listed within the Rights and Responsibilities Policy that is posted on the website. Also, it was suggested that a PSOC student member be invited to attend the Campus Life Advisory Board Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Geneva Ferrell