

**REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
DECEMBER 14, 2010
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

PRESENT: Commissioners Richard Epstein, Chairman; Cathy Graves; Evelise Ribeiro (5:50 p.m.); Sandra Trevino; and Richard Buckholz

Chief Frank Limon: Department of Police Services

Michael Wolak: Corporation Counsel

Mike Piscitelli: Department of Traffic and Parking

Jim Travers: Department of Traffic and Parking

OPEN SESSION

Meeting called to order at 5:37 p.m., Richard Epstein, Chairman, presiding.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

Mr. Piscitelli introduced Jim Travers to the Board and indicated Mr. Travers will assume the reporting responsibilities to the Commission in the future. Following the meeting of the Traffic Authority, Messrs. Piscitelli And Travers excused themselves at 6:23 p.m.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Discussion and Approval of Regular Session Minutes of November 9, 2010

- ** **Commissioner Trevino moved approval of the minutes of November 9, 2010**
- ** **Commissioner Graves seconded**
- ** **Voting for: Commissioners Epstein, Graves, Ribeiro and Trevino**
- ** **Abstentions: Commissioner Buckholz**
- ** **Motion passed (4-0-0-1)**

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Frank Limon

Chief Limon distributed copies of his monthly report and the following matters were highlighted:

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- The Chief and several commissioners attended three meetings for Community Dialogue on Creating Community-Police Partnerships at St. Andrews on Shelton Avenue, Wilson Library in the Hill and the Fair Haven library. Community concerns and issues will be analyzed in the future
- National Young Readers Week at Lincoln Bassett – Chief Limon attended this school and read to the class

- The Citizen's Police Academy graduated – Assistant Chief Wheeler attended the graduation
- Chief Limon attended the Fair Haven Re-Entry Resource Fair
- The Ambassador program is underway involving a partnership between the US Attorney's office, the NHPD and the New Haven clergy
- The Holiday Show at SCSU was a huge success, providing hundreds and hundreds of toys to the city's children

CRIME UPDATE

- Chief Limon distributed the latest unaudited report. There has been an increase in property and motor vehicle thefts

TRAINING

- Assistant Chief Melendez attended the HAPCOA (Hispanic-American Police Command Officer Association) conference in Texas
- In-Service Training will resume in February
- During the month of January all sworn personnel will go through an indoor firing range training program of shoot/don't shoot
- Lieutenants Helliger, Reddish, Sweeney and Dadio attended the Scenario Based Executive Level Training in Meriden
- Lieutenant Dadio is attending the Women in Law Enforcement Conference at Roger Williams University in Rhode Island

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Historical Badge press event is scheduled for 2/21 at 3-3:45 p.m. Officers can wear the commemorative badge for a period of one year

MISCELLANEOUS

- The "Pat Down for Holly" was a great success
- A few detectives, a sergeant and a lieutenant received medals of meritorious service from the Connecticut State Police for their outstanding work in the Annie Le homicide investigation
- Several officers were presented awards from the US Attorney's office for their work in the DEA and FBI task forces. Chief Limon will forward the names of the officers to the commissioners via e-mail
- Lieutenant John Valeca will attend the FBI academy for 3 months in Quantico, VA
- The Chief will have a follow-up meeting with Barbara Tinney and staff from the Street Outreach Workers
- The Chief distributed a report on the use of Tasers
- The Department is still working on implementing the General Orders. A report will be given to the commissioners at the January 2011 meeting

CORPORATION COUNSEL REPORT**Michael Wolak, Esq.**

Deferred to Executive

INTERNAL AFFAIRS REPORT**Captain Denise Blanchard**

Deferred to Executive Session.

REPORT CONCERNING STREET OUTREACH WORKERS**Barbara Tinney and Shirley Ellis**

Ms. Tinney and Ms. Ellis gave an extensive presentation to the Board. They discussed the goals of the organization, the strategies, the roles and responsibilities of the workers, youth risk factors, conflict resolution measures, demographics, community mobilization and community based resources and perceived results for the organization. The Commission requested future meetings highlighting success stories with testimonials where available.

RETIREMENTS

There were no retirements

RESIGNATIONS

There were no resignations

RECRUITMENT/SELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT**Commissioner Buckholz**

Commissioner Buckholz reported that the committee met once again, and Commissioner Buckholz met with human resources on December 1, 2010. They will be working on a list of possible questions that the commissioners will be able to ask during interviews. The committee will meet again in January 2011.

Scott Nabel, human resources, said the feedback they have been getting indicates the Commission would likely want to do interviews at the end of the process.

EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE REPORT**Commissioner Graves**

- The NHPD will be installing a fully automated phone system
- The police and fire departments will be purchasing a new scheduling system
- The substations will be connected to the Internet in the near future and will subsequently be connected to the in-house computer system
- It is anticipated the vacant assistant chief's position will be filled in the first quarter of 2011
- The off-sight narcotics office on Wall Street now has telephone and Internet access
- Commissioner Graves is confirmed to the FBI Citizen's Academy next spring

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Ribeiro

Commissioner Ribeiro delivered the asset forfeiture report. The available budget for federal asset forfeiture is \$42,000, and the Department has used 98 percent of the budget. The state asset forfeiture report will be delivered in January 2011. Asset forfeiture money is used for funding training and speakers for training programs and to buy equipment. The Department was short on the capital budget to purchase a vehicle, so \$6000 was taken from the asset forfeiture funds.

In regards to the overall budget, the overtime budget is excessive. Chief Limon said the plan will be to continue to monitor the use of overtime. The scheduling software will become a valuable tool in helping the Department manage their overtime. In the future, overtime will have to be approved by a superior officer.

CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Commissioner Ribeiro

The CRB met the previous week. The CRB are reading open and closed cases, and they are in the process of restructuring the panels in January.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Request for Civil Service Reinstatement (Records Clerk Yim Russo)
- ** **Commissioner Ribeiro moved approval**
- ** **Commissioner Graves seconded**
- ** **Voting for: Commissioners Epstein, Ribeiro, Graves, Trevino and Buckholz**
- ** **Motion passed (5-0-0)**

CASES TO ASSIGN

111-09-C – Assigned to Commissioner Graves

CASES TO RETURN

082-10-C - Commissioner Graves – returned for further action by the Commission
 007-10-I - Commissioner Epstein – returned to the chief to speak to the officers involved
 047-10-C - Commissioner Epstein – returned for no further action

- The next Regular Session Meeting will be Tuesday, January 11, 2011, at 6 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ** **Commissioner Ribeiro moved to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel and pending litigation**
- ** **Commissioner Graves seconded**
- ** **Voting for: Commissioners Epstein, Graves, Ribeiro, Trevino and Buckholz**
- ** **Motion passed (5-0-0)**

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:38 p.m.

- ** Commissioner Ribeiro moved to exit Executive Session**
 - ** Commissioner Graves seconded**
 - ** Voting for: Commissioners Epstein, Graves, Ribeiro, Trevino and Buckholz**
 - ** Motion passed (5-0-0)**
- The Board exited Executive Session at 8 p.m.**

ADJOURNMENT

- ** Commissioner Graves moved adjournment**
- ** Commissioner Trevino seconded**
- ** Voting for: Commissioners Epstein, Graves, Ribeiro, Trevino and Buckholz**
- ** Motion passed (5-0-0)**

The Board adjourned the Regular Session Meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda O'Neill