**Community Policing and Behavioral Health Advisory Council**

**May 14, 2025, 10:00-11:00 AM**

**Virtual (Zoom)**

**Meeting Minutes**

Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., a quorum was determined with the following in attendance: Co-Chairs Eliza Lake/EOHHS & Angela Davis/EOPSS, Matthew Broderick, Keesha LaTulippe, Rick Rathbun, Jacqueline Hubbard, Robert Ortiz, Amie Sica, Chief Robert Pistone. Guests included Gabriel Cohen and Phillip Duarte.

The Co-Chairs welcomed attendees, introduced themselves, and invited members to introduce themselves as well.

Gabriel Cohen from the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) administered the oath of office to all members. Phillip Duarte from EOHHS served as a witness to the swearing in of the members. Gabe provided a brief overview of the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law (OML). For the purpose of this Council with 11 members, a minimum of six (6) members must be present for a quorum. All votes must be taken by a roll call. Any questions should be addressed to the Attorney General’s office or council staff. OML certification and materials can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/complete-public-body-member-certification>

Gabriel then reviewed the Conflict of Interest Law. All state, county, and municipal employees are subject to this law, and CPBHAC members, by the very nature of their service on a state council, are also considered “special state employees”. The online conflict-of-interest training is a requirement for appointed council members within 30 days of being appointed (see link below). Upon completion of the training for members that have not already completed it, they will sign a certificate of completion and return it to Beverly Burgos and/or the Co-Chairs.

A link to the Conflict of Interest Law and Training can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/complete-conflict-of-interest-law-education-requirements>

Members were encouraged to seek advice regarding their potential conflict of interest in future matters directly with the State Ethics Commission.

Chair Lake presented a review to level-set an understanding of the Council’s statutory charges and purpose. Discussion and questions were encouraged by the Chairs.  A question was raised asking if the 911 and Crisis reports could be shared with colleagues, Chair Lake affirmed they could be shared as they are both public facing documents shared online.  Chair Davis suggested we could share the hyperlinks for those reports with the group. Chair Lake suggested that there may be components of the language in the report that suggest the Council should take certain action but we are statutorily limited in our scope and purpose.  Chief Pistone suggested the MA Chiefs of Police quarterly meetings may be a good vehicle for communication.

Both the 911 and Crisis Study may be found here:

[https://www.mass.gov/info-details/community-policing-and-behavioral-health-advisory-council-meeting-materials](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/community-policing-and-behavioral-health-advisory-council-meeting-materials?_gl=1*zbarad*_ga*MTUxODM2NDk2OC4xNjg5MjUwODUz*_ga_MCLPEGW7WM*czE3NDcyNDQ3NDEkbzU3JGcxJHQxNzQ3MjQ1MjMzJGowJGwwJGgw)

Chair Davis invited public comment, Joanne Barros thanked the group for the invitation and looks forward to supporting the work of the council and presentations as needed.

The Council was reminded that any information to be conveyed to the entire body should come from the Chairs or Beverly, as they are considered part of the public record.

A motion was made and accepted to adjourn, roll was taken and meeting ended at 10:54 a.m.

*Upcoming Council Meeting Items:*

* *Update from the Center on DMH jail/arrest diversion initiative*
* *Review and approval of minutes*