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| Seal2**CHARLES D. BAKER** Governor**KARYN E. POLITO** Lt. Governor | The Commonwealth of MassachusettsExecutive Office of Public Safety and SecurityOne Ashburton Place, Room 2133Boston, Massachusetts 02108Tel: (617) 727-7775TTY Tel: (617) 727-6618Fax: (617) 727-4764www.mass.gov/eopss  | **TERRENCE M. REIDY**Secretary**ANGELA F.F. DAVIS**Asst. Undersecretary |

**Law Enforcement Body Camera Task Force Meeting**

**Date:** February 8, 2022

**Time:** 9:30 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.

**Where:** Microsoft Teams (Virtual Meeting)

**Call to order & attendance, 9:30 a.m. to 9:35 a.m.**

The meeting was called to order once a quorum of members was established at 9:35 a.m.

*Members Present:*

Chair Angela F.F. Davis

Vice- Chair Cpt. Steven McCarthy

Attorney Alyssa Hackett

DA Michael O’Keefe

Deborah Batista

Attorney Emiliano Falcon-Morano

Attorney Grace Lee

Attorney Hillary Faber

Officer Israuel Marrero

Attorney Rose King

Sgt. Timothy King

Attorney Stephen Carley

Attorney Steven J. Brooks

Tim Mitchell

*Members Absent:*

Mayor Sarno

Chief Thomas Fowler

Chief Steve Sargent

Fred Taylor

Sheriff Patrick McDermott

Officer Carmelo Ayuso

Officer Kaleigh Marshall

Officer Joseph Santiago

**Vote to approve 1.18.22 minutes, 9:35 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.**

DA O’Keefe made a motion to accept the minutes, the motion was seconded. The motion carried and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**Public Comment Section, 9:40 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**

Anne-Marie Grant, a member of the public, stated that high fees for redaction make accountability unattainable regarding body worn cameras. Ms. Grant also stated that when officers un-holster their weapon it should trigger the body camera to begin recording.

J. Root, a member of the public, entered comments agreeing that body cameras should begin recording once weapon is un-holstered. They also stated that there should be a mandatory placement rule regulating that all body worn cameras should be placed in the center of the chest.

Daniel Purdy, a member of the public, stated that body worn cameras hold officers accountable and there should be a law in place mandating that all officers wear a body camera. Further explaining that members of the public record interactions with police officers due to the lack of accountability from the police departments.

**Secretary of State Presentation, Q/A, 10:00 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.**

Due to scheduling conflicts a representative of the Secretary of State’s office was unable to attend.

Atty. Suleyken Walker and Chair Davis provided the Task Force with an overview of their conversation with the Secretary of State’s office. The language that was created establishing the Task Force allows the Task Force to propose changes in some instances. There are also trainings that are offered to departments as well as waivers and petitions. Chair Davis noted that the Secretary of State’s office encourages members with questions to refer to on-line resources

**A Guide to Public Records Law:** <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/pre/prepdf/guide.pdf>

as well as

**Review appeal determinations online:** <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/appealsweb/appealsstatus.aspx>

Cpt. McCarthy shared the Secretary of State’s retention schedule with the Task Force. He also stated that the cost issues related to redaction are more of an issue for smaller departments and they may have to look to city and town counsel. He also suggested that one option was for the Task Force to recommend creating a method by which redaction can be done through regionalization because smaller departments could share resources.

**Subcommittee updates, 10:40 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.**

Chair Davis thanked all subcommittee members for their continuous work and commitment and dedication to completing drafts.

The Drafting Subcommittee held its first meeting on February 1st, they discussed the timeframe and schedule.

The Technology and Procurement Subcommittee has submitted their draft to the Drafting Subcommittee.

Privacy and Record Keeping draft is currently being reviewed by the subcommittee members; the deadline for subcommittee members to review is February 8th.

Training, Supervision, and Discipline is still being drafted, with the Training recommendations completed and submitted to the Drafting Subcommittee.

Atty. Rose King shared her gratitude to Cpt. McCarthy for his work on the drafting recommendations for Training, Supervision, and Discipline Subcommittee. Officer Israuel Marrero also expressed his appreciation for Cpt. McCarthy’s work.

Chair Davis informed the Task Force that the Drafting Subcommittee will make the draft available for public input, as well as input and edits from the entire Task Force. The hope is that the public will submit feedback for the Task Force to consider. However, the Task Force may continue to submit input and feedback throughout the drafting process.

**Topics not reasonably anticipated, 10:50 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

Officer Marrero responded to members of the public regarding body cameras activating once a weapon is unholstered, that he is unsure if that capability exists. Cpt. McCarthy responded that some vendors do have this technology, but it is not universally available at this time. This is similar technology to what the state currently uses to turn on dash camera footage when lights are enabled in police vehicles.

DA O’Keefe also responded to comments submitted by the public regarding the statement that police officers are resistant to accountability. DA O’Keefe does not want the blanket statement to tarnish the many Officers that are encouraging the use of body cameras within departments. Officer Marrero added that if there is resistance it is from the labor unions as some consider it a change in working conditions and feel that that is an issue that should be bargained and discussed.

Chair Davis allowed member of the public Daniel Purdy to further comment stating that he does not want to leave the impression that all Officers are not willing to support transparency, but requested that the Task Force consider as in every profession, there is a mix.

Chair Davis allowed member of the public Anne-Marie Grant to further comment stating that the Boston Police Department resisted body cameras so the Task Force must do the work of the public and implement the body camera mandate.

**Adjournment, 11:00 a.m**.

There was a motion to adjourn by Cpt. McCarthy. Sgt. Tim King seconded the motion. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15am.