

PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE NOTES

April 12, 2023

9:30 AM via Microsoft Teams

Committee Chair, Dr. Paul Bellair, opened the meeting by reviewing the proposed agenda. Director Monica Moll then introduced two guests who work for PRADCO. PRADCO is the company that conducts psychological assessments of police officer applicants for OSUPD. Director Moll explained that this step occurs near the end of the police officer selection process. The guests reviewed the various services PRADCO provides, and said the company works with about 210 public safety agencies. They gave an overview of their pre-employment psychological assessment process for OSUPD police officer applicants, describing the methods and instruments they use to assess each applicant and create a final report on them for review by Chief Spears-McNatt. They said if the applicant is ultimately hired as a police officer, the report can also be used as a coaching/training tool because it provides some insight into the employee's strengths and areas for further development. The guests then answered questions from committee members. More information about PRADCO can be found at the link below.

<https://www.pradco.com/safety-forces-assessments/>

Director Moll then moved on to the next item on the agenda. She summarized Ohio laws regarding the possession of firearms on university property, as well as university policies on that subject that pertain to students and employees. She and the committee discussed the situation that occurred on 03/29/23 when an open-carry activist walked up and down High Street on campus carrying a large flag with a rifle slung on his back. He and another man appeared to be video recording passersby as well. Director Moll explained that the Ohio State University Police Division quickly became aware of this lawful demonstration occurring along High Street and, in partnership with the Columbus Division of Police (CPD), was monitoring the individual. CPD monitored the individual both before and after he was in the campus area. With police in the area and actively monitoring, there was not an imminent threat to safety, and therefore a Buckeye Alert message was not sent. She said the Buckeye Alert System is used when the campus community needs to take immediate action to remain safe, not as a general awareness tool. However, Director Moll said she does recognize the fear and anxiety something like this causes for some in our community, so communications staff at the university are exploring additional measures for use in the future to provide a general awareness for matters like this as they happen. She said every situation is different, and the police and public safety team will evaluate each incident in real-time based on the information they have at the time. Where there is no imminent threat to safety, they will collaborate with communications staff to determine what, when and how to communicate information for general awareness. Information about laws and policies pertaining to firearms on university property can be found at the link below under the heading "Concealed and Open Carry."

<https://omc.osu.edu/key-issues>

Director Moll reviewed upcoming spring events. She said the spring football game would kick off at noon in Ohio Stadium on Saturday, April 15. She also said an off-campus event called "Spring Block" would be occurring that same Saturday, which is basically house-parties in the University District. She said the Columbus Division of Police planned to have a large contingent of extra officers in the area to encourage responsible behavior and ensure the safety of students and other residents. Chief Kimberly Spears-

McNatt said the senior bar crawl would occur on Tuesday, May 2, and commencement would occur on Sunday, May 7. Director Moll said a message would also be sent to all students this week to provide advice for partying smart and to make students aware of the consequences for violating university policies.

Lieutenant Joanna Shaul explained that all police officers in OSUPD recently completed the first two hours of the diversity training planned for 2023. This year's training builds off of last year's module and was developed with the assistance of Dr. Simone Drake, a member of this committee. Lt. Shaul said the training has been generally well-received and has prompted good discussion among officers.

Next, Director Moll informed committee members of the resolution that was approved by USG's outgoing General Assembly regarding policing. She said the resolution focused mostly on the Columbus Division of Police and the university's relationship with CPD. Director Moll reviewed for committee members the jurisdictional boundaries of each agency and described the mutual aid agreement that OSU has with the City of Columbus regarding assistance between OSUPD and CPD. She explained that the main purpose of the current mutual aid agreement is to allow OSUPD officers more authority in limited circumstances to assist CPD off-campus, outside of OSUPD's normal jurisdiction. Director Moll said back in 2011 and 2012, USG leadership at that time actually advocated for the provisions in the current agreement. She said OSUPD's main priority will always be the safety of persons on property owned by OSU, which is their primary jurisdiction, but the mutual aid agreement allows OSUPD to assist CPD off-campus in a variety of ways if staffing permits. Director Moll said she and Chief Spears-McNatt would work with incoming USG leaders to explain the mutual aid agreement and make sure student leaders have an opportunity to connect with CPD leadership about their concerns if they would like to. She also said this committee (PSAC) would welcome additional members representing USG for next academic year. A discussion occurred about the differences between large municipal agencies and smaller university police agencies. An old article in the Lantern from 2012 about the mutual aid agreement can be found at the link below.

<https://www.thelantern.com/2012/05/ohio-state-police-columbus-police-mutual-aid-agreement-advances/>

Finally, Director Moll reminded committee members that an optional summer meeting of PSAC would occur on Wednesday, July 12 at 9:30 a.m. via Teams.

Attendees: Amy Young, Paul Bellair, Njeri Kagotho, Amy Hurley, Abigail Berk, Madison Mason, Marek Greer, Jorge Ernesto Clavo Abbass, Kirby Bell, Jeffrey McKee, Monica Moll, Kimberly Spears-McNatt, Dennis Jeffrey, Eric Whiteside, Brandon Yankanin, Claudia Bonham, Robert Armstrong, Doug McGrew, Satoru Persons, Adam Featherling, Joanna Shaul, Bruce Allen, Dan Hedman

PSAC Chat Notes 04.12.23

[Wednesday 10:44 AM] Hedman, Dan
Wilkinson, Deanna <wilkinson.110@osu.edu>

[Wednesday 10:45 AM] Berk, Abigail L.
Thank you!