

**Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority**

**Minutes**

**Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Data Use and Collection Task Force Meeting**

Pursuant to section (h-1) of the Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Statistical Study 625 ILCS 5/11-212 (h-1), P.A. 101-24

Wednesday, September 23, 2020

1:30pm – 3:00pm

Location

Via WebEx Video Conference/Teleconference

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

After a brief introduction to the meeting, Acting Research Director Jessica Reichert at ICJIA asked General Counsel Dawn English at ICJIA to call the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and call the roll. Quorum was achieved.

**Attendees**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Task Force Member Attendance** | **Present** | **Telephone** | **Absent** |
| Assistant Professor Felipe Goncalves, UCLA | X |  |  |
| Professor Jack McDevitt, Northeastern University | X |  |  |
| Colonel Isaiah Vega, Illinois State Police | X |  |  |
| Deputy Chief Sabih Khan, Chicago Police Department | X |  |  |
| Chief Steven Stelter, Illinois Assoc. of Chiefs of Police | X |  |  |
| Director Jim Kaitschuk, Illinois Sheriffs’ Assoc. | X |  |  |
| Second Vice President Dan Gorman, Chicago FOP | X |  |  |
| Second Vice President Keith Turney, Illinois FOP | X |  |  |
| Director Khadine Bennett, ACLU | X |  |  |
| President Teresa Haley, Springfield NAACP |  | X |  |
| Senior Counsel Fred Tsao, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights | X |  |  |
| Director Esther Franco-Payne, Cabrini Green Legal Aid |  |  | X |

**Also present were:**

Jessica Reichert – ICJIA Acting Research Director

Charise Williams – ICJIA Acting Executive Director

Dawn English – ICJIA General Counsel

Emilee Green – ICJIA Research Analyst

Jessica Keldermans, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)

Nayak Polissar, The Mountain-Whisper-Light Statistics

Diamond Jackson, Springfield NAACP

Lindsay Nicholas, Cabrini Green Legal Aid

**Welcoming Remarks**

Ms. Williams thanked all members of the Task Force for attending the virtual meeting. She then turned the meeting over to Ms. Reichert for some background information on the Task Force and legislation.

**Legislation and Task Force Overview**

Ms. Reichert began by introducing the Illinois Public Act 101 – 0024, 625 ILCS 5/11 - 212 as a reference to use for everyone on the Task Force. She also summarized the two important parts of legislation which are the Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Statistical Study and Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Data Use and Collection Task Force.

Ms. Reichert goes on to describe both ICJIA and member roles in the Task Force and explains that during the next meeting the Task Force members will be asked to vote and nominate on a Task Force chairperson. Ms. Reichert turns the meeting over to Ms. Green for a brief traffic stop overview.

**Traffic Stop Overview**

Ms. Green provides an overview on the research of traffic stops across the country with Illinois being the main focus. She examined the extent and cause of racial disparities present in traffic stops.

Ms. Green concludes by stating that some research has found evidence of racial bias in traffic stops and follow-up behavior, and the Task Force will review the methods used in measuring racial bias in the 2019 IDOT report. She then turned the meeting over to Ms. Keldermans.

Jim Kaitschuk joined the meeting at approximately 1:55 p.m.

**Illinois Traffic Stop Data and Reporting**

Ms. Keldermans introduces IDOT’s history of involvement with the Traffic and Pedestrian Stop study. She then goes on to talk about the multiple ways in which law enforcement agencies can enter their traffic stop data into IDOT’s submission system.

Ms. Keldermans talks about a previous Traffic and Pedestrian Stop study report and how the data and other contents are communicated between IDOT and other agencies and then ultimately finalized and published on the IDOT website.

Question was asked for Ms. Keldermans of whether driver rate is filled out based on officer’s judgement or based on driver’s license. Ms. Keldermans stated that it was most likely based on officer’s discretion. Dr. Polissar confirmed that this is correct.

Dr. Goncalves asked a follow-up question about whether IDOT also maintains record on the driver’s license number of the individual. Ms. Keldermans said that they do not for the stop study.

Dr. Polissar shows a brief presentation on statistical analysis of traffic stop data. He goes on to explain some of his own data from The Mountain-Whisper-Light Statistics, which shows quite a bit of diversity in traffic and pedestrian stops of minority groups as of 2019. In addition, Dr. Polissar states how important it is for all law enforcement agencies to participate in the submission of their traffic and pedestrian stop data in order for IDOT and other research organizations to more effectively be able to pinpoint racial profiling instances in these contexts.

Dr. Goncalves asks if these traffic and pedestrian stop ratios had been calculated for specific age groups (young people), and that this might lead age distribution to show variation across races. Dr. Polissar states that this has not been looked at specifically, and it will be considered for future reports.

Dr. Goncalves also asks Dr. Polissar if he has a sense of what departments are having significant positive ratios, and if it is departments across the board or some specific share of departments explaining this. Dr. Polissar says that his team has not tallied that up.

Dr. McDevitt asks if there is a floor for how many cases (when broken down into individual jurisdictions) that you would calculate your ratio based on. Dr. Polissar says that all the information was taken and therefore this can be calculated.

Dr. McDevitt adds that census data are all inaccurate and probably the best measures are to look at multiple measures of disparity. He finished by stating that these data on racial disparities will never fully tell what is in the mind of a given officer, but social sciences tells us that patterns do reflect behavior.

Ms. Bennett thanks this Task Force for coming together and for their contributing work.

**Next Steps**

Ms. Reichert states the date of the next meeting which will be on December 16th. She asks that everyone in the Task Force send their bios to Ms. Green.

For the next meeting, Ms. Reichert suggests that everyone thinks about some questions that they would like future data to answer.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Adjournment**

Ms. English called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Stelter moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. McDevitt. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.