

## **Metro East Police District Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes**

East St. Louis Sr. High School  
4901 State Street, East St. Louis, IL 62205

**Friday, December 15, 2017**

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| <b>Note Taker:</b> | Tamara Vaughn-Walker, St. Clair County State's Attorney Office |
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#### **Call to Order**

Mr. Calvin Dye Sr. called the Metro East Police District Commission meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

#### **Invocation**

Mr. Johnny Scott opened the meeting with a prayer.

#### **Roll Call**

Attendees: Brendan Kelly, St. Clair County State's Attorney's Office; Calvin Dye, Sr., St. Clair County Coroner's Office; Jerry Simon, East St. Louis Police Department; John Baricevic, East St. Louis City Attorney; Darlene Jones, Violence Prevention Center Southwestern Illinois; Lena Lang, Violence Prevention Center Southwestern Illinois; Rob Scott, IL FOP Labor Council; David Clark, Alorton Police Department; Hon. Annette Eckert (Ret.), Lindenwood University; David Hayes, SILEC; Rick Watson, St. Clair County Sheriff's Department; Alonso Byrd, East Side Aligned; Johnny Scott, East St. Louis; Thomas Jeffery, City of Brooklyn; Kristen Eng, Hoyleton Youth & Family Services; Antoinette Culp, Concerned Citizens of Precinct #12; Natavia Sanders, Bridge Vision; Marie Franklin, Concerned Citizens of Precinct #12; Hon. George Timberlake, Illinois Association of Juvenile Justice Councils

#### **Approval of Minutes**

(No quorum on Friday, November 17, 2017)

#### **Chairman's Overview – Mr. Calvin Dye Sr.**

Mr. Dye informed the body that Attorney John Baricevic will be joining the Metro East Police District Commission. He announced that in January 2018, Alorton will be the monthly sponsor (light refreshments). Mr. Dye acknowledged the following meeting guests:

- Ms. Darlene Jones and Ms. Lena Lang of the Violence Prevention Center of Southwestern IL
- Ms. Kristen Eng, Hoyleton Youth & Family Services

During the October 2017 Metro East Police District Commission meeting, the St. Clair County Coroner's Office and the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department agreed to purchase spike strips for Brooklyn's Police Department. Mr. Dye encouraged Brooklyn's Police Department to revisit the Metro East Police District Police Commission policies and other documentation about stop procedures. There was also a discussion about professional development trainings being offered by SILEC and US Attorney's Office for additional support. During the discussion, Brooklyn's officers were encouraged to contact Cahokia's Police Department about the procedures they comply with.

#### **David Hayes of SILEC**

Mr. Hayes of SILEC distributed copies training hours received by Alorton, Brooklyn, East St. Louis and Washington Park's Police Department from October 27, 2017 – December 14, 2017. There was a discussion about trainings that will be certified by SILEC.

#### **Committee Reports**

## **Resource Committee:**

### **Brooklyn Committee Report:**

## **COMMISSION ACTION:**

### **Police Chief's Reports**

#### **East St. Louis Police Department**

Chief Simon reported that a new dispatching system will be implemented effective January 1, 2018. East St. Louis, Brooklyn, Washington Park and Cahokia will share a centralized call-center.

Chief Simon added that East St. Louis and Washington Park Police Departments conducted 29 compliance checks. He added during the compliance checks, individuals on probation were provided with community resources. He also reported seizing a gun and drugs during a compliance check.

#### **Other Business**

In October 2017, the Metro East Police District Commission asked St. Clair County State's Attorney to write a letter to East St. Louis Mayor Emeka Jackson-Hicks about issues affecting police officers and the city. There was a discussion about the city's ability to hire more police officers to keep the public safe.

Other items discussed:

- Background checks and credibility of law enforcement officers
- Department of Justice Diagnostic Center (dispatch centers)
- Policies for Illinois State Police
- Focused Deterrence (Probation/Parole)
- DOJ Grants & Technical Assistance
- SILEC Upcoming Trainings

#### **New Business**

Ms. Darlene Jones and Ms. Lena Lang of the [Violence Prevention Center](#) spoke to the Commission about establishing a partnership to support victims of domestic violence during calls or arrests. The agency is following a best practice that was implemented by the [Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence](#).

Ms. Jones added the reason for establishing this partnership is to:

- Save lives
- Increase access and support for individuals and families impacted by Domestic Violence
- Reduce the homicide rates of victims involved in abusive homes/relationships

Ms. Jones presented a one-page assessment sheet that could be referred to the agency to assist victims with seeking shelter, establishing a safety plan and identifying other risk factors. The agency also provides trainings to law enforcement officers to raise awareness. Ms. Vaughn-Walker asked if the agency provides trainings to School Resource Officers and educators to link more families to their services. The agency is willing to facilitate schools and support staff.

**Public Comments**

Ms. Natavia Sanders of Bridge Vision made comments urging the Commission to get more input from residents and community stakeholders to improve communication gaps.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Dye adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

**Next Meeting: Friday, January 26, 2018 at East St. Louis Sr. High School @ 9:00 a.m.**