

THE PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON 21ST CENTURY POLICING

Minutes from the Listening Session on the Future of Community Policing

**Ronald Reagan Building
Horizon Room
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20004
February 24, 2015
9:00 a.m. EST**

Attendance

Task Force Members: Charles Ramsey, Laurie Robinson, Cedric L. Alexander, Jose Lopez, Tracey L. Meares, Brittany Packnett, Susan Lee Rahr, Sean Michael Smoot, Bryan Stevenson, Roberto Villaseñor.

Staff and Agency Personnel: Ronald Davis, Darrel Stephens, Steven Rickman, Melanca Clark, Katherine McQuay, Charlotte Grzebien, Deborah Spence, Laurel Matthews, Silas Darden, Michael Franko, Jennifer Rosenberger, Shannon Long, James Copple, Colleen Copple, Jessica Drake, Jason Drake, Letitia Harmon, Steven Minson

Invited Witnesses:

Philip Goff, Jim McDonnell, Daniel Nagin, Lawrence Sherman, Jeremy Travis

Welcome and Opening Statements

Ronald Davis, Executive Director of the task force and Director of the COPS Office, opened the listening session of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing at 9:00 a.m.

The co-chairs, Laurie Robinson and Charles Ramsey, welcomed everyone to this seventh and last panel on the Future of Community Policing.

They were followed by opening statements by each of the task force members in alphabetical order. Each introduced themselves for the audience.

Director Davis thanked support staff, spoke about the process of the last 90 days, and turned the session over to the co-chairs.

Panel One—Future of Community Policing

Each panelist gave a five-minute presentation and answered questions from task force members.

Philip Goff spoke about using social science in policing to solve problems. He encouraged a national database and expanded technical assistance for police departments.

THE PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON 21ST CENTURY POLICING

Jim McDonnell spoke about the Los Angeles County Jail System and changes he would like to see take place. He encouraged federal support for new treatment facilities, not jails. Jails and prisons are currently serving as mental health facilities, which they are not prepared to do.

Daniel Nagin said crime prevention, rather than arrests, was paramount to good policing. Punishment is costly, so it is better to prevent. Citizen complaints should be taken seriously, and there should be an effort to develop relationships of trust within the community.

Lawrence Sherman spoke about the difference between police in the United Kingdom and the United States. Police in the United Kingdom de-escalate, rarely kill, and are rarely killed. He recommended a national college of policing to certify chiefs and that a national register of those fired from law enforcement should be created and made widely available.

Jeremy Travis said above all, education matters. The United States needs national cohesion in talking about leadership. When there is an incident involving race and use of force, White America talks about the facts of the incident and if it were legally justifiable. Black America talks about history. Policing needs to start bringing history into the conversation.

Concluding Remarks

At the end of the audience comment period, each of the task force members took a few minutes to thank all the presenters and reflect on the process of recording and deliberating the recommendations of the past 90 days. They spoke in reverse alphabetical order, concluding with the co-chairs.

Executive Director Ronald Davis then thanked everyone for attending. He commented that in the last 90 days, minds had been changed and stereotypes destroyed.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00 a.m. EST.

Minutes Certified By Co-Chairs: 4/24/2015