



VCJC Professional Regulation Subcommittee Agenda Meeting Minutes December 13 (10-11:30)

Meeting Date and Time: Monday, December 13, 2021 10:00AM – 11:30AM

Meeting Location: This meeting was via Microsoft Teams.

Voting Members Present: Trevor Whipple, Karen Tronsgard-Scott, Christopher Brickell, Shawn Pratt, Karim Chapman

Others in Attendance: Megan Campbell, Lindsay Thivierge

Call to Order 10:03AM

Additions or Deletions to the Agenda: None

Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve meeting minutes from 12/6 Karim Chapman, 2nd by Karen Tronsgard-Scott, all in favor.

Executive Session: Motion to enter executive session to review of Pending Unprofessional Conduct Complaints and Investigations (Confidential), and legal counsel that that if made public would put the professional regulation subcommittee at a substantial disadvantage (Confidential) made by Trevor Whipple with direction to include Lindsay Thivierge , Megan Campbell and Heather Simons. Second by Karen Tronsgard-Scott . All in favor to enter executive session.

Vote on Cases from Executive Session (5 out of 5 voting members)

2020V7X—Chris Brickell motion for finding Category B violation. Second by Karen Tronsgard-Scott

Vote: Category B violation 5/5 .

General Discussion: *Karen Tronsgard-Scott* presented a slide deck that was originally a research project that began with the Council of State Government looking into incarcerated individuals and monetary impacts. There was also an issue of traffic stop race data showing that BIPOC community members are stopped and searched more. The original thought was that the BIPOC community being stopped by police were from out-of-state. That thought was challenged and so it was researched in-depth. The findings showed that law enforcement is infused with white supremacy and racism. This information is offered so that we can do better and confront the reality head on and the impact this has on BIPOC Vermonters.

The story of “out of state” means that BIPOC Vermonters are not seen as true Vermonters. The study showed that there is no data showing a difference .

One surprising fact was that jail sentences for members of the BIPOC community are not longer than white people. It does show that the system is biased at every step. Although it is said that resources do not need to be BIPOC specific because resources are for all Vermonters, is not true. White is the dominating race and very few services are offered for BIPOC.

Chris Brickell: The sad reality is that law enforcement is just the top of the iceberg and it continues on throughout the system. The out of state narrative adds to the perception that it starts with law enforcement. If Law



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enforcement officers change their narrative when they are speaking to the press then perhaps we can change the course of outcomes.

Karim Chapman: Historically and systemically everything is messed up, we are so used to just putting a Band-Aid on things and hoping that will fix it, but there is so much trauma.

We each have to do what we can do to change that in hopes that it will cause a ripple effect.

There are some people that are inherently evil and they will do what they are going to do. We have to think how we are going to effect the people on our left and on our right. Individualism matters.

Providing this type of information means a lot and validates but we still have a lot to do. I am happy and honored to be on this call, this is a hard conversation to have.

Shawn Pratt: The validation you bring to this issue (article in the newspaper brought up at a previous meeting) and the situation has grown even more.

Open conversation: Where do people get the information that someone is an outsider or gang members or will cause damage or violence just because they look different? It does so much damage, people act on that information.

Look at culture we are trying to effect you can see a white man walking down the street with a rifle and people will not question it in Vermont thinking they are a hunter. But, if an African American male with his hat backwards and saggy pants people think they are up to no good. If an African American male were walking down the street with a rifle they would definitely be stopped and viewed as an outsider who is up to no good, not a hunter.

We do the work every day and we have to continue doing the work for the greater good.

Recommendation to watch the movie *American Skin*

With Chris leaving as chair we need another person on the committee. It was agreed that a certified officer would be valuable in the committee to offer perspective from a current law enforcement officer.

No Public Comment

Motion to Adjourn Karim Chapman, 2nd by Trevor Whipple

Vote for adjournment: 5/5

Meeting adjourned