Assessor Update
August 15, 2016

Last week OCJS introduced new forms to be used for certification with the Ohio Collaborative. The new forms are stream-lined and remove a great deal of redundancy, however, the new forms have produced some questions:

1. **If agencies are prepared to send in their compliance documentation using the old format/forms, can they still do so or do they need to resubmit with new forms?** Agencies that are ready to send in their self-certification can use the older format and forms if that is how they have prepared the submission.

2. **The labeling appears to have been changed?** There are still just two standards at this time. Use of Force including Use of Deadly Force, and Hiring and Recruiting. However, the recent examples supplied by OCJS do show a slight change in how the standards are shown:

STANDARD 8.2015.1 Use of Force/Deadly Force

The agency maintains a use of force/deadly force written directive that includes:

☐ a. policy statements in support of the Ohio Collaborative guiding principles;

☐ b. when a written report shall be conducted;

☒ c. investigation/report reviews for policy compliance; and

☐ d. annual read and sign and testing over directive content for sworn agency personnel.

I added the highlighting on the above standard. The format of the standard has changed, but it is still Standard 1. The numbers that precede the standard are to note the date the standard was approved. Labeling for compliance certification will now show the standard number and applicable alpha notation. i.e. Policy statements for Use of Force should be labeled 1.a.

3. **Have the OCJS and OACP websites been updated with the new forms?** Yes, both website are now updating showing the new forms and format.

4. **I heard there was a new standard just approved, how will that impact agencies that have been certified or are in the middle of the process?** The Ohio Collaborative did just approve a new standard for Community Engagement. This will be standard three. However, the new standard does not go into effect immediately. Criminal Justice Services will communicate both the checklist updates as well a sample policy and required supporting compliance documentation in the near future. At this time, agencies are not required to report on the new standard for the initial certification process. Once the updates and requirements are complete and communicated for the Community Engagement Standard, it is expected that agencies will have at least 12 months to comply. A copy of the announcement and the new standard is attached for your convenience.

Thanks for the great questions and feedback and please contact me if you have additional comments.

Joel

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From: odcorbin@dps.ohio.gov [mailto:odcorbin@dps.ohio.gov]
Sent: Monday, August 08, 2016 8:51 AM
To: OCJS@dps.ohio.gov
Subject: FW: Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board Adopts Community Engagement Standard

Good morning,

This week, the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board approved the attached state standard on Community Engagement. This is the third standard adopted by the Board:

The standard states that "Agencies must adopt a community engagement strategy with a primary focus on improving Police – Community relations."

Gov. John R. Kasich established the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory board to oversee implementation of recommendations from the Ohio Task Force on Community-Police Relations.

For more information on the Ohio Collaborative, its members and the new standard, visit:
http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/ohiocollaborative/

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OHIO COLLABORATIVE STANDARD THREE

Policy statement for the State of Ohio standard for Community Engagement
Purpose

It is the shared responsibility of law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve to work together to build relationships based upon trust and mutual respect. A strong relationship between law enforcement agencies and the community will improve public safety and allow communities to thrive and prosper.

Standard
Agencies must adopt a community engagement strategy with a primary focus on improving Police – Community relations.

Commentary
Agencies shall utilize proven strategies or develop their own strategies that are focused on community engagement. Strategies may address any or all of the following or other related areas: youth programs, educating the community on police policy and procedures, understanding the communities agencies serve, sharing, receiving and providing information to the public, jointly identifying areas of concern, and communicating, when appropriate, significant changes in agency operations.
The intent of this standard is to establish agency accountability for the community involvement function in writing. The function should be developed and operated to effectively meet the needs of the agency, with consideration of the department size and budget, as well as the community it serves.