Assessor and Peer Update-March 4, 2016

I am sending this update to all trained individuals. To date, we've assigned 7 individuals to act as Peers. An article is being sent early next week to all OACP members regarding the Peer to Peer process. As a result of the article, we may see more requests for peer assistance. Attached please find an advance copy of the article.

Through many of your good questions and additional member feedback, we have three revised policies which will benefit agencies.

1. **IACP Membership**—We are finding out that many smaller agencies want access to IACP standards through IACP membership. As a reminder, any agency that has submitted compliance documentation can apply for free IACP membership. We have noted some reluctance or inability of agencies to submit compliance documentation without first reviewing IACP standards. **The new solution** is that the State will pay for the 1st year IACP membership as long as the agency completes the IACP application along with an email or memo indicating they will complete the certification process within the next 12 months. The completed application for IACP membership and the memo should be sent to: kmahl@dps.com

2. **Peer to Peer Assignments**—Originally the intent was to assign a peer after an application had been submitted. We are hearing from some agencies that they are unsure how to begin the Certification Process. Consequently, the **revised solution** is that a peer can be assigned at any time prior to or after the application process.

3. **Verbatim wording of State-Wide Standards**--Also attached, please find a short memo from Director Karhlton Moore of the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services. This memo cites different ways in which agencies can now show compliance with the standards. In other words, the new State-Wide Standards don't have to be repeated in an agency's policy and procedures verbatim as long as an agency meets the requirements of Director Moore's memo.

From my discussions with OCJS, there are approximately 40 agencies that are in the State Standards application process. Consequently, if you have not received any assignments, please know more are on the way. As always, if you have questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Best,

Joel

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MEMORANDUM

To: Donna Braxton, Executive Director, Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police

From: Karhlton Moore, Executive Director, Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

Re: Collaborative Standards Compliance Clarification

Date: February 24, 2016

The purpose of this memo is to provide guidance on the ways agencies can demonstrate they have "adopted" the statewide minimum standards created by and approved by the Ohio Collaborative Community Police Advisory Board (hereinafter the "Collaborative").

As you are aware, the Governor signed Executive Order 2015-04K establishing the Collaborative on April 29, 2015. The order requires the Office of Criminal Justice Services to "monitor and evaluate all state and local law enforcement departments' adoption and implementation" of statewide minimum standards. Below are three ways that agencies can demonstrate their adoption of the standards:

1. Incorporation into Policy

Incorporate the text of the policy statement into the agency's policy. This could be done by placing the statement at the top of the agency's policy.

2. Issuance of a General Order

Issue a general order or similar written directive with the statewide minimum standard policy statement.

3. Issue a Memo

Issue a memo that incorporates or references the statewide policy statement and contains an affirmation that the agency's policies are in compliance with that policy statement.

Our focus is to ensure that the first ever statewide minimum standards are adopted by agencies all across Ohio. We are willing to work with the OACP to ensure that agencies have a path to compliance, so if there are additional ways that you believe agencies should be able to demonstrate "adoption" we are more than willing to work with you. For your convenience, I am attaching a link to the law enforcement compliance materials http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/ohiocollaborative/law-enforcement.html.

Law Enforcement State-Wide Standards Certification Update

If you are asking, where or how does my agency begin this process, there is a great way to start—the Peer to Peer process.

A Peer to Peer resource can be assigned at any time during or before the certification process. All assessors and peer to peer individuals are experienced law enforcement professionals who have completed comprehensive training as conducted by Ohio Criminal Justice Services (OCJS).

Peer to Peer Assistance can include:

- Assisting with standards
- Providing sample policies
- Assisting with policy language
- Identifying acceptable proofs of compliance
- Reviewing the agency's compliance documentation before submission

Peers are also familiar with the OCJS website and can provide an agency with assistance with the compliance checklist and guidelines for Self-Certification document submission.

A peer may be able to answer a lot of questions over the telephone or through emails exchanges, but is also available to visit your agency if needed.

How can you have a peer assigned to your agency? Contact Joel Brown at the Ohio Association Chiefs of Police. Joel can be reached at:

- joel.brown@oacp.org
- Direct office number: 614-761-4618

There is no cost to an agency for the assignment of Peer to Peer individual. So if your agency realizes the benefit of meeting the Ohio State-Wide Standards, but doesn't know where to begin---***consider asking a peer.***