

# Campus Safety and Security Task Force

## MINUTES

Wednesday, November 3, 2021, 1:30 p.m.

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** Chancellor Glen D. Johnson welcomed members and guests Dr. Crystal Hernandez, Autism Foundation of Oklahoma; Kendra Brown, Southwestern Oklahoma State University; Janet Cunningham, Northwestern Oklahoma State University; Ron Ramming, Connors State College; Bill Knowles, Seminole State College; Dan Piazza, Oklahoma City Community College; Aaron Collins, Metro Technology Centers; Curtis Driscoll, Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security; Keli Cain, Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security; Joe Batt, Rogers State University; Devin DeBock, Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology; Kevin Leach, University of Oklahoma; Nancy Hughes, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma; John DeBoard, Cameron University; Chad Wiginton, Western Oklahoma State College; Brandon Hill, East Central University; Clark Harris, Northern Oklahoma College; Jack Bryant, Redlands Community College; and Angela Caddell, Debbie Blanke and Sharon Bourbeau, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 1 MEETING MINUTES:** Chancellor Johnson asked task force members to review the minutes of the Sept. 1, 2021 meeting. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

**SERVING NEURO-DIVERSE INDIVIDUALS: LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING PROGRAM:** Chancellor Johnson introduced Dr. Crystal Hernandez with the Autism Foundation of Oklahoma, who serves as a resource educator to help law enforcement and service providers work successfully with individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Hernandez explained that autism refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by differences in social skills, repetitive behaviors, patterns of speech and non-verbal communication. She provided an overview of potential behaviors and responses to stimuli, noting that poor sensory integration meant that individuals could not integrate two senses - such as sound and sight - at the same time, and that their senses often generate conflicting messages. She described elements that can be distracting, overwhelming and disorienting to people with autism, including visual considerations, such as bright lights and completing paperwork; auditory considerations, such as loud or piercing noises and competing sounds; and tactile and vestibular considerations, such as inadvertent physical touch in crowded spaces, and unexpected movement. She also noted that getting in and out of vehicles could cause a loss of balance and clumsiness, which may give an inaccurate appearance of drunkenness. She said that terms like “high-functioning” and “low-functioning” and Asperger’s labels were outdated, and that one diagnosis – Autism Spectrum Disorder - now reflects the variations of functioning.

Angela Caddell thanked Hernandez for her presentation and asked if she would be willing to share her slide deck and any other resources that might be beneficial to campus emergency managers and law enforcement. Hernandez said she would be happy to provide the materials.

**CAMPUS EMERGENCY MANAGER CONSORTIUM UPDATE:** Johnson asked Caddell to provide an update in Sarah Kimball’s absence. Caddell said that the last consortium meeting featured a COVID update from State Health Department officials, and that work was underway to facilitate a free or low-cost FEMA Higher Education Preparedness course for campus emergency managers.

**WORKGROUP REPORTS:** Johnson asked for workgroup reports.

**Campus Best Practices** (Steve Turner, Chair): Caddell provided the report in the absence of Turner. She said that a review of the current campus resource repository had been initiated, and asked members to share any new materials they felt would be helpful to other campuses.

**Issue Monitoring, Advocacy and Research** (Larry Rice, Chair): Caddell gave the report in the absence of Rice. She stated that the workgroup continued to stand ready to assist the Chancellor in developing advocacy strategies and responding to any potential legislation or interim studies pertaining to campus safety and security.

**Training and Plan Development** (Jeff Harp, Chair): Caddell provided the report in the absence of Harp. She said that the workgroup's main focus was delivering the remaining Virtual Summit online workshops, which would be offered through Nov. 17.

**2021 VIRTUAL SUMMIT UPDATE:** Johnson told members the kick-off and keynote address webinar had taken place on Monday, Nov. 1 and asked Caddell to provide an update on the Virtual Summit. Caddell thanked members for participating in the kick-off event, and said that the Summit online workshop series began the day before with a cybersecurity and ransomware workshop, the first of 12 events to be offered through mid-November. She said that the extended approach was intended to make it easier for key audiences, such as campus law enforcement, security personnel, and emergency managers, to participate given it is difficult for individuals serving in those roles to dedicate numerous consecutive hours to online learning in a compressed timeline.

Caddell said the Virtual Summit content was CLEET accredited for up to 19.5 hours of mandatory continuing education credit for campus law enforcement officers. She thanked the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security, noting that all Summit workshops would be available free of charge due to grant funding they provided.

Janet Cunningham asked if the workshops would be recorded; Caddell confirmed that links to the recorded workshops would be posted on the Summit web page. She added that she was pleased with the participation and registration numbers, and encouraged members to share information about the remaining Summit workshops with any campus staff whom they felt could benefit from the training opportunities.

**REMINDER: NIMS 2021-22 COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION:** Johnson asked Caddell to provide an update. Caddell reminded members that the 2021-22 reporting period for NIMS was open, and that the deadline for campuses to confirm continued NIMS compliance was Dec. 31. She encouraged campuses with issues or questions to contact April Keeler, state NIMS coordinator.

**INSIGHTS AND PERSPECTIVES:** Johnson told members that Roger Webb, Task Force Consultant, was unable to participate in the meeting.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:** Caddell said that a new president recently asked if coordination of campus safety efforts was generally a shared responsibility or assigned to one position at other institutions, and asked for feedback from members. Jack Bryant stated that one person coordinated campus safety initiatives at Redlands Community College, and that RCC also had "Building Captains" who completed regular training.

**WRAP UP AND COMMENTS:** Johnson thanked members for their service on the task force and for the good work accomplished during his time as chair. He announced the next task force meeting would be held Wednesday, Feb. 9 at 1:30 p.m. in the conference room or via Zoom.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.