

# Campus Safety and Security Task Force

## MINUTES

Wednesday, June 3, 2020, 1:30 p.m.

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** Chancellor Glen D. Johnson welcomed members and guests Brandee Hancock, Oklahoma A&M Board of Regents; Mackenzie Wilfong, Tulsa Community College; Kendra Brown, Southwestern Oklahoma State University; Cheryl Evans, Northern Oklahoma College; Kevin Leach, University of Oklahoma; Devin DeBock, Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology; Becki Foster, Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education; Kim Carter, Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security; Joshua Busby, Langston University; Nancy Hughes, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma; David Shannon, Oklahoma Baptist University; Tania Woods and Elicia Berryhill, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; Bob Parrish and Melanie Stinnett, Metro Technology Centers; Jeff Harp, University of Central Oklahoma; Steve Turner, Northeastern State University; John DeBoard, Cameron University; Bert Miller, East Central University; Ron Ramming, Connors State College; Roger Webb, Task Force Consultant; Bill Knowles, Seminole State College; Randy Graves, Carl Albert State College; Joedon Hughes and Richard Andrews, Rose State College; Jack Bryant, Redlands Community College; Janet Cunningham, Northwestern Oklahoma State University; Chad Wiginton, Western Oklahoma State College; Larry Rice, Rogers State University; and Angela Caddell, Sarah Kimball, Thomas Alford, LeeAnna McNally, Rachel Bates and Sharon Bourbeau, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

**APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 12 MEETING MINUTES:** Chancellor Johnson asked task force members to review the minutes of the Feb. 12, 2020, meeting. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

**CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM CERTIFICATION PROGRAM:** Johnson asked Tania Woods, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services law enforcement liaison, to give a presentation on ODMHSAS's Crisis Intervention Team certification training. CIT certification is a police-based first responder training program designed to empower law enforcement personnel to effectively aid individuals experiencing a mental health crisis. Training participants learn about mental health condition symptoms, medications, side effects, and related issues to help them recognize, understand and anticipate potential reactions and behaviors, effectively establishing a collaborative safety net for vulnerable individuals in the community.

Woods noted that one in 20 adult Oklahomans have some sort of serious mental health issue, and that many self-medicate with drugs or alcohol, which leads to other issues that often increase the likelihood of involvement with law enforcement. She told members that the crisis intervention team model was based on a national model developed in Memphis in 1988 by several agencies, including the local chapter of the National Association of Mental Illness (NAMI), the University of Tennessee medical school, and the University of Memphis, to provide customized training for officers who may respond to incidents involving citizens with mental health concerns.

Woods said that CIT was brought to Oklahoma in 2002 through a partnership between ODMHSAS, NAMI and the Oklahoma City Police Department. Since that time, partnerships have increased to include the Midwest City, Edmond, and Norman police departments and the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Department. In addition to city and county departments, Woods said that correctional officers, college, university and technology center campus police, and medical facility police were also encouraged to take the training.

Woods explained that CIT certification consisted of a 40-hour track spanning five days, which included training on symptoms of mental health issues, medication, communication techniques and community resources. Strategic goals of the training program are to de-escalate and communicate, decrease use of force, improve alternatives to arrest and jail, decrease time officers spend in the crisis center, decrease injuries to officers, reduce preconceptions associated with mental illness, and improve relationships between officers and the community. She said CIT training provided several advantages for the community,

as well, including decreased numbers of injuries; decreased stereotyping, resulting in less incarceration or detainment in local jails; improved access to treatment; and increased opportunity for the patient to receive timely and continuous care.

Woods indicated that there has been significantly more coordination between mental health professionals and the criminal justice system since inception of the CIT training program, which has yielded a reduction in arrests and fatalities and increased the likelihood that people in crisis would contact police for assistance, allowing law enforcement to intervene before an incident is escalated into a crisis.

Angela Caddell asked if campus police should contact Woods directly for more information about the training. Woods responded that she could be contacted, and that training events were listed on the CLEET and ODMHSAS websites. Caddell said she would share the training calendar with task force members and the Council of Presidents.

**NEW TITLE IX REGULATIONS:** Johnson asked Brandee Hancock, Oklahoma A&M Board of Regents and Mackenzie Wilfong, Tulsa Community College, to provide an update on the new Title IX regulations.

Wilfong told members the extensive new regulations were issued May 19, 2020 with an effective date of August 14, 2020. She said that nationwide enforcement was expected to begin on the effective date and encouraged Oklahoma institutions to begin implementation immediately.

Hancock and Wilfong provided an overview of institutional impacts, including changes to reporting and response requirements, complaint investigation and dismissal procedures, and the grievance process. Wilfong said that institutions would now have the opportunity to produce written investigative reports, and that under the new regulations, there also would be an opportunity for all parties to respond. She said the same process also would take place before decision-making, necessitating evidence gathering, evidence production and document report production in numerous versions within each Title IX investigation. She added that institutions must apply the same standard of evidence for formal complaints against students as for formal complaints against employees, including faculty. Hancock explained new requirements for live hearings and the role of advisors in the process. Wilfong noted that accessibility accommodations would have to be made for virtual hearings.

Hancock stated that Title IX training for investigators, coordinators and decision-makers would be even more important going forward, and indicated that the OCR website outlined the requirements. She told members that the institutions must retain records for seven years and training information must be posted on the institution's website.

Hancock said she and Wilfong were partnering to offer a series of virtual trainings on the new regulations in July. Jack Bryant asked if they could be notified when registration opened. Hancock said that she would share the information with Caddell, and Caddell said she would disseminate the training information to both task force members and campus emergency managers. Caddell also asked for access to any open-source Title IX resources to share with members.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:** Johnson asked LeeAnna McNally to update members on legislation regarding gun bills. McNally thanked members for their role in working with legislators to keep weapons off campus. Johnson said that Rep. Jon Echols, Sen. Kim David, Sen. Roger Thompson and Rep. Kevin Wallace were particularly helpful, and asked members to express their appreciation.

McNally noted that the Anti-Red Flag Act bill, introduced by Sen. Nathan Dahm and Rep. Jay Steagall, moved through the process quickly at the end of session. She said Oklahoma was the first state to pass this type of act.

Steve Turner said that campus faculty councils, staff councils and student government chapters had continuously supported the state system's position to maintain current law regarding weapons on campus, and requested that those groups be acknowledged for their support. Johnson indicated State Regents' staff would work on a resolution of appreciation.

**CAMPUS EMERGENCY MANAGER CONSORTIUM UPDATE:** Johnson asked Sarah Kimball to give an update on the Campus Emergency Manager Consortium. She said that the consortium's eight-member steering committee had met to set goals for the year, and that they would meet again in June to continue their work. She said that the focus for the rest of the year would be adjusted, as needed, due to impacts of the COVID-19 crisis.

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

**Campus Best Practices** (Steve Turner, Chair): Turner expressed appreciation for the CIT and Title IX presentations and stated that as new Title IX resources become available, they would be incorporated into the online campus resource repository. He also noted that following the COVID-19 crisis, the group would work on compiling best practice materials related to campus operations during a pandemic.

**Issue Monitoring, Advocacy and Research** (Larry Rice, Chair): Rice thanked McNally for her legislative report and noted the workgroup would remain ready to mobilize when needed to address any concerns pertaining to weapons on campus.

**Training and Plan Development** (Jeff Harp, Chair): Harp said the current focus was to work with Caddell to plan content for the statewide summit and to ensure campus personnel received information about other upcoming training opportunities.

**2020 STATEWIDE SUMMIT UPDATE:** Johnson told members there had been discussion about the possibility of reframing the summit as a virtual event, given the ongoing impacts of COVID-19. He asked Caddell to provide an update.

Caddell said the summit was slated to be held Thursday, Oct. 29, 2020, at the Reed Center in Midwest City. She noted several considerations, including the potential need for social distancing and concerns related to accommodating the needs of keynote and session speakers in a virtual format. She reminded members that a Save-the-Date and Call for Proposals for the summit had already been issued, noting the deadline to submit proposals had been extended to June 5.

Caddell reported that she was able to engage Scott Lewis, a nationally recognized expert on maximizing the efficacy of behavioral intervention teams, thanks to the generosity of the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security. She also said she had reached out to campuses that had experienced recent incidents, seeking a potential plenary speaker to share best practices and lessons learned. For concurrent sessions, she said the plan was to offer topics for both new and seasoned professionals, adding that most sessions would be repeated to ensure a majority of content was available to all participants.

Johnson said that a decision to hold the summit in person or virtually would have to be made before the next task force meeting, and that members would be notified when a decision was made.

**INSIGHTS AND UPDATES:** Johnson asked Dr. Roger Webb, Task Force Consultant, to share his thoughts with members. Webb said there was good news from a campus safety standpoint, in that there were no school shootings during the spring. He added there were also no tornado deaths due to the relatively mild spring weather.

Webb noted racial tensions across the nation and the focus on the city of Minneapolis following the death of George Floyd. He reminded members to review campus policies and drill operational plans for handling local protests and student activism, particularly given the potential intersection of ardent young people and inexperienced officers.

**FY21 TASK FORCE MEETING DATES:** Johnson called members' attention to the list of meeting dates that was previously provided. He stated the decision to hold the meetings in person or via Zoom would be made closer to each date.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:** Johnson asked if members had any additional agenda items to be considered. There were no additional items.

**WRAP UP AND COMMENTS:** Johnson thanked members for their attendance and noted the date of the next task force meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.