Police Reform Overview Racial Justice

DECEMBER 1, 2020

Restrict use of force

Bans training and use of chokeholds

- Require de-escalation before force
- Eliminate arrest or escape as reasons for deadly force;
- Prohibit firing at moving vehicle

Regulatory authorization minor uses of force in non-arrest situations.

- Necessary
- Proportionate
- ✓ Non-deadly
- ✓ De-escalation

Restrict Use of Force

 Restrict use of crowd control tools to cases where people are threatened

- Encourage prospective de-escalation planning
- Require reporting and review
- Ban no-knock warrants for evidentiary preservation
 - Allow only for safety
 - ✓ Not if any reason to believe kids or seniors present
 - ✓ Only issue by judge
- Duty to intervene and/or report
- Create commission on force rules in corrections



- Acts by majority vote
- Full staff and powers
- Strong executive dir.
 manager, not from law enforcement

Committee on Police Training and Certification (MPTC successor – members mostly police) Police Standards and Training Commission 3 police (Chief, Rank&File, MAMLEO) 6 civilians with no prior law enforcement (including nominees from MCAD, NASW, MBA civil rights section)

Any state or federal criminal prosecutor

r

Refer

Certify and decertify officers and agencies.

• Training

- Background checking
- Certification
- Database of all officers

Govern Approve standards

Division of Police Training and Certification (defines standards; keep database)

Approve standards

Police Schools Division of Police Standards (Civil Enforcement) (Employees with no law enforcement affiliation)

Offi

cers

Agencies

Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission

- Fully independent authority with executive powers
- Civilian majority controlled (6-3)
- Approves certification standards and training developed by CPTC
- Receives all misconduct complaints from any source (direct and indirect)
- Authorized to investigate any complaint
- Subpoend and audit powers and authority to employ investigative staff
- Scope includes all law enforcement including state police (but not corrections)

POST – powerful but procedurally fair

- Tracks all complaints and local investigations; can receive complaints directly.
- May investigate on evidence it deems sufficient and must investigate most serious cases. Preliminary invest is confidential, but may refer.
- Authority to suspend certification after preliminary investigation
 (preponderance of the evidence); employment consequences of preliminary suspension subject to bargaining and civil service.
- Final decertification or suspension goes forward after agency action (or one year) plus, upon request, one year for appeals of agency action
 - Likely suspended already
 - Indefinite delay to resolve criminal charges
- Decertify or suspend after finding of serious violations
 - Clear and convincing evidence
 - Majority vote
- ✓ No civil service appeal of either decertification or termination due to decertification. No employment of decertified officers.

POST – powerful but procedurally fair

- Public disclosure database of all final decertifications, suspensions, retraining orders
- Additional public database to be developed by regulation with consideration for officer safety
- Law enforcement misconduct investigation materials not exempted from public records (once complete)
- No law enforcement or correctional employment of decertified officers
- Participation in national decertification index
- Mandate to track all complaints in own database monitor patterns
- Authority to audit complaint handling of law enforcement agencies

State police reform

- Allow Governor to select colonel from outside
 - Create state police cadet program as alternative pathway to employment
- Redefine state police promotion process eligibility formulae
- Strengthen colonel's hand in applying discipline
 - Place training under control of Committee on Police Training and Certification
- Additional provisions tracking Governor's bill as modified by committee

Court enforcement of police misconduct

- Revise qualified immunity defense
- Prohibit NDAs in police misconduct settlement ("unless the complainant requests such provision in writing")
 - Treble damages for overtime fraud (new criminal offense)
 - Criminal penalties for sex with people in custody
- Allow Attorney General to bring pattern and practice cases

School to prison pipeline

 Make school resource officers optional at choice of superintendent

- Strengthen MOU between SRO and school by setting up a model MOU review commission to create a template
- Prohibit school departments from sharing student information with police unless its germane to a specific unlawful incident or to a specific prospect of unlawful activity the school is otherwise required to report
 Specialized training and certification for School
- Resource Officers

Reducing burden of policing on people of color

- Ban racial profiling; allow lawsuit by AG for injunction to enforce
- Broaden interpretation of youth expungement up to two incidents, with multiple charges on same day considered one incident.

Reducing burden of police on communities

 Prohibition on public agency use of biometric surveillance, except RMV data used for licensing or accessed with
 warrant

Expand mental health diversions

- Expand mandate of the Center for Police Training in Crisis Intervention
- Study to develop new evidence-based crisis response models

Emergency hospitalization commission

Commissions and training mandates

Permanent Commissions

- Create African-American Commission
- Latinx Commission
- Commission on status of persons with disabilities
- Commission on Black men and boys

Temporary Commissions

- Civil service commission to examine all aspects of hiring, promotion, etc.
- Commission on structural racism (x3 probation, parole, corrections)
- ✓ Body camera taskforce
- \checkmark Use of force in corrections
- MassDOT use of facial recognition
- Statewide law enforcement cadet program
- ✓ Qualified immunity
- Many new training mandates