Public Safety Review Board
Minutes of Meeting
December 13, 2016

Present: Francis Price, Holly Crawford, MJ Curry, Beth Palermo, Kathy Parrinello, Vito Martino, Richard Crummins

I. Confidentiality: The Board discussed how to balance the need for confidentiality and transparency relating to its review of policies, training and specific incidents. The attached statement of principles was considered and adopted.

II. Minutes: The Board will approve minutes of each meeting to be published to the campus community. These will generally not identify individuals but will summarize discussions and decisions of the Board.

III. Policies: There was a lengthy discussion of the circumstances in which URDPS will typically provide an armed response to an incident or call. There is a need to be consistent with the President’s decision to arm medical center officers and senior command staff, and communications about that decision to the Faculty Senate and others, while at the same time keeping the campus safe. For non-medical center calls, URDPS may provide an armed response when there is a report of possession of a firearm or threatened use of any other weapon. All other DPS policies presented to the Board for review were provisionally approved after some discussion, subject to further comment from some board members who needed additional time to review them, and with the understanding that policies can always be changed. DPS policies will not be published in full to the University community or public.

IV. Arming Senior Staff: The Board agreed that the arming of three senior command staff (Chief, Deputy Chief, Commander of Investigations) and two Instructor/Armorers could proceed on January 3, 2017. The primary benefit of taking this early step is to have a way to test the validity of procedures and processes relating to provisioning and storage during a time of relative quiet on the River Campus.

V. DPS will coordinate with URMC regarding communications. A communication about the arming process is expected to go to the medical center and campus communities in early January.