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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
OF THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MINUTES

A meeting of the Public Safety Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held via in-person and Zoom videoconferencing in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York on April 7, 2022.

Members Present:

Legislator Steve Flotteron - Chairman
Legislator James Mazzarella - Vice-Chair
Legislator Sarah Anker
Legislator Stephanie Bontempi
Legislator Tom Donnelly
Legislator Bridget Fleming
Legislator Manuel Esteban
Legislator Leslie Kennedy
P.O. Kevin J. McCaffrey - Ex Officio

Also in Attendance:

Legislator Nick Caracappa - District Office No. 4
Legislator Sarah Anker - District Office No. 6
William Duffy - Counsel to the Legislature
Frank Tassone - Clerk of the Legislature
Brett Robinson - Chief Deputy Clerk of the Legislature
Craig Freas - Senior Budget Analyst/Legislative Budget Review
Ali Nazir - Aide to Presiding Officer McCaffrey
Brendan Sweeney - Aide to Presiding Officer McCaffrey
Chris DeLuca - Aide to Presiding Officer McCaffrey
Timothy Freeman - Aide to Legislator Flotteron
Tim Rothang - Aide to Legislator Mazzarella
Gay Campisi - Aide to Legislator Kennedy
Irene Donohue - Aide to Legislator Fleming
Maria Barbara - Aide to Legislator Esteban
Michelle Zarifis - CE's Office/Intergovernmental Relations
Robert Scharf - Lieutenant/SCPD-Capital Projects/Budget & Finance
Joe Peterson - Sergeant/SCPD-Capital Projects/Budget & Finance
Andrew Manfredonia - Lieutenant/SCPD-Chief of Department's Office
Brian Loughlin - Lieutenant/SCPD-Community Relations Bureau
Explorer Program
Thomas Joy - Police Officer/SCPD-Community Relations Bureau
Explorer Program
Charles L'Hommedieu-Chief of Staff/Suffolk County Sheriff's Office
Christopher Brockmeyer - Chief Deputy Sheriff/SC Sheriff's Office
John Hnat - Treasurer/Suffolk County PBA
Joe Jankowski - Suffolk County AME/Government Relations Director
Dr. Odette Hall - Suffolk County Medical Examiner

Minutes Taken By:

Alison Mahoney - Court Stenographer

*(*The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m.*)*

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:

I would like to call the meeting of the Public Safety Committee in order. Ask all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator Kennedy.

Pledge of Allegiance

We will have a moment of silence. Say our prayers for all the people in the Ukraine and to all our First Responders and our military here in our country.

Moment of Silence Observed

We will be seated. Clerk, can you please take a roll call.

LEG. DONNELLY:

Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:

Yes.

LEG. DONNELLY:

Mr. Chairman, if I could take a moment of personal privilege?

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:

Yes, please.

LEG. DONNELLY:

I just wanted to add to -- before our meeting, that we remember the family of Suffolk County Police Officer George Frees. Yesterday was the 51st anniversary of the line of duty death of Officer George Frees in the 1st Precinct. Thank you.

Moment of Silence Observed

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:

Clerk, if you would please take a roll call.

*(*Roll Called by Brett Robinson - Chief Deputy Clerk*)*

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:

Yes.

LEG. MAZZARELLA:

Present.

LEG. FLEMING:

Present.

LEG. ANKER:

Here.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Here.

1 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

2 Here.

3

4 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

5 Here.

6

7 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

8 Present.

9

08:30AM

10 **P.O. McCAFFREY:**

11 Here.

12

13 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

14 *Nine.*

15

16 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

17 Okay. Thank you. Is there any correspondence?

18

19 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

08:30AM

20 All correspondence has been distributed accordingly, Mr. Chairman.

21

22 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

23 Is there any speakers?

24

25 **MR. DeLUCA:**

26 I have none.

27

28 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

29 Okay. Thank you.

08:30AM

30

31 And there's no Appointment Resolutions, correct? None?

32

33 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

34 Correct.

35

36 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

37 Yeah, okay. I'll call up Inspect -- Lieutenant Manfredonia had
38 wanted to go over. We recently got a mailing, an e-mail sent to
39 all our offices regarding Public Safety Dispatchers.

08:31AM

40

41 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

42 Good morning. So, I'm not sure if the committee is aware. In 2013
43 a resolution was passed that required the Department to report to
44 the Chairman of the Public Safety Committee and the Presiding
45 Officer of the Legislature if our Communications staffing went
46 below 10%.

47

48 Thereafter, another resolution amended that requiring us to report
49 if our Communications staffing went under 5%. In 2019 that
08:31AM 50 resolution was then further amended to require the Department to
51 notify the Legislature if any resignation or retirement from our
52 Communications staffing happened. So, in March of 2022, a letter
53 was sent to the Presiding Officer and the Public Safety Committee
54 Chair where we had five Dispatchers leave the Communications
55 Section with a combination of resignations and one retirement.

56

1 So, just to give an update on the staffing. I know that five
2 Dispatchers leaving does tend to open the eyes a little bit.
3 However, we still have approximately -- we have exactly 10 Trainees
4 still training on our Communications floor. We are looking to
5 start a class of six, possibly seven at the end of April, and we
6 have approximately 20 candidates in our application process. And
7 we're still a little backed up from the pause of 2020, so we're
8 backed up approximately 18 months in the hiring process. And we're
9 also waiting on the results of the ECO exam that was given in
10 January of 2022. So, even though we lost five of our
11 Communications staff in the month of March, we're still looking
12 pretty good as far as the future goes with our Communications
13 staffing.

08:33AM

14
15 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
16 Legislator Donnelly?

17
18 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
19 So, is there still a fair amount of mandated overtime?

08:33AM

20
21 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
22 Yes. We're trying to catch up on that. We're hoping that when our
23 ten Trainees complete their training, that that will cut down
24 dramatically on the amount of mandated overtime.

25
26 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
27 And then the EOC Civil Service exam, weren't we considering rolling
28 that all into one into the PSD dispatcher? Why are we giving
29 another exam?

08:33AM

30
31 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
32 Yes, that was -- that was the plan to transition everybody to one
33 single title. However, with the pause with COVID, because that was
34 all put on hold and we needed to get a exam to add Emergency
35 Complaint Operators, the decision was made to go forward with the
36 ECO exam but in the near future still looking towards going to one
37 title.

38
39 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
40 Okay. So we are going to give an ECO exam, though. Right?

08:34AM

41
42 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
43 Right. That was --

44
45 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
46 And we're going to hire off that list?

47
48 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
49 Correct. It was given in January and we're waiting on the results
50 and we're looking to hire off that list.

08:34AM

51
52 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
53 And what is the -- what does the current PS -- Public safety
54 Dispatcher list look like? Is it there are sufficient people to be
55 canvassed?

1 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

2 Yes.

3
4 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

5 And then on-boarded?

6
7 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

8 Yes, exactly. Like I said, we have about 20 candidates that are in
9 our application process currently. We got the results in August, I
10 believe, of '21; Civil Service was able to expedite that list for
11 us because of the dire need to hire PSDs at that time.

08:34AM

12
13 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

14 And then back to the overtime, I know this has been a bit of an
15 ongoing issue. So with the 10 new folks, we think that we're going
16 to be able to kind of help curb some of the mandated overtime? I
17 know that's a fair complaint from the workforce there that goes to
18 many of the Legislators.

19
20 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

21 Yes, we believe so. Because we're still under our 5% of vacancies
22 of our current staffing, and we think that adding those 10 people
23 will definitely help cut down the overtime that's going to be
24 required.

08:35AM

25
26 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

27 And the last question; on any given tour on the radio platform, are
28 we short PSDs at all in terms of what the minimum staffing level
29 for specific tours should be?

08:35AM

30
31 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

32 Do you mean as far as overtime goes?

33
34 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

35 Yes, yes.

36
37 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

38 Or as far as do we actually have a vacancy where we're not filling?

39
40 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

41 Do we have a vacancy that we're not filling? Like, what's --

42
43 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

44 No, that's always -- we'll always fill that vacancy whether it's
45 through overtime, mandated overtime if necessary. But as far as
46 how many people on overtime, I don't have an answer of that. I can
47 find out from the Communications staff on average how many per
48 tour.

08:36AM

49
50 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

51 If you could, because if I recall, that was an issue as well, so.
52 I know this is an ongoing issue. Thank you for the questions and
53 thank you for continuing to try and solve this.

54
55 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

56 I'll find that out for you, Legislator Donnelly.

1 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

2 Legislator Kennedy.

3

4 **LEG. KENNEDY:**

5 Thank you. Everything the Police Department is doing is wonderful.

6 Just a question. The class of six that you're doing at end of

7 April, did you put that in following knowledge that five were

8 leaving, or was that in -- just put in?

9

08:36AM

10 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

11 That was always planned. With the PSD job, the level of attrition

12 we always do expect a certain amount of people that we hire that we

13 possibly don't retain because of the high stress level of the job;

14 as people tend to take it they find that out. So we do go into the

15 process knowing that there is a good possibility that all the

16 people we hire might not stay, so we do factor that in when we're

17 looking to do our hiring with our classes.

18

19 **LEG. KENNEDY:**

08:37AM

20 So the class at the end of April, should you put additional seats

21 in there now that the five have left also?

22

23 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

24 I can certainly look into that, if we can -- if that's in the

25 budget and they are completed in their hiring process, I can

26 certainly ask if that is possible.

27

28 **LEG. KENNEDY:**

29 Uh-huh, that would be great. Thank you.

08:37AM

30

31 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

32 I have a question. Is -- are they leaving just because of stress

33 or are they going to other places that have better pay?

34

35 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

36 It's a combination of both. There are -- there are certain ones

37 that leave for higher paying jobs and there's definitely some that

38 leave due to the stresses that the job entails.

39

08:37AM

40 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

41 And -- so you rarely -- so more like when they do leave they're

42 leaving for better pay, some of them. Are we ever grabbing others

43 over, you know, or is it just because our pay is lower than most

44 other municipalities or something?

45

46 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

47 I'm sorry, could you repeat the question?

48

49 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

08:38AM

50 We have an attrition because of the stress or pay. Is our pay that

51 uncompetitive that we almost never get any leaving other places to

52 come here, or not?

53

54 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

55 I'm not sure I can answer that because I'm not sure what the pay is

56 at the other jobs that they are leaving for; I usually don't get

1 that information. And I'm not aware of what the other jobs are
2 paying, they usually just tell us they're either leaving for a
3 higher paying job or a better opportunity for their family.

4
5 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

6 Okay. I just want to make sure we're at least competitive because
7 it costs a lot to train, you know. And I know when I was in the
8 town there were some positions where we seemed like we were the
9 training ground for certain things for other places because our pay
08:38AM 10 scale was lower than surrounding towns. So, I think that's
11 something that may be important if we're losing them again for pay.
12 If it's a little bit amount it won't matter as much, but if it's
13 half of the people we're losing for better pay for the same
14 position, that would be a problem, so.

15
16 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

17 Yes, I think any time we would lose any position to a job for
18 higher pay is something that we need to look at.

19
08:39AM 20 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

21 Okay. Legislator -- I'm getting tongue-tied. Legislator Manuel
22 Esteban.

23
24 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

25 Good morning. So, how do we handle calls from people who are
26 Spanish-speaking only? Do we have the staff to handle that?

27
28 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

29 Certainly. We actually have 40 -- we have 47 Emergency Complaint
08:39AM 30 Operators and nine of them are Spanish-speaking. We have one
31 approved to hire, when we get the list out we can hire another
32 Spanish-speaking ECO. And we're waiting -- we're waiting on -- I'm
33 just looking at the staffing. We're waiting on a total of -- from
34 personnel of -- you know what? Let me just strike that, I won't
35 even -- *(laughter)*. It's a little confusing to me.

36
37 So, the answer to your question is we have ECOs that are
38 specifically Spanish-speaking ECOs. So, if someone does call in,
39 we would be able to help them with someone that speaks in their
08:40AM 40 native language.

41
42 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

43 So if there were a major emergency where many people would be
44 calling in at the same time or the same day, what's the contingency
45 plan for that? Does your 911 system then roll over into some of
46 the precincts for those calls to be answered?

47
48 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

49 As far -- the ECOs for the -- the 911 calls would never come on a
08:40AM 50 precinct level, they would always be a Emergency Complaint Operator
51 who would take the call and then would, thereafter, move that to a
52 Public Safety Dispatcher who would dispatch a sector car to that
53 emergency. If we are -- in our times, if there's something major
54 that does get overloaded, we do know that there were multiple calls
55 of the same incidents, so we know that we do have somebody
56 responding to that incident. There are times when, you know,

1 people call 911, if there is a backlog they'll get put on hold and
2 we'll get to them as soon as we can.

3
4 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

5 It sounds like we have to look at hiring more people and providing
6 more competitive salary, because if you call 911, most people don't
7 want to be put on hold, that could be a real big problem. And I
8 don't know if it could be a potential lawsuit to the County if we
9 have people that are calling 911 and we're putting them on hold and
10 then they're suffering terrible consequences.

11
12 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

13 Correct.

14
15 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

16 So that's concerning.

17
18 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

19 It's definitely -- that would definitely be a concern. You know,
20 we do go based on that if there are multiple calls that are
21 overwhelming the 911 system, that they are mostly for the same
22 incident, so we do -- we are getting someone to that emergency.

23
24 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

25 Are you complete, Manny?

26
27 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

28 I'm not satisfied with that answer. I mean, you could have
29 somebody that's being on hold whose emergency hasn't been called in
30 and that person's not getting the help they need, so.

31
32 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

33 Legislator Kennedy?

34
35 **LEG. KENNEDY:**

36 Just to follow up on Legislator Esteban's thing; what is the
37 average wait time when people are put on hold?

38
39 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

40 I would have to find that out, Legislator Kennedy. I would have to
41 look at the specific circumstances of when that happens. It would
42 have to be at a high call volume time.

43
44 **LEG. KENNEDY:**

45 Uh-huh.

46
47 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

48 So I would definitely -- I will get back to you on that.

49
50 **LEG. KENNEDY:**

51 Are the -- and also, are the calls that are put on hold pre-sorted?
52 You know, if someone is calling and someone is bleeding to death
53 from an accident, do you ask what the issue is before you put them
54 on hold?

1 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
2 Also, I'll find out if they're triaged at that time.

3
4 **LEG. KENNEDY:**
5 Excellent. Thank you.

6
7 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**
8 I have a question, Mr. Chairman.

9
08:43AM 10 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
11 Legislator Bontempi.

12
13 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**
14 Good morning. So, I have a question. Obviously it's a high stress
15 level job, and I understand from previous presentations also that
16 Correction Officers are in very high stress level job and attrition
17 is high there as well. Is there a mechanism, some kind of built-in
18 mechanism where these people that are working in these very high
19 stress level jobs have some kind of mental check-in, you know, so
08:43AM 20 that -- you know, you come off a shift and you had a really tough
21 day where you don't have to go seek help to talk to someone, but
22 that there's some kind of check-in. Does anything like that exist?

23
24 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
25 Our department has -- our department has peer support teams and it
26 was looked into as far as the Communications staffing as well, and
27 I know that was in the works. I don't know if -- it is actually
28 on-line, I suppose is the -- for lack of a better word; I will find
29 that out for you. But that was absolutely looked at and I know
08:44AM 30 that was in the works.

31
32 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**
33 Thank you.

34
35 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
36 Legislator Fleming?

37
38 **LEG. FLEMING:**
39 Thank you. Good morning, Lieutenant.

08:44AM 40
41 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
42 Good morning.

43
44 **LEG. FLEMING:**
45 So just so the record's complete, I don't know if I missed it; what
46 is the entry-level pay for a Dispatcher? And if you don't have it,
47 maybe you can give it -- I don't mean to put you on the spot.

48
49 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
50 *(Laughter)*.

51
52 **LEG. FLEMING:**
53 But I think the questions here reflect the concern about
54 entry-level pay and I think it's one of the reasons why the
55 legislation that you mentioned at the beginning of your remarks was
56 passed and amended. Because there is a very, very clear concern

1 that the folks here may not be getting paid adequately for quality
2 control, for their own, you know, job performance and work
3 standards. I shouldn't say work standards, their conditions of
4 work are difficult and we probably don't pay enough, and I think
5 that's what we're hearing. So thank you.

6
7 If you could just -- maybe you could give the Chair the pay scale
8 at some point when you're back at your office. I think it would be
9 helpful, Steve, if we got -- so the record is complete. There are
10 a lot of questions that are directed to whether we're paying folks
11 enough in this department; I think we've seen over the years that
12 there's a thought here that we're not. But let's just have the
13 record complete, if you could just provide that data.

14
15 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
16 Absolutely. I knew --

17
18 **LEG. FLEMING:**
19 Thank you.

20
21 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
22 -- someone was going to ask. And I actually have a call in to --
23 I had a call in yesterday for the salaries and I'm waiting to hear
24 back.

25
26 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
27 And also, maybe like a comparison surrounding, you know, some of
28 the places they're leaving to. And also maybe out of the 10 that
29 maybe you said left recently, or five, whatever, how many actually
30 left just another place for pay, if you have a little history of
31 that that could be looked into to see if that is the major problem
32 or not, that's all. Because it's something that will need to be
33 addressed, you know.

34
35 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
36 I will certainly get back to the entire committee on that.

37
38 **LEG. FLEMING:**
39 May I just say, Steve, I think --

40
41 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
42 Yes.

43
44 **LEG. FLEMING:**
45 I think the legislation that Andy referred to at the beginning is
46 doing its job here by sparking this conversation.

47
48 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
49 Yes.

50
51 **LEG. FLEMING:**
52 This is exactly why we wanted to be notified, because it is a real
53 issue and it continues based on what we're hearing. Thank you.

54
55 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
56 Great. Okay, I think everyone's complete.

1 I guess could you maybe introduce our next speaker.

2
3 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

4 Certainly. I have Lieutenant Brian Loughlin and Police Officer
5 Thomas Joy from our Community Relations Bureau and they're going to
6 talk about our Explorer Program.

7
8 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

9 Hello. Good morning, all. Thank you so much for having us here.
08:47AM 10 Like he said, Lieutenant Brian Loughlin with the Community
11 Relations Bureau, this is Officer Joy.

12
13 Our unit oversees the Police Explorers. Tom Joy here has helped at
14 coordinating our seven different precinct posts. So I'll just give
15 you a quick overview of our Explorer Program and hopefully we can
16 answer some of your questions, if you have any.

17
18 With the SCPD Explorer Program, it's been a long-standing program
19 with us. It's a national program which is coordinated through the
08:47AM 20 Boy Scouts of America all throughout the country. The youths that
21 join are usually interested in a career in law enforcement. They
22 have strong community service ties which we also participate in,
23 and they're also assisting the Police Department with events that
24 we're running, anywhere from Earth Day events, flag planting
25 retrieval, holiday parades, food drives, community clean-up days,
26 shopping with a cop, all sorts of community events. They also
27 assist us with parades, helping out with traffic issues, things of
28 that nature. As well as each individual host will, you know, go
29 over all current laws, vehicle and traffic stops, police
08:48AM 30 procedures, tactics, all police-related and community-related
31 issues that are ongoing.

32
33 All of our leaders, Police leaders are all volunteer. Some of them
34 work patrol and also dedicate a lot of their time to this program
35 in addition to their regular police duties. So, to us, that's a
36 very commendable thing when people volunteer to be leaders in our
37 Explorer Program.

38
39 Just a quick way on how you can tell your constituents in the --
08:48AM 40 how to join. They would go to the local precinct; we don't have
41 any on-line sign-ups as of right now. They would go in and they
42 would fill out an application, they could even attend a meeting
43 prior to joining just to see if this is something they would be
44 interested in. There is an interview with the leaders, a quick
45 background check just to make sure everything is good with the
46 kids.

47
48 Right now we have approximately 120 Explorers through our seven
49 posts. And like I said, each individual precinct has their
08:49AM 50 individual posts, we just kind of run independently of one another.
51 But we do have programs that come together. They are planning kind
52 of a post-verse-post competition of different events for this
53 September which is -- we're kind of excited about.

1 Some of the requirements. You would have to be 14, you would have
2 to have finished 8th grade and be no older than 20, 20-years old.
3 Some of the -- excuse me, benefits; you could attain community
4 service hours through the local events that you're going to be
5 participating in; some college applications like to see things of
6 that nature on your applications. And also, the Civil Service exam
7 fee is waived as long as you have two years in service, a letter
8 from your Explorer post and you're in good standing.

08:50AM

10 Some of the fees; there's a \$54 fee for joining which is to the Boy
11 Scouts of America, as well as a uniform fee. Each post sets their
12 meeting times, usually it's at least bi-weekly, some of them have
13 every weekly, and depending on the leader's availability, usually
14 it'll be a Tuesday or a Wednesday, whatever day that would work
15 best for everyone involved.

16
17 Did you have some of the handouts or anything of that nature?

18
19 **OFFICER JOY:**

20 Yes.

21
22 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

23 I have a handout. I just printed out, and I know this is a
24 little -- anyone could have done this, but I just wanted it so you
25 have something in your hand. If I -- If you want to pass that
26 around. It's just from our website. It also -- on the back it
27 also has all of the post information, the leader's information,
28 their e-mail addresses. Like I said, if anyone in your districts,
29 if you want to pass out some of the information and just let them
30 know. We'd love to expand our program, get more volunteers. Since
31 the pandemic, you know, obviously attendance and our retention rate
32 kind of dropped a little bit. We used to have at least over 200,
33 250 and now we're down to about 120, so it's something that we'd
34 like to build back up and get in a better light.

08:50AM

35
36 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

37 Question; what ages is this from?

38
39 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

40 It's -- you have to be 14-years old at the minimum requirement and
41 you have to have finished 8th grade, and then it goes up to no
42 older than 20-years old.

08:51AM

43
44 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

45 Okay. And is this connected with the Scouts in any way?

46
47 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

48 Yes.

49
50 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

51 Okay.

52
53 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

54 It's a national program that is coordinated and run through the Boy
55 Scouts of America.

1 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
2 And do they get a merit badge going through this process?

3
4 **OFFICER JOY:**
5 There are badges that they get if they complete courses that are
6 part of the Boy Scouts.

7
8 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
9 And right now you're saying the program could handle about 250 or
08:51AM 10 something within the districts -- precincts.

11
12 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**
13 Well, each -- it would be up to -- I mean, I'm sure the program, as
14 of right now we could handle hopefully as many as could come in.
15 It's all up to the Explorer leaders. Like I said, each -- each
16 post kind of runs individually depending on how many leaders.
17 There's potentially two to four to five leaders that can rotate and
18 be involved with the program at any one time.

19
08:52AM 20 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
21 Okay. So your recommendations to move forward, if you're trying
22 to -- if you're trying to match, say, Scout programs with the local
23 precinct, would be reaching out to that local precinct that we
24 represent to find out the availability of the spaces and --

25
26 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**
27 Sure.

28
29 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
30 Yeah, exactly.

31
32 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**
33 Like I said, all the information is on the back. And it's all
34 on-line on our Suffolk County Police website, our Community Page.
35 There's also scholarships that are given out, kids can apply for
36 scholarships so if they're, you know, in college they can get some
37 scholarship money. There's, I believe, three or four different
38 national scholarships they can apply for.

39
08:52AM 40 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
41 Terrific.

42
43 **OFFICER JOY:**
44 Many of them become police officers when they're eligible to take
45 the test. Many of them win awards within the community for their
46 community service. You had to maintain an average of C, C or above
47 in school to maintain the membership in the Explorer Program, so
48 it's a good program for kids to stay in and be motivated to learn
49 and become productive citizens when they grow up.

08:53AM 50
51 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
52 And I did miss a little part before. So when is it -- when in the
53 week or the days it usually --

54
55 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**
56 Oh, each individual post will --

1 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

2 Determine.

3

4 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

5 Will determine, yeah.

6

7 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

8 Okay.

9

10 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

11 Usually it's at least a biweekly meeting and whatever day will work
12 best for the leader and the kids, they usually figure that out.

13

14 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

15 Do you know on average -- I'm just wondering, I was thinking in my
16 head that a lot of kids are in multiple sports.

17

18 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

19 Sure.

20

21 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

22 And how do they fit that in? Is it more like it's 6 to 8 or --

23

24 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

25 Yeah, it tends to be more at night. It wouldn't be right after
26 school.

27

28 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

29 Okay.

30

31 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

32 Usually it's anywhere from six to eight, about that area.

33

34 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

35 Okay. Legislator Kennedy.

36

37 **LEG. KENNEDY:**

38 Thank you for coming out and speaking on this, gentlemen. I have
39 the luxury of having my office right across the street from the 4th
08:53AM 40 Precinct. I -- the last -- not the last two years but prior to
41 that, I watched the Explorers outside doing really interesting
42 trainings. They had karate one time, they had -- they do marching,
43 they do other activities. I invite our 4th Precinct Explorers to
44 my concert series to do their flag ceremony, which is excellent.
45 And they are -- I have followed some of the kids who have gone into
46 the Air Force, who have done other things, gone into the Police,
47 gone into NYPD, I think two are in Suffolk. It's productive, it's
48 great and it looks like everybody always enjoys themselves.

49

50 So, thank you for what you do, keep doing it. And if we can help
08:54AM 51 in any way in getting you more participants, let us know how.

52

53 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

54 Thank you very much. Appreciate it.

55

56

1 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
2 Okay. Legislator Fleming.

3
4 **LEG. FLEMING:**
5 Thank you. Good morning.

6
7 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**
8 Good morning.

9
10 **LEG. FLEMING:**
11 I represent the East End. Just wondering what coordination there
12 is with the East End departments.

13
14 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**
15 We actually don't have any coordination as of right now with any
16 type of individual East End departments. Again, there's no -- our
17 internal structures, we kind of just coordinate with our own seven
18 precincts. I'm not -- to be honest with you, it's something I
19 could look into in terms of if they do have Explorer posts in any
08:55AM 20 of the departments out east. And sometimes our individual posts,
21 they kind of -- they run as their own little individual department,
22 so sometimes they will have coordinators, they will have -- they
23 might have a little more knowledge than that. So I can reach out
24 to our Explorer leaders to see if they have any knowledge of that.

25
26 **LEG. FLEMING:**
27 I know from Southampton we did have an Explorers Program.

28
29 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**
30 Okay.

31
32 **LEG. FLEMING:**
33 I don't know if it's -- when I served there; I don't know if it's
34 still -- if it's still in action. But, yep, that's good to know.
35 But thank you for your work.

36
37 The other question I have is with regard to diversity, I know the
38 Explorers -- Officer Joy mentioned that, you know, folks come
39 through the Explorers Program and then take an interest in a career
08:56AM 40 in law enforcement. What is your approach to diversity
41 recruitment? I think -- Officer Joy, I think you're -- are you the
42 head of the Asian Police Society or -- I remember --

43
44 **OFFICER JOY:**
45 Yeah, one of the 40 members. And yeah, I'm in the leadership; yes,
46 ma'am.

47
48 **LEG. FLEMING:**
49 Yeah, so which is great to know and see. And we always have such
08:56AM 50 challenges, you know, encouraging diversity and every time there's
51 a new class it's a great focus, but not always so successful
52 because of the challenges. So, is -- what's your approach to kind
53 of optimizing your role as a gateway, getting people into a law
54 enforcement career relative to diversity?

1 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

2 No, that's a great question, because we're actually starting to --
3 we have our Police test coming up in 2023 and we're actually trying
4 to go back and find out who were past Explorers that may had moved
5 on and are now eligible to take our Police exam. So, it's
6 something that's in the forefront of our minds, especially when it
7 comes to Explorers.

8
9 So, I mean, one of our approaches that we will continue to take is,
08:57AM 10 of course, with our School Resource Officers. We do like to engage
11 the students and also express to them and show them that we do have
12 this Police Explorer Program that they'd be willing to participate
13 in and learn about our police force and what we do and how we do
14 and how we run our operations, to hopefully garner some interest
15 and gain some interest in that area so that when they do move up
16 and go on they are fully aware of our process and they would be
17 very interested in signing up for a career with us.

18
19 **LEG. FLEMING:**

08:57AM 20 That's great. If you need any support for that, for that approach,
21 please let me know. I'm sure that we at the Legislature would
22 welcome any kind of incentives or opportunities to kind of amplify
23 that approach of yours, because I think it's really important.

24
25 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

26 We appreciate that and we probably will be doing that.

27
28 *(*Laughter*)*

29
08:57AM 30 **LEG. FLEMING:**

31 Thank you.

32
33 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

34 Okay. Anyone else? Thank you so much for coming. Appreciate it.

35
36 **LEG. ANKER:**

37 I have a question.

38
39 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

40 Thank you so much.

41
42 **LEG. ANKER:**

43 Hey, Steve, I have a question.

44
45 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

46 Oh, sorry. I didn't see you.

47
48 **LEG. ANKER:**

49 Up here.

50
51 *(*Laughter*)*

52
53 I feel like Oz, sorry. Again, thank you for all the work that you
54 have been doing. So my question is how many girls are part of the
55 program? Because I know the Boy Scouts opened up the entry into
56 Boy Scouts for girls. Do we have girls that are participating at

1 this time?

2

3 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

4 Absolutely, absolutely. Its not just -- it's run through the Boy
5 Scouts but it's not just a boy program. I don't have the exact
6 numbers in terms of the breakdown of male/female, but yes, we
7 certainly do have females that participate.

8

9 **LEG. ANKER:**

08:58AM 10 Good to know.

11

12 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN.**

13 Yep.

14

15 **LEG. ANKER:**

16 All right. Thank you again for all your work.

17

18 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

19 All right, thank you.

08:58AM 20

21 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

22 Okay, I think we're complete now. Thank you so much.

23

24 **LIEUTENANT LOUGHLIN:**

25 Thank you very much.

26

27 **OFFICER JOY:**

28 Thank you.

29

08:58AM 30

31 **LEG. FLEMING:**

32 Mr. Chairman? I just --

33

34 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

35 Yes?

36

37 **LEG. FLEMING:**

38 In following up on the discussion about the Dispatchers, I think
39 Lieutenant Manfredonia may have answers on what -- we could just
40 complete the -- would it be okay for him to come just come back and
41 let us know what the salary --

08:59AM 42

43 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

44 Perfect.

45

46 **LEG. FLEMING:**

47 -- is, for the record. If that's okay, Lieutenant.

48

49 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

50 Thank you. Please come on up.

08:59AM 51

52 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

53 There's actually a -- I've got a bunch of people telling me all the
54 answers to most of the questions (*laughter*), as I was sitting down.

55

56 So, starting salary for our Public Safety Dispatchers is 45,
approximately 45,000 a year for those that work two-tour, which is

1 the day tour and then the 3 to 11 or 4 to 12; and then 48,000 for
2 the Dispatchers that work the midnight or overnight tour.

3
4 Just to answer some of the other questions. We have Language Line
5 also available for all of our ECOs in case there are people that do
6 not have English as their primary language. Calls hold for less
7 than five seconds and it's a very, very, very rare occasion that
8 that actually happens, but all calls do get answered in an
9 extremely timely manner.

08:59AM 10

11 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

12 Okay. Thank you. We got you some of the answers -- some of the
13 answers to the questions.

14
15 **LEG. FLEMING:**

16 If I may. Thank you so much. No, it's okay, Andy, thank you.
17 I just wanted to -- I think it's important that we hear those
18 numbers, 48,000 for the night shift. You know, if you think about
19 how we look at affordable housing and the salary levels we look at
20 in order to stay on Long Island, there's a big, big gap between
21 48,000, which is the highest paid entry-level, and what it takes to
22 buy a home on Long Island or stay even in a nice apartment. So,
23 we've got some work to do, I think.

09:00AM 20

24
25 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

26 Well, that also might lead to -- the second part of the question
27 might be what does the salaries grow to? Because most starting
28 jobs, just even like a police officer, you know, they start off not
29 that high but it does grow over time, hopefully. So I think that
30 would probably be a good second part to the question (*laughter*).

09:00AM 30

31
32 **LEG. FLEMING:**

33 I think one of the things that we do observe with the migration
34 after folks are trained -- and I think Stephanie made a good point,
35 it happens in the Corrections as well -- that you see folks getting
36 trained but then even entry-level is much more livable in other
37 places. And so we train them and then they go somewhere else for
38 the jobs, and I think we do see that. Forty-eight thousand is just
39 a really tough salary to live on when you're living -- you know,
40 when your work is so important and so high stress.

09:01AM 40

41
42 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

43 That's why there's still -- I guess they'll be working on the
44 comparison of the surroundings, what they start at, what they end
45 up growing to so we have a better idea. Perfect, I agree.

46
47 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

48 Hey, Steve?

49
50 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

51 Yes?

52
53 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

54 Over here, Tom Donnelly. So, it's just a suggestion to you and to
55 the Vice-Chair. So I would engage -- Legislator Kennedy helped me
56 on this. I would be engaging AME on this, because a lot of it is

1 related to amending the Salary Classification Plan which has to be
2 done in agreement with the Executive Branch of government. So it's
3 not -- we don't have the ability to do that here.

4
5 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

6 Agreed.

7
8 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

9 But certainly you as the Chair and Vice-Chair do have a bully pit,
10 so to speak, to help facilitate that, so I just wanted to pass that
11 along to you.

12
13 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

14 Totally agree. It's just really -- I guess part of the first
15 steps, just like we do with the crossing guards, is finding out,
16 you know, what are we really paying and where is the conversation
17 on it? We were hearing a lot about crossing guards over the past
18 two years, but let's focus more maybe on the pay on this. Is this
19 comparable? And we have to have all people sit at the table,
20 definitely. Thank you.

21
22 Okay, going on to **Tabled Resolutions.**

23
24 ***IR 1134(-22) - Adopting Local Law No. -2022, A Local Law to***
25 ***strengthen the County's regulation on the outdoor restraint of pets***
26 ***(Flotteron).*** I will make a motion. Do I have a second?

27
28 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

29 Second to table. Are you tabling it?

30
31 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

32 No. We've got -- we're able to move forward.

33
34 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

35 Oh, you're moving it.

36
37 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

38 Yeah.

39
40 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

41 Okay, second.

42
43 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

44 All in favor? All -- any opposed? Any abstentions? No.

45
46 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

47 *Eight.*

48
49 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

50 ***IR 1134 passed (VOTE: 8-0-0-0).***

51
52 Okay, **Introductory Resolutions:**

53
54 ***IR 1223(-22) - Appropriating funds in connection with the Purchase***
55 ***of Heavy-Duty Equipment for Sheriff's Office (CP 3047) (County***
56 ***Executive).*** Do I have a motion?

1 **LEG. KENNEDY:**

2 Motion.

3
4 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

5 Motion by Kennedy -- Legislator Kennedy. Do I have a second?

6 Legislator Donnelly. All in favor? All -- any opposition?

7 Any abstentions?

8
9 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

10 *Eight.*

11
12 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

13 Okay. *IR 1223 passed (VOTE: 8-0-0-0).*

14
15 *IR 1224(-22) - Appropriating funds in connection with the Marine*
16 *and Helicopter Equipment (CP3513) (County Executive).* Do I have a
17 motion?

18
19 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

20 Motion.

21
22 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

23 Motion by Legislator Mazzarella. Do I have a second?

24
25 **LEG. FLEMING:**

26 Second.

27
28 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

29 Second by Legislator Fleming. Anyone on the motion? Vote; all in
30 favor? Any opposition? Any abstentions?

31
32 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

33 *Eight.*

34
35 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

36 Okay. *IR 1224 passed with eight (VOTE: 8-0-0-0).*

37
38 *IR 1227(-22) - Accepting and appropriating a grant providing 100%*
39 *support in the amount of \$1,135,404 in State funding from the New*
40 *York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services,*
41 *and amending the 2022 Capital Budget and Program in connection with*
42 *the Purchase of Interoperable Communications Equipment (CP3245)*
43 *(County Executive).*

44
45 **LEG. FLEMING:**

46 Motion to approve and place on the Consent Calendar.

47
48 **LEG. KENNEDY:**

49 Second.

50
51 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

52 Okay, and second by Legislator Kennedy. Any --

53
54 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

55 On the motion?

1 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

2 Yes, Legislator Donnelly.

3
4 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

5 So I think we have Greg (*sic*) Postel here, I guess this is in your
6 wheelhouse? I've got a couple of questions.

7
8 Good morning, sir.

9
09:05AM 10 **MR. POSTEL:**

11 Good morning. Mike Postel, Suffolk County Police.

12
13 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

14 So, can you just give us like a brief overview on this? I'm just
15 kind of curious about it.

16
17 **MR. POSTEL:**

18 The State of New York has been running this program since 2016 and
19 Suffolk County has benefitted significantly from it with multiple
09:05AM 20 grants over the years. It has helped us and aided us build out
21 additional communications for our East End law enforcement partner
22 agencies, as Legislator Fleming is very well aware of, as well as
23 the Fire and EMS Service across the County.

24
25 It has also helped us provide connectivity to our partners who
26 operate disparate radio systems such as Nassau County, the Town of
27 East Hampton, and we are currently in negotiations and
28 conversations with the State of Connecticut to enhance coverage
29 along our North Shore. This entire grant program is designed by
09:06AM 30 the State to create a network or network -- a network-of-networks
31 or what is referred to as a system-of-systems so that when we have
32 public safety emergencies throughout the area, that agencies that
33 come in from Upstate are able to communicate with us and that we
34 are able to communicate when we leave the area.

35
36 This has helped us improve very well through COVID. We have had
37 great success with the State Office of Homeland Security and
38 Emergency Services, their office of Interoperable Communications.
39 And we provide them with communications and connectivity to their
09:06AM 40 Albany Watch Center so that they can monitor communications down
41 here in Suffolk. And numerous fire and EMS agencies have migrated
42 off of the low-band communication system and have gone over to this
43 system to allow for not only daily use but for interoperable use.

44
45 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

46 So this is strictly, then, a County -- a County grant. It doesn't
47 branch out to any of the PSAPS, does it?

48
49 **MR. POSTEL:**

09:06AM 50 I'm not sure I'm following you, Legislator Donnelly.

51
52 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

53 So if it's 1,135,404 --

54
55 **MR. POSTEL:**

56 Uh-huh.

1 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

2 -- it's basically under FRES, I guess, FRES Communications.

3
4 **MR. POSTEL:**

5 Well, it's under Communications in general run by the County. So,
6 since it's being handled with regard to the radio system which is
7 operated out of the Police Department, it's handled by them but we
8 do work in conjunction with FRES on it.

9
09:07AM 10 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

11 And then so you sit on the PSAP Committee still, I believe, right?

12
13 **MR. POSTEL:**

14 Yes.

15
16 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

17 So does any of this grant funding filter out to them?

18
19 **MR. POSTEL:**

09:07AM 20 Some of the grant funding does. There is separate grant funding
21 through this program which is directly dedicated to the PSAPS, that
22 comes under a different portion of it, this is specifically
23 regarding interoperable communications. But we do work with some
24 of the PSAPS with regard to that and one of the things that we have
25 done and we will be doing is our intention is to create a
26 County-wide communication system through the Land Mobile Radio
27 Network so that we can communicate with the PSAPs should there be a
28 telephony failure or other types of communications, the robust
29 network that we have should remain in place and we can communicate
09:08AM 30 that way if they have some type of a telephone failure.

31
32 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

33 Awesome. Very good. Thank you so much.

34
35 **MR. POSTEL:**

36 Okay. Any other questions, Mr. Chair? Presiding Officer?

37
38 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

39 I don't see any. Thank you very much. Appreciate it.

09:08AM 40
41 **MR. POSTEL:**

42 Okay. Thank you.

43
44 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

45 Okay. We had a motion and a second. All in favor? Any opposed?
46 Any abstention? Okay.

47
48 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

49 *Eight.*

09:08AM 50
51 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

52 *IR 1227 was approved and put on the Consent Calendar.*
53 *(VOTE: 8-0-0-0).*

54
55 *IR 1230(-22) - Accepting and appropriating Federal funding in the*
56 *amount of \$15,000 from the United States Department of Justice,*

1 ***U.S. Marshals Service, for the Suffolk County Police Department's***
2 ***participation in the Regional Fugitive Task Force with 76.37%***
3 ***Support (County Executive).*** Do I have a motion?
4

5 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**
6 I'll make a motion.
7

8 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
9 A motion by Legislator Bontempi. Do I have a second?
10

11 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**
12 Second.
13

14 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
15 Second by Legislator Esteban. Anybody on the motion? All in
16 favor? Any nos? No abstentions?
17

18 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**
19 *Eight.*
20

21 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
22 ***IR 1230, approved (VOTE: 8-0-0-0).***
23

24 ***IR 1237(-22) - . Accepting and appropriating 100% Federal grant***
25 ***funds from the U.S. Department of Justice, in the amount of***
26 ***\$315,741 for the DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction***
27 ***(CEBR) Program FY21 administered by the Suffolk County Office of***
28 ***the Medical Examiner, Crime Laboratory and to execute grant related***
29 ***agreements (County Executive).***
30

31 **LEG. KENNEDY:**
32 Motion.
33

34 **LEG. FLEMING:**
35 Motion.
36

37 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
38 Motion made by Legislator Kennedy. Second by Legislator Fleming.
39 Anyone on this?
40

41 **LEG. FLEMING:**
42 On the motion.
43

44 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
45 Yes, please.
46

47 **LEG. FLEMING:**
48 I think this is appropriate for the Consent Calendar as well, 100%.
49

50 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
51 Great.
52

53 **LEG. FLEMING:**
54 Is there anyone here from the ME'S Office that can answer
55 questions?
56

1 **DR. HALL:**

2 Yes, I'm here; Dr. Hall.

3
4 **LEG. FLEMING:**

5 Oh, good morning, Doctor.

6
7 **DR. HALL:**

8 Good morning.

9
09:10AM 10 **LEG. FLEMING:**

11 So, if you -- I think this has been -- I think this is a recurring
12 grant under this Federal program to clear up the DNA backlog. I'm
13 just wondering if you could let us know what the backlog is, what
14 crimes may be involved, where the DNA profiles come from. Do we
15 still have a backlog and what are the details?

16
17 **DR. HALL:**

18 It's more or less kind of geared towards kind of preventing it from
19 happening, preventing it from getting any further along. So the
09:10AM 20 monies would be used to purchase equipment from some contract
21 employees that will come in to help with some of the bench work
22 that the analysts are doing to sustain the equipment.

23
24 The backlog is just kind of a matter of, again, timing, staffing
25 and such to make sure that it doesn't get to the point where there
26 is a case that should have been pending for DNA or DNA analysis and
27 it hasn't been gotten to because, again, inefficient equipment or
28 anything to that effect. So I, unfortunately, don't have a number
29 on where they stand with their backlog as it is, and I can get that
09:11AM 30 information to you to sort of say what the extent of it is now.
31 But the funding and the program is really sort of designed to make
32 sure that it keeps moving.

33
34 The DNA that would -- that it would be applicable to is essentially
35 all crimes, so we're talking about sexual assaults, we're talking
36 about homicides and remembering that our DNA lab and our Crime Lab
37 in general handles cases that don't involve decedents, they're
38 handling all of the crimes that are happening in Suffolk County.

39
09:12AM 40 **LEG. FLEMING:**

41 So -- thank you for that. Is -- when the -- I think when this
42 Federal program was first put in place there was an alarming number
43 of DNA samples in backlog across the country and that were
44 interfering with investigations and prosecutions of very serious
45 crimes.

46
47 I think what I'm hearing is that is not the case in Suffolk County
48 now, but I just wanted to know if that's true. Is there any -- do
49 you have any inability to process DNA profiles that would -- you
09:12AM 50 know, that inability would cause law enforcement to be unable to do
51 its work, whether it's the prosecution -- I mean, whether it's the
52 DA's Office or Investigators, Detectives. Are you able to satisfy
53 the needs of law enforcement in treating DNA profiles at this
54 point, and this is just to the prevent any kind of interference
55 that comes from a backlog? Or do you actually have some backlog
56 that prevents cases from moving forward?

1 **DR. HALL:**

2 I would say it's -- hasn't sort of prevented, it's a matter of the
3 expediency with which it can be processed. I think having this
4 grant and sustaining this grant is a matter of being able to keep
5 pace and to make sure that there isn't a significant delay in
6 providing that information.

7
8 Our DNA lab, again, with the sort of evolution of the science of
9 DNA being able to keep up with that. Obviously it does extend
09:13AM 10 turnaround times and I think that's more the issue in terms of
11 backlog with extending turning-around times that it doesn't create
12 a situation where a case isn't able to go to trial because the DNA
13 is absent. We've been able to keep up with that to that extent,
14 but it comes close. It hasn't sort of held up a prosecution, it
15 hasn't sort of prevented a prosecution, but it's a matter of it
16 sort of always coming to the wire of being able to get that
17 information available.

18
19 **LEG. FLEMING:**

09:14AM 20 Yeah, having been on the waiting end of that kind of a
21 circumstance, I know that can be -- really interfere with good
22 prosecution. Not only that but, you know, we have statutory
23 deadlines that have to be met, whether it's, you know, getting a
24 case into the Grand Jury in time or trying a case within speedy
25 trial limits. I think here in Suffolk County the defense bar often
26 waives those time bars, which is different from a lot of places.
27 I don't know if that's still the case, but I know when I did some
28 indigent counsel defense work it was expected that the defense
29 waive some of these timelines; I don't know if that's still the
09:15AM 30 case. But if they don't, you know, not having the evidence in time
31 can actually kill a prosecution for speedy trial purposes, or a
32 defendant can be released on very serious crimes if you're not able
33 to get a true bill in the Grand Jury. So, it sounds to me like
34 you're -- it's stressful to get there but that we are in good
35 shape. And I hope that this grant funding continues to be helpful
36 to you. It sounds to me like that's true; is that true that this
37 is continuing to be helpful to you in that regard?

38
39 **DR. HALL:**

09:15AM 40 Absolutely, 100%. It's essentially essential to help us, you know,
41 continue with that endeavor. And to my knowledge, at least in my
42 time period here since 2009, fortunately no one has been released
43 because DNA has not been able to be provided. So, we'd like to
44 keep that going.

45
46 **LEG. FLEMING:**

47 That's good to have that on the record. Thank you. Thank you,
48 Mr. Chair.

49
09:15AM 50 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

51 Thank you. Any other questions? If not, we had a motion and a
52 second. All in favor? Any opposed? Any abstentions? We'll say
53 no.

54
55 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**
56 *Eight.*

1 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

2 Okay, IR --

3

4 **DR. HALL:**

5 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

6

7 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

8 Thank you. *IR 1237 passed (VOTE: 8-0-0-0).*

9

09:16AM 10 *IR 1256(-22) - Amending Resolution No. 991-2021 for the New York*
11 *State Department of Transportation Dedicated Traffic Enforcement*
12 *grant program (County Executive). Do I have a motion?*

13

14 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

15 *(Raised hand).*

16

17 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

18 Motion, Legislator Donnelly. Do I have a second? Legislator
19 Mazzarella.

09:16AM 20

21 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

22 On the motion.

23

24 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

25 Yes, Legislator Donnelly.

26

27 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

28 If we can have somebody from the PD, I've just got a couple of
29 quick questions.

09:16AM 30

31 I think I may have asked this already, Lieutenant, maybe last year
32 or the year before. This is a joint operation, I guess, with the
33 State Police; is that what this is for?

34

35 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

36 No, this is -- this is basically for the Highway units that provide
37 patrol at construction sites on our limited access highways.

38

39 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

40 Got it. Very good. Thank you, sir.

09:17AM 41

42 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

43 Legislator Mazzarella.

44

45 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

46 I'm sorry, Lieutenant.

47

48 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

49 Sit closer maybe.

09:17AM 50

51 *(*Laughter*)*

52 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

53 I need the steps.

54

55 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

56 So, it seems that -- you know, it seems that this grant program is

1 probably recurring, right?

2

3 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

4 That's correct.

5

6 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

7 So -- and it seems that there's been a significant reduction,

8 I mean, at least this year; is that common.

9

09:17AM

10 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

11 Yeah. So, basically what happens is the State determines how much
12 of the funding that we get. So when we put our resolutions forward
13 and we find out that the State is reducing the amount of patrols
14 that they want at these construction sites, we then thereafter have
15 to amend our resolutions to be in line from the funds that we're
16 getting from the State.

17

18 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

19 Understood. I mean, I guess the question again is it looks like

09:17AM

20 it's been reduced by -- I mean, originally from 10 million down to
21 under eight million --

22

23 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

24 Right.

25

26 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

27 -- and it's about 20%. Is that fairly normal?

28

29 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

09:18AM

30 Well, I mean, it's -- we're pretty much at the mercy of what the
31 State is going to give us.

32

33 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

34 Sure. Okay. All right, thank you.

35

36 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

37 Okay. I don't see any other -- I think we're -- no other
38 questions, correct? Okay. Thank you so much. Enjoy your walk.
39 *(Laughter)*.

09:18AM

40 Okay, we had a first and a second. All in favor?

41

42 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

43 Aye.

44

45 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

46 Any opposed? Any abstentions?

47

48 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

09:18AM

49 *Eight.*

50

51 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

52 *IR 1256 passed (VOTE: 8-0-0-0).*

53

54 *IR 1266(-22) - Appropriating funds in connection with New Impound*
55 *Section Office Building (CP 3146) (County Executive).* Do I have a
56

1 motion?

2

3 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

4 Motion.

5

6 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

7 Motion by Legislator Mazzarella. Do I have second?

8

9 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

09:18AM 10 Second.

11

12 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

13 Legislator Esteban. Any questions? No, okay. All in favor?

14

15 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

16 Aye.

17

18 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

19 All -- any absten -- any opposed? Any abstentions?

09:19AM 20

21 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

22 *Eight.*

23

24 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

25 ***IR 1266 passed (VOTE: 8-0-0-0).***

26

27 ***IR 1267(-22) - Appropriating funds in connection with Highway***
28 ***Patrol Motorcycle Unit new maintenance and storage building***
29 ***(CP 3152) (County Executive).*** Do I --

30

31 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

32 Motion.

33

34 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

35 I have a motion by Legislator Esteban. Do I have a second?
36 Legislator Kennedy. Any questions? I don't see any. All in
37 favor? Any opposition? Any abstentions? No, no.

38

39 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

09:19AM 40 *Eight.*

41

42 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

43 ***IR 1267 passed (VOTE: 8-0-0-0).***

44

45 ***IR 1268(-22) - Appropriating PAYGO funds in connection with the***
46 ***Renovations to Bathrooms in Police Headquarters (CP 3189) (County***
47 ***Executive).*** I will make a motion. Do I have a second?

48

49 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

09:19AM 50 Second.

51

52 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

53 Second by Legislator --

54

55 **LEG. KENNEDY:**

56 On the motion.

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09:20AM

09:20AM

09:20AM

09:20AM

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
Sure. Second by Legislator Esteban. And Legislator Kennedy has a question.

LEG. KENNEDY:
Hello. I don't have a problem with this at all with PAYGO money. I just want to know, didn't we vote for this a year ago, for the bathrooms to be done?

LIEUTENANT SCHARF:
Good morning. Lieutenant Bob Scharf here. Yes, ma'am, we have been doing it in installments, roughly 150,000 a year.

LEG. KENNEDY:
Okay, that's it. That's the only question, I just didn't want to redo something that was already --

LIEUTENANT SCHARF:
Great.

LEG. KENNEDY:
-- completed. Thank you.

LIEUTENANT SCHARF:
Thank you.

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
Okay. No other questions. All in favor? Any opposed? Any opposition?

CHIEF DEPUTY ROBINSON:
Eight.

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
IR 1268 passes (VOTE: 8-0-0-0).

IR 1274(-22) - Directing the Police Department to study the feasibility of implementing gunshot detection and location systems in Suffolk County (Richberg).

LEG. MAZZARELLA:
Motion.

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
Motion by Legislator Mazzarella. I will second. Any questions? All in favor?

LEG. ESTEBAN:
Aye.

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
Any opposition? Any abstentions? No.

CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:
Eight.

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09:21AM

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CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
IR 1274 passes.

IR 1281(-22) - Appropriating PAYGO funds in connection with the Renovations to Marine Bureau Facility (CP 3195) (County Executive).

LEG. KENNEDY:
Motion.

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
Motion by Legislator Kennedy.

LEG. ESTEBAN:
Second.

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
Second by Legislator Esteban. Any questions? No. All in favor?

LEG. ESTEBAN:
Aye.

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
Any opposition? Any abstentions?

CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:
Eight.

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
IR 1281 passed (VOTE: 8-0-0-0).

IR 1282(-22) - Appropriating PAYGO funds in connection with the Purchase of Marine Bureau Engines (CP 3198) (County Executive).

LEG. FLEMING:
Motion.

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
Motion by Legislator Fleming. I will second. Anybody on the motion? All in favor?

LEG. ESTEBAN:
Aye.

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
Any opposition? Any abstentions?

CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:
Eight.

CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
IR 1282 passes (VOTE: 8-0-0-0).

IR 1283(-22) - Appropriating funds in connection with Police Headquarters, Precinct and Lobby Upgrades (CP 3521) (County

1 **Executive**). I'll make a motion. And is there a second?

2
3 **LEG. KENNEDY:**
4 Second.

5
6 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
7 By Legislator Kennedy. Any questions? All in favor?

8
9 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**
10 Aye.

11
12 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
13 Any opposition? Any abstentions?

14
15 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**
16 *Eight.*

17
18 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
19 ***IR 1283 passes (VOTE: 8-0-0-0).***

20
21 ***IR 1284(-22) - Appropriating PAYGO funds in connection with***
22 ***Purchase of Hovercraft for Marine Bureau (CP 3529) (County***
23 ***Executive).*** Do I have motion?

24
25 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**
26 I'll make a motion.

27
28 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
29 Legislator Donnelly. Second by?

30
31 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**
32 I'll make a second; Bontempi.

33
34 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
35 I'm sorry (*laughter*). I thought -- I was looking at the screen in
36 front of me. I thought it was Sarah for a second. Second by
37 Legislator Bontempi. Any questions?

38
39 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**
40 On the motion.

41
42 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
43 On the motion.

44
45 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
46 Legislator Mazzarella.

47
48 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**
49 Yes, the question that I have is do -- do we currently have a
50 hovercraft?

51
52 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**
53 No, sir. We have in the past borrowed from local volunteer fire
54 departments and even East End Police Departments, but you can
55 imagine that that is not convenient in an emergency, and we decided
56 about five or six years ago that we needed to have our own after

1 the Oak Island fire. If anyone here recalls that, we were -- it
2 was a wintertime fire and due to the ice we were not able to get to
3 Oak Island, all the houses burned down; thank God they were
4 unoccupied but, you know, it could have been different. So, at
5 that time we decided that we needed to have our own so it would be
6 immediately available for emergencies.

7
8 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

9 All right, thank you. I mean, out in my district I know that the
09:23AM 10 Marine Bureau actually did a rescue of, I think it was a baby deer
11 and there was a lot of ice in the Narrow's Bay, so if that had been
12 a person or people, I can see where this piece of equipment would
13 come in handy. So, thank you.

14
15 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

16 Yes, sir.

17
18 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

19 Actually, I have a question. Where is this -- where will the
09:23AM 20 hovercraft be stationed? Is this over in West Sayville?

21
22 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

23 It should be at Timber Point.

24
25 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

26 In Great River, at Timber Point.

27
28 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

29 Yes, correct.

09:24AM 30
31 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

32 So I guess your goal would be -- you'll probably have to have --
33 get other ones on the Island for out east or the North Shore in the
34 future would be probably your hopes.

35
36 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

37 Well, we'd probably trailer it to a specific location. But if we
38 decided that that was too time consuming, we may come back looking
39 for more depending on how well this works out.

09:24AM 40
41 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

42 Yeah. Trailoring could be, in some situations --

43
44 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

45 Right.

46
47 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

48 Especially on the East End, it could be an hour hour-and-a-half,
49 so.

09:24AM 50
51 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

52 Sure. Which is, you know, the same reason why we wanted our own,
53 not to borrow from another department. So, if this works out well
54 we very well may be back for more.

1 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
2 Yeah. Okay. Thank you so much.

3
4 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**
5 You're welcome.

6
7 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
8 Just one more question, Lieutenant.

9
10 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
11 Oh, Legislator Donnelly.

12
13 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
14 Sorry, just kind of a dull question. What is the inventory right
15 now in the County? So, PD-Marine Bureau will have one. East --
16 what East End department has one?

17
18 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**
19 I could get you that information. I know there is at least one or
09:24AM 20 two and also local fire departments at least one or two. We do not
21 and never have, but I will get back to you with that information.

22
23 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
24 Yeah, just kind of curious about the coordination, so-to-speak, you
25 know, operationally, like who has and who doesn't.

26
27 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**
28 Sure.

29
30 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
31 What about staffing-wise? So if it's going to be trailored, is it
09:25AM 32 going to be on duty guys responsible for it that are on one of the
33 marine boats and they're going to come back, or?

34
35 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**
36 Well, that's yet to be determined. Certainly they will be on-duty
37 guys. There will be a plan for who is primarily responsible for
38 it.

39
40 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
41 Okay. Good enough.

42
43 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**
44 To be determined.

45
46 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
47 Good enough. Thank you.

48
49 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
09:25AM 50 Legislator Bontempi.

51
52 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**
53 Yeah, I -- hello, sir.

54
55 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**
56 Good morning.

1 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

2 I have a question about how many people can fit on one of these
3 hovercrafts, so in the case of --

4
5 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

6 Two to four.

7
8 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

9 Two to four?

09:25AM 10

11 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

12 Yeah, depending on the model.

13
14 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

15 Oh; that's not a lot of people.

16
17 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

18 No, but it would be -- certainly for the Oak Island situation, it
19 would have been more than sufficient to, you know, check the
20 buildings for occupants.

09:25AM

21
22 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

23 Oh. I imagined something a little bit larger that would fit more
24 people than two or four, but okay.

25
26 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

27 Ah, there are larger ones. You know, we weren't looking to break
28 the bank.

29
30 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

31 I understand.

09:26AM

32
33 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

34 Right.

35
36 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

37 All right. Thank you.

38
39 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

40 Is it also -- the smaller one, you want to be able to get to
41 shallower areas with this compared to your regular boats, also?

09:26AM

42
43 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

44 This hover is just --

45
46 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

47 They go up on top.

48
49 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

50 -- above the running service of the ground and any sub-straight,
51 you know, water, land, ice, mud, a swamp; it just glides right over
52 it.

09:26AM

53
54 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

55 Okay. Terrific. I haven't -- I'd love to see it in the future
56 when you get it.

1 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

2 Certainly.

3

4 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

5 So, one of the local firehouses out in my district, I know Mastic
6 Beach has one, I've have seen it and they are mostly smaller. And
7 I know they don't carry a lot of people because of their size, so
8 I'd just --

9

10 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

11 Right.

12

13 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

14 -- Legislator Bontempi know, they're very small crafts, most of the
15 of them anyway. And, so -- and then also to echo the question from
16 Legislator Donnelly; so I guess you'll be looking for what
17 departments have them around and then consider where --

18

19 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

09:27AM 20 I will do that, yes.

21

22 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

23 -- where we would station them. Because again, if we're -- you
24 know, if they have a firehouse that does have one, you know, create
25 some sort of map around the County and then you'll know
26 strategically the best place to keep it housed, I guess.

27

28 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

29 Yes, that will be part of the plan, I agree.

09:27AM 30

31 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

32 Thank you.

33

34 **LIEUTENANT SCHARF:**

35 You're welcome.

36

37 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

38 Okay. Seeing no more questions, all in favor?

39

09:27AM 40

41 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

42 Aye.

43

44 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

45 Any opposition? Any abstentions?

46

47 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

48 *Eight.*

49

09:27AM 50

51 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
52 Okay, *IR 1284 passed (VOTE: 8-0-0-0).*

53

54 There's no Procedural Motions, no Home Rule Messages, no Subject to
55 Call Resolutions. Seeing no more business in front of us, this
56 meeting is adjourned.

*(*The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m. *)*