

**Vermont Department of Public Safety
Law Enforcement Advisory Board
Business Plan**

PURPOSE – What is our purpose?

As defined in the 24 V.S.A. § 1939 and by the members of the Law Enforcement Advisory Board the mission of the group is as follows;

To advise and report to the Commissioner of Public Safety, the Governor, the General Assembly on issues that affect the cooperation and coordination of more than one law enforcement agency.

GOAL – What are we working towards?

Given monies available, the Board shall review *policies* and *practices* in an effort of developing a *comprehensive approach* to providing the best policing services to Vermonters.

The Board shall also provide *educational resources* to Vermonters about public safety challenges in the state.

The Board shall develop *policies and recommendations* for law enforcement priority needs.

TASKS – What should the Board review?

Statutorily mentioned tasks include;

- Retirement benefits,
- Recruitment of officers,
- training needs,
- homeland security issues,
- dispatching, and
- Comprehensive drug enforcement.

Other tasks deemed important by the Board should also be reviewed. It is expected that issues or tasks may arise at any time and may be brought before the Board for resolution.

OUTCOMES – What are we going to produce?

The Board shall hold a formal review process to meet the above goals and tasks. A *report* shall be produced in brief summary to the General Assembly and Governor annually by January 15th. A *formal review process* shall include testimony from interested parties, if deemed necessary by the Board, or a thorough discussion of the issues/tasks followed by a recommendation made and voted on by the Board.

ORGANIZATION– What is the make up of the Board and how does it operate?

The Board is made up of the following;

- Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Director of the Vermont State Police (VSP)
- Director of the DPS/ Division of Criminal Justice Services (CJS)
- A member of the Vermont Association of Chiefs of Police appointed by the president.
- A member of the Vermont Sheriffs' Association appointed by the president
- A representative from the Vermont Leagues of Cities and Towns (VLCT) appointed by the Executive Director.
- A member of the Vermont Police Association appointed by the president.
- The Attorney General or his/her designee.
- A state's attorney appointed by the Executive Director of the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs.
- The U.S. Attorney or his/her designee.
- The Executive Director of the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council (VCJTC).
- The Defender General or his/her designee.
- One employee-representative of the Vermont state police, appointed by the director of the Vermont state employees' association.

The Board shall elect a chair and vice-chair who will serve for two years.

A quorum shall consist of 6 members.

Decisions of the Board shall require a majority vote.

Action Plan for 2012-2014

The Board shall meet a minimum of six (6) times in 2010.

The Board shall begin discussing the following issues with the outcome being to define the problem, document the problem or issue and offer recommendations to help solve the problem. These issues are in priority order.

1. Evaluate the new legislative issues placed on the LEAB as a result of the 2012 legislative session.
2. Develop a format and distribute model policies recommended by the board. These model policies should include *sample language* along with *key components* and *essential elements* of the topic area that is being discussed.
 - a. Distribute policies on bias free policing, eyewitness identification, domestic violence response to law enforcement involved domestic violence situations.
3. The law enforcement advisory board shall work with the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council to promote best practices surrounding the previous year's work on eyewitness identification issues.
 - b. Distribute a model policy on eyewitness best practices.
4. Continue the work initiated by the human trafficking implementation task force.
 - c. Re-authorize the work of the task force and assign them work accordingly.
5. Review the implementation strategies associated with the all felon arraignee DNA sample collection law (S.13) and offer support and/or recommendations for successful compliance with the law.
6. Review the efforts surrounding electronic information sharing and identify problems and offer recommendations on solutions.
7. Document the status of the Vermont Justice Information Sharing (VJISS) effort.
 - d. Document the efforts of the Burlington Police Department in building a new records management system (RMS).
8. Fill all opens slots on the advisory board and evaluate the current organizational structure.
 - e. Determine if organizational changes need to be incorporated into the 2011 legislative session.
9. Explore the problems with the training of constables, including field training of constables.

10. Rural Law Enforcement issues.
11. Continue to review the consolidation and regionalization
12. Explore police training curriculum development issues.
 - f. Why are agencies outside of the criminal justice training council dictating curriculum issues to the law enforcement community?
 - g. How much of a problem is this issue?

