



Ferguson Commission
Update on Working Group Charge
and Priority Focus Areas

February 23, 2015

Community Priorities and Working Groups

Working Groups will be launched according to the five top priorities the public established during the 1st Commission Meeting:

	<u>Priorities</u>	<u>Working Groups</u>
Central Issues	Citizen Law Enforcement Relations (68%)	Citizen-Law Enforcement Relations
	Municipal governance (17%)	Municipal Courts and Governance
	Municipal court (15%)	
Disparity Focus	Education (63%)	Education Inequity and Child Well-Being
	Economic Opportunity (58%)	Economic Inequity and Opportunity
	Racial and Ethnic Relations (53%)	(In Development)

Working Group Standard Operating Principles

Explore the underlying social and economic issues in the St. Louis metropolitan area using a common set of principles including:

- (1) Honoring community expertise and youth perspective;
- (2) Looking beyond *what is* to create a model for *what can be*;
- (3) Leveraging existing data to generate evidence-based recommendations;
- (4) Centering on principles of equity and justice; and
- (5) Prioritizing action with a sense of urgency

Working Group Final Products

- Best practice recommendations and models that account for the multi-dimensional and intersecting nature of root cause issues.
- All working groups examining the following levels of intervention, accordingly:
 - Policy-based;
 - Systems level;
 - Practice-based; and
 - Individual-level
- Feasibility assessment
- Implementation and translation
- Community sessions and activities to gather input

Overview on Working Groups Progress

Working groups have prioritized prospective reforms in preparation for making legislative recommendations

Citizen-Law Enforcement Relations

- Commissioner Co-Chairs: Isom, Packnett
- Completed 3 meetings since 12/8 launch

Municipal Courts & Governance

- Commissioner Co-Chairs: Blackmon, Carr
- Completed 1 meeting on 2/17 with context from 12/15 launch

Working Group Membership Selection Process

Members were selected by working group co-chairs to ensure the appropriate level of expertise and adequate healthy tension would be present for each discussion:

- Working Group co-chairs and staff conducted a series of stakeholder interviews to confirm representatives for each working group;
- Reviewed Ferguson Commission applicants with appropriate expertise on each topical area;
- Invited notable grassroots and institutional organizations to nominate appropriate representatives to serve on each working group

Update Citizen-Law Enforcement Relations

Co-Chairs: Dr. Dan Isom, Brittany Packnett

Citizen-Law Enforcement Relations Participants

- Dr. Daniel Isom, Missouri Department of Public Safety
- Brittany Packnett, Teach for America - St. Louis
- Dr. T.R. Carr Jr., Ferguson Commission
- Kevin Ahlbrand, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department
- Karen Aroesty, MO/IL at Anti-Defamation League
- Jamel Santa Cruze Bell, Eureka College
- David Klinger, University of Missouri-St. Louis
- Richard Rosenfield, University of Missouri-St. Louis
- Chuck Walker, Jefferson City Police Department
- Norm White, Saint Louis University
- Romona F. Taylor Williams, Metro St. Louis Coalition for Inclusion & Equity
- Marius Johnson Malone, Better Together
- Christine Assefa, Organization for Black Struggle

Recap What We Learned from You

Enforce Missouri Profiling Laws

Address the fear-based, excessive use of force

Increase Police Screening & Training

Improve Youth & Police Interactions

Citizen-Law Enforcement Relations Priorities for Reform

The following priorities are in view of the 2015 legislative session as supported by community voice

- Update Use of Force statute and consider adequate documentation
- Create legal mechanism for empowered civilian oversight that emphasizes civil rights enforcement
- Implement measures and standards for anti-bias training and core cultural competencies
- Increase rigor of law enforcement preparation through new certification standards or training opportunities
- Ensure police agencies have access to prior records of prospective hires
- Strengthen whistleblower protections within police departments

Update Municipal Courts & Governance

Co-Chairs: Rev. Traci Blackmon, Dr. T.R. Carr

Recap What We Learned from You

Enforce
existing law on
revenue caps

Create uniform
practices

Empower
residents to
know rights

Improve
Access to
Courts

Municipal Courts & Governance

Priorities for Reform

The following priorities are in view of the 2015 legislative session as supported by community voice

- Enforce the state established cap on traffic fine revenue that a municipality may collect and clarify reporting requirements, enforcement responsibility and definition of traffic revenue
- Develop alternatives to imprisonment and fines for Failure to Appear and other issues
- Provide for an “ability to pay” hearing before any individual can be detained or otherwise penalized for failure to do so
- Create uniform list of rights and procedural options and consequences across municipalities