

**Commission on Racial Equity and Justice
Listening Session #3: Law Enforcement**

Ed Klumpp

July 29, 2020

Held virtually via Zoom

Participants

Members of the Kansas Sheriffs Association, Kansas Peace Officers Association, and Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police

Commissioners Attending

- Shannon Portillo
- Brandon Davis
- Judge Monique Centeno
- Catalina Velarde
- John Nave
- Chris Howell
- David Jordan

Topics Discussed

KLETC Training and Screening

- KLETC as a progressive training academy that oversees all academy training, most states don't have a centralized training academy
- "Integrity is the basis for community trust" motto
- Violations can result in dismissal or other disciplinary action, KLETC stays in close contact with the dept head at the student's home agency if there are issues
- High standards for KLETC instructors
- Soft skill/hard skill training includes first response, communication, de-escalation, mechanics of arrest, constitutional policing, vehicle stops, defensive tactics, stress management, and high-risk, low frequency tactics like use of force, use of force simulations, officer survival
- Officers then team up with another officer to learn for a year, then 40 hours of training annually as continuing education

CPOST Functions

- CPOST established by KS Law Enforcement Training Act, which lists felonies and misdemeanors as disqualifying from service
- CPOST has a registry of people who have been decertified

- “Wandering officer” clause allows hiring agencies to check with CPOST if a candidate was terminated from another department
- Crisis intervention training is long, not feasible as standard training
- Qualified immunity protects law abiding officers from frivolous or harassing lawsuits
- If an officer has a change in their status – rank change, military deployment, leaves an agency for any reason, reported to CPOST
- Conviction for a crime is automatic decertification, CPOST can choose to take disciplinary action against officers if no conviction
- Open misconduct records can have consequences for hiring and maintaining personnel
- Serious violations are mandated to be reported to CPOST, if action is taken, that is public
- If a deputy resigns under investigation, that is reported to CPOST

Other Policing Topics

- Policy is to use the minimum amount of force needed, discipline and termination can happen when the policy is violated
- PSU and internal affairs conduct investigations
- Small agencies cannot afford expensive software to track stops/violations (\$10,000/yr)
- School Resource Officers fulfill a community policing mission, involved in the community and proactive not reactive
- There’s not a department in the state that’s fully staffed, recruiting and retention is difficult
- Money generated out of tickets or fines goes to the county or municipality, CPOST and other entities are funded out of ticket revenue