

# Western District View

Western District Police-Community Relations Council  
8273 Telegraph Road, Odenton 21113

9 July 2019

**Our Next Meeting** – will take place on Wednesday, 11 September 2019. Reminder: there are no meetings scheduled for July and August.

## Meeting Minutes for June 2019 –

1. WD PCRC President Rusty Bristow called the meeting to order at 7:00. He then led members and visitors in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Rusty then introduced our guest speaker, Det. Regina Collier, of the Cold Case Unit – a part of the Homicide Unit. Det. Collier, a 19-year veteran of AACO PD – 7 in the Homicide Unit - explained that an unsolved homicide investigation may be relegated to the cold case file after one year, after all leads have been exhausted without success – or, perhaps later, if the case continues to be investigated by the original investigator. Once moved to the Cold Case file, all associated evidence remains there indefinitely. From time to time, cold cases are revisited, especially if new information or some technical breakthrough (like DNA , genealogical evidence, or maybe new information gleaned via Social Media) is found that might lead to a resolution of the case. The Cold Case file currently contains some 72 unsolved cases – one dating back as far as 1970. After her interesting presentation, Det. Collier entertained questions from the audience.

3. A brief business meeting was then held: the June meeting minutes were adopted as published and Wednesday, July 10, 6 PM, was the date set for a meeting at Mamma Lucia's (on Dorsey Road) of PCRC officers and all others interested to discuss and organize the PCRC WD meeting agendas – including guest speakers - for 2019-20. Our treasurer, Cathy Fleshman, reported our current balance as \$5034.31 – which included several recent donations. We thank you all for those generous contributions. Capt. Rodriguez informed us that WD is in dire need of a new grill. A motion was made and passed to purchase a new grill. WD PCRC donated drinks and snacks to runners participating in the recent Law Enforcement Torch Run. PCRC officers and members will in the new future be touring the new AACO Police Academy training facilities in Davidsonville – when construction there is completed in the fall. Capt. Rodriguez has extended an invitation, which includes bus transportation for those desiring it.

4. VP Williams then read (first reading) a proposed addition to the bylaws of the AACO PCRC Executive Board that would govern the allocation of funds of any AACO PD district – should that district go defunct – as follows: “Upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or to the Anne Arundel County Police Department for a public

purpose.” After a second reading of this proposal at the next PCRC WD meeting – and likewise at meetings of the other 3 districts – to be followed by a discussion and a vote thereof by the members – the Executive Board will subsequently review those votes and take appropriate actions to either adopt or table the proposal.

5. WD Commander Capt. Daniel Rodriguez then presented his Captain’s Report – which was followed by a lengthy Q&A session. The opioid epidemic continues, but is not getting worse – due apparently to a greater public awareness of the problem, the use of Narcan (Naloxone), and more safe stations. So far in 2019 AACO has had 65 reported fatalities, 5 of which occurred in WD. Violent crimes were down in the county some 20% (35% in WD), but TFAs (Thefts from autos) were up – due to one very bad week (21 TFAs). 80% of the TFAs involved UNLOCKED vehicles. Expensive wheel rims are currently a prime target of thieves. Again, cameras and home security videos are proving to be very useful in the investigations of these crimes. Staffing problems are being overcome as more recruits are hired and trained (40-45 are currently undergoing training). WD has a new cadet: Tyler Kahl. WD officers continue to focus their community relations activities in Still Meadows, Pioneer City and Meade Village. A dog park will be dedicated in Shipley Homestead in honor of Steve Wilson, who was murdered there while on duty in the business office. Drivers who are seen texting can be reported to 410-222-8610. A tag number is essential. WD Officers of the Month for April and May were: Caitlin Smith and Mark Gass. Our congratulations!

7. Rusty adjourned the meeting at approximately 9 PM.

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