

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
EASTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	CASE NO.: 1:15-CV-01046
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	JUDGE SOLOMON OLIVER, JR.
vs.	)	
	)	<b><u>NOTICE SUBMITTING CITY OF</u></b>
CITY OF CLEVELAND	)	<b><u>CLEVELAND ANNUAL CRISIS</u></b>
	)	<b><u>INTERVENTION IN-SERVICE</u></b>
Defendant.	)	<b><u>TRAINING CURRICULUM</u></b>
	)	
	)	

The Monitoring Team respectfully submits to the Court the attached curriculum for training of police officers in crisis intervention for its approval. The City of Cleveland (the “City”), on behalf of the Cleveland Division of Police (“CDP” or “Division”), provided the Crisis Intervention Homeless In-Service Curriculum (collectively, the “Proposed Training Curriculum”) for basic training in crisis intervention for police officers pursuant to Paragraph 143 of the Consent Decree and the Monitoring Plan.<sup>1</sup> Paragraph 143 of the Consent Decree obligates the CDP to ensure that “CDP will provide training on responding to individuals in crisis to all of its officers and recruits.”<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, Paragraph 143 indicates that “officers will be provided with at least eight hours of initial training, and all officers will receive annual in-service training thereafter.”<sup>3</sup> CDP officers

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<sup>1</sup> Dkt. 413-1, Exhibit A at ¶143; Dkt. 416.

<sup>2</sup> Id.

<sup>3</sup> Id.

have received the initial eight hours of training. This training is part of the annual in-service training for all officers in crisis intervention. The presently reviewed curriculum addresses the Decree's requirements for additional officer in-service crisis intervention training.

## **I. ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSED TRAINING CURRICULUM**

The Proposed Training Curriculum consists of four hours of training. The material covers a series of topics integral to Law Enforcement and Homelessness: Forging Partnerships. The topics include: Understanding homelessness; formal definitions of homelessness; national and local data on homelessness; factors leading to homelessness including poverty, incarceration, and racial discrimination; the homeless populations of LGBTQ individuals, Youth and the Elderly; issues with access to healthcare; and strategies and resources to address homelessness in the Cleveland area.

The Proposed Training Curriculum was developed by the Mental Health Response Advisory Committee's ("MHRAC" or "the Committee") Training Subcommittee Task Force which made use of community experts on homelessness. CDP presented the homeless curriculum for review to the MHRAC committee as well the members of Training subcommittee. The subcommittee is comprised of members of the Division, community advocates, individuals with lived experience, as well as mental health, substance abuse and developmental service providers. This community collaborative effort reflects another theme of the training, that of forging partnerships between law enforcement and community to address the issue of homelessness.

The course follows principles consistent with adult learning strategies. This includes interactive teaching techniques to integrate lecture material with the officers' experiences, and scenario-based practice in responding to individuals who are homeless. Exhibit A provides the instructor manual with PowerPoint slides. Exhibit B provides the lesson plan with learning

objectives and teaching methods. The course instructors are community subject matter experts with applied experience in addressing issues involving homelessness. Overall, the course provides excellent training for CDP officers. The Department of Justice provided feedback on the curriculum and has no objections to the approval of the In-Service Curriculum.

The Monitoring Team's role is to "assess and report whether the requirements" of the Consent Decree "have been implemented."<sup>4</sup> (requiring the Monitor to "review . . . policies, procedures, practices, training curricula, and programs developed and implemented under" the Decree). The task of the Monitoring Team here is to determine whether the proposed training curriculum complies with the Consent Decree's requirements. The Monitoring Team agrees that it provides important understanding of the role of law enforcement in interacting with individuals experiencing homelessness. The training also allows officers to have a command of available resources and intervention strategies. The Monitoring Team therefore recommends that the Court approve CDP's Fifth CIT In-Service Training Curriculum.

## **II. CONCLUSION**

The task of the Monitoring Team is to duly consider whether the City's submitted Proposed Training Curriculum satisfies the terms of the Consent Decree. The Monitoring Team concludes that it meets the terms of the Consent Decree. Accordingly, the Monitor approves the proposed use of the Crisis Intervention Homeless In-Service Curriculum for CDP Officers in its entirety and requests that this Court order it effective immediately.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Hassan Aden

HASSAN ADEN

Monitor

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<sup>4</sup> Id. at ¶ 351- 352.

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on April 25, 2022, I served the foregoing document entitled **Notice Submitting City of Cleveland Annual Crisis Intervention In-Service Training Curriculum** via the court's ECF system to all counsel of record.

/s/ Ayesha Bell Hardaway  
AYESHA BELL HARDAWAY