

GUN VIOLENCE AND VIOLENT CRIMES COMMISSION (GVVCC)

Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Start Time: 10:00 AM

Place: Video Conference via Zoom

MINUTES OF MEETING

I. Meeting Call to Order

Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission was called to order by Chair Anne Lopez at 10:03 a.m. on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, via Zoom conferencing.

II. Roll call

Roll Call and Quorum Determination.

Commissioners/ Commissioners Designee Present:

Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General
Dr. Erin E. Harbinson, Director, Criminal Justice Research Institute
Dr. Daniel J. Galanis, Department of Health
Dr. Denise Eby Konan, University of Hawaii at Manoa – College of Social Science
Dr. Gerald Busch, University of Hawaii at Manoa – John A. Burns School of Medicine
Prosecuting Attorney Andrew H. Martin, Maui Prosecutors Office
Assistant Public Defender Lee Hayakawa, Public Defenders Office
Tommy Johnson, Director, Department of Public Safety
Chief Arthur Logan, Honolulu Police Department

Commissioners Absent:

Deputy Director Jordan Lowe, Department of Public Safety
Chief Benjamin Moszkowicz, Hawaii Police Department
Assistant Chief Wade Maeda, Maui Police Department
Chief Todd G. Raybuck, Kauai Police Department
Dr. Kenneth Luke, Acting Administrator, Department of Health
One representative from a group that advocates for stricter gun safety laws.
One representative from a firearm advocacy group.

III. Review and approval of June 6, 2022, minutes

Review of June 6, 2022, GVCCC minutes. No comments or corrections were received from commission members. Chair Lopez moved, and Commissioner Martin seconded the motion to approve the minutes at 10:08 a.m. The motion passed unanimously, with all the commissioners voting in favor of the motion by group vote.

IV. Permitted Interaction Groups (PIGS) Report

a. Data Permitted Interaction and Sharing of Data, July 7, 2023, Reporter Dr. Erin E. Harbinson.

The permitted interaction group surveyed the city and county police departments to understand the landscape of violent crimes and to determine how the arrest data is collected to assess crime rates. The survey showed that (i) not every agency collects or shares the same data; (ii) arrest information is one of the most important sources for understanding violent crime; (iii) there are different ways to define violent crime categories at a local level; and (iv) people have different interpretations of violent crimes.

b. Research Projects and Research Funding, November 2, 2022, Reporter Denise E. Konan Ph.D.

Discussed the need to define gun violence and standardize data collection and identifiers. The PIG learned that agencies do not have the same record management systems, which results in inconsistent data collection and reporting. The PIG presented the 2022 Research Projects and Research Funding Annual Report. The purpose of the report was to attempt to identify where and what research is currently available. Five main research areas were identified:

- 1) Firearms registration and reporting, whether there is a nexus between the presence of guns and public safety.
- 2) Understanding the presence of ghost guns in our community: potential expansion of ghost guns.
- 3) Change in conceal, carry, and firearms registration procedures.
- 4) Increase in juvenile crimes; whether guns were involved; motivations for using guns; the way guns were obtained; ethnicity, geographics, and gang violence.
- 5) Domestic violence; whether there is an increase in domestic violence; demographics most affected.

No further discussion or comment.

V. Legislative discussion.

Discussed the repeal of Act 134C of the 2020 Session Laws of Hawaii. The Data Working Group, established pursuant to Act 157, Session Laws of Hawaii, 2023, and the GVVCC consists of the same members as the GVVCC, with the same goals related to data, such as how the data is obtained, who has the data, where

the data is maintained, what data is missing, and how the data can be used to increase public safety.

The concern with having multiple groups working simultaneously towards the same goals raises the concern resources are being wasted and that these groups do crossover significantly. The GVVCC agreed that merging the GVVCC with the Data Sharing Group and including other agencies and public interest groups makes sense. The consensus of GVVCC was to propose legislation to repeal Act 134C. Chair Lopez moved, and the motion passed unanimously, with all the commissioners voting in favor of the motion by group vote at 11:24 a.m.

No further discussion or comment.

VI. Next step

The next GVVCC meeting is anticipated sometime in January 2024.

No further discussion or comment.

VII. Adjournment

Chair Lopez moved, and the group seconded the motion for the meeting to adjourn.

Chair Lopez adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m.