**Criminal Justice Reform Task Force**

The City of Salisbury is serviced by multiple law enforcement agencies which serve to build relationships, protect, and defend the citizenry of Salisbury. The City of Salisbury remains committed to growing its community policing model that prioritizes fostering relationships between members of the community and law enforcement. The Mayor and City Administrator recognize that additional input from the community is incredibly valuable. The City of Salisbury and the Salisbury Police Department are committed to being responsive to citizen concerns pertaining to its policies and standard operating procedures. This Task Force will have the opportunity to learn and make recommendations not only for the Salisbury Police Department, but for other area agencies and at the State level. While we have no control what those agencies do with those recommendations we believe that we need to look at and learn about systems holistically, and narrowly focusing only on the SPD would be a missed opportunity. The goal of this task force is to make improvements for deliverables on an industrywide basis. It is important to note that not all recommendations will be implemented. Safety of the community and our officers is of utmost importance.

**Mission and Scope:**

The City of Salisbury’s Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (CJRTF) shall serve to engender trust and understanding between citizens of Wicomico County and allied law enforcement agencies operating within the City of Salisbury and Wicomico County.

Serving in an advisory capacity, members of the Task Force will serve to foster relationships amongst community members and law enforcement by helping to ensure that law enforcement remains receptive to the concerns of the citizens of Wicomico County. Upon review of many protocols and policies, implemented by law enforcement agencies which protect, serve, and defend the citizenry of Wicomico County, members of the Task Force shall make policy and procedural recommendations to the Mayor and Chief of Police. With the consent of the Mayor, the Task Force may also submit advisory opinions to the Wicomico County Sheriff’s Office, the Office of the State’s Attorney for Wicomico County, the Wicomico County Board of Education any State Agency to include, but not limited to, the State Police, the Department of Juvenile Services, and the Department of Social Services. Recommendations can be made to any agency or organization not listed here that have some impact or relationship with criminal justice.

**Membership:**

The Voting Membership of the Task Force shall be comprised of no more than 21 individuals, who shall have attained the age of 18 and established residency within Wicomico County. Members shall serve at the pleasure of and be appointed by the City Administrator.

Ex-officio members of the Task Force may include representatives from each of the following entities: The Salisbury Police Department, Wicomico County Sheriff’s Office, the Office of the States Attorney for Wicomico County, the Office of the Public Defender for Wicomico County, and the Salisbury Mayor’s Office. Ex-officio members shall be designated by and serve at the pleasure of their respective government agency.

**Operational Matters:**

The Task Force shall convene on a monthly basis. For any and all formal recommendations made by the Task Force to the Mayor, a quorum must be present. A quorum shall be comprised of no less than eleven (11) voting members present. Members shall make every effort to attend all meetings. In the event that a member is absent from three meetings within a six-month timeframe without either an excuse, or an emergency, they may be recommended for removal. All Task Force members shall serve at the pleasure of the City Administrator.

Task Forces are stood up by the City of Salisbury to make recommendations within one year of their origination. The work load will be demanding, especially with the large topic of criminal justice reform. Members will be expected to attend the majority of meetings, do research outside of the meetings, attend subcommittee meetings, and propose solutions to challenging topics.