TOPIC: BOR Policy on USM Police Standards

COMMITTEE: BOR workgroup on Campus Safety, Security and Emergency Preparedness

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: February 4, 2010

SUMMARY: Section 13-601 of the Education Article which provides the authority for the USM to have a police force, requires the following that the Board of Regents adopt standards, qualifications, and prerequisites of character, training, education, human and public relations, and experience for University of Maryland police officers, including standards for the performance of their duties. The policy is to be developed in consultation with the Secretary of State Police and the Maryland Police Training Commission and to the extent practicable, adopt standards that are similar to the standards adopted for the Department of State Police.

The USM Police currently follow the standards established by the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission under COMAR Title 12, Subtitle 4.

ALTERNATIVE(S): The Workgroup could decide to adopt alternative standards.

FISCAL IMPACT: None. Standards are already being utilized.

CHANCELLOR’S RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Workgroup on Campus Safety, Security and Emergency Preparedness adopt the proposed BOR Policy for Standards, Qualifications, and Prerequisites for University of Maryland Police Officers and submit them to the BOR for approval.

SUBMITTED BY: Janice B. Doyle, 301 445-1906, joyle@usmd.edu
I. PURPOSE AND APPLICABILITY

This policy establishes the standards, qualifications, and prerequisites of character, training, education, human and public relations, and experience for University of Maryland police officers, including standards for the performance of their duties.

For the purpose of this policy, “University of Maryland Police Officers” is defined as all police officers of the University System of Maryland.

II. UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS

A. University of Maryland police officers shall comply with:

1. all standards established by the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions (MPCTC) under COMAR Title 12 Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Subtitle 4 Police Training Commission, and in internal MPCTC guidelines; and
2. other relevant standards established in COMAR or any Maryland statute that pertain to Maryland police officers.
March 17, 2010

Ms. Janice Doyle
Chief of Staff to the Chancellor
Secretary to the Board of Regents
University System of Maryland
3300 Metzerott Road
Adelphi, MD 20783-1690

Dear Ms. Doyle:

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding policies governing the standards and qualifications for University of Maryland police officers. I understand that Section 13-601 of the Education Article which provides the authority for the University System of Maryland to maintain a police force requires the following:

(c) Standards and qualifications to be adopted by Board

(1) In consultation with the Secretary of State Police and the Maryland Police Training Commission, the Board of Regents shall adopt standards, qualifications, and prerequisites of character, training, education, human and public relations, and experience for University of Maryland police officers, including standards for the performance of their duties;

(2) To the extent practicable, the Board shall adopt standards that are similar to the standards adopted for the Department of State Police.

In my capacity as both the Secretary of the Maryland Department of State Police and the Chair of the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions, I have reviewed both the requirements under Maryland law as outlined in Section 13-601 of the Education Article and the proposed policy for consideration by the Board of Regents. I find the proposed policy is consistent with the policies of the Maryland Department of State Police and in compliance with Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions standards. Additionally, I have discussed this matter with Mr. Charles Rapp, Executive Director for the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions, and he is in agreement with my assessment.

“Maryland’s Finest”
Ms. Janice Doyle  
March 17, 2010  
Page Two  

Thank you for allowing me to assist you in this important public safety matter. Our partnership with the police department of the University System of Maryland is valued greatly. Should you require any additional assistance in this, or other matters of mutual concern, please do not hesitate to contact my Chief of Staff, Mr. Thomas P. Coppinger, at 410-653-4567.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Terrence B. Sheridan  
Superintendent

TBS:tpc