

Working Group on TUPD Arming: Progress Report November 2021

Overview

- As of November 23, the working group has held 17 meetings.
- The group has scheduled five meetings for December.

The group consists of 14 members representing a broad cross section of the university's students, faculty, and staff populations. In addition, some meetings will be attended by senior staff members of Margolis Healy and Associates, a consulting firm engaged by the university and specializing in campus safety and security assessment.

Discussion Points

For the period November 1 - 23, the group's discussions focused on: understanding and evaluating how the presence of armed officers affects the university community as a whole; and analyzing the impact and viability of different policing models applied to a broad spectrum of calls for service (CFS) scenarios.

- What are the most important considerations regarding the impact of utilizing a fully armed police force (current model) on Tufts campuses? How does a fully armed force negatively or positively affect how safe members of the community (including TUPD officers) feel? What is the number and frequency of calls for service that require an armed officer? How does the current model affect the role of neighboring municipal police forces?
- The group examined 20 CFS scenarios, encompassing incidents that have occurred on all of Tufts campuses. For each scenario, the group considered how various response models, such as "Fully armed," "Unarmed," "Differential," and "Co-responder," could be applied. The Co-responder response consists of a TUPD officer accompanied by a mental health professional.
- Each response model was evaluated for its impact on the physical safety and emotional wellbeing of community members, as well as on the overall campus climate. The group considered the frequency and severity of the various scenarios and how different response models would be received and perceived by community members and those requesting service.
- The group considered the implications of changing the current response model. How would changing to a different model, such as the hybrid "differential" approach affect members of our community? How would the changes affect the role and responsibilities of TUPD officers? How would

an “unarmed” approach affect the reliance on and use of neighboring municipal police forces? Which approach is best suited for each campus?