

Working Group on TUPD Arming: Progress Report December 2021

Overview

- As of December 15, the working group has held 22 meetings.
- The group expects to meet regularly through the end of January.

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 December 1 - 15, the group's discussions focused on: understanding how municipal police involvement impacts different campus policing models; summarizing and evaluating the feedback received from campus outreach initiatives; continued in-depth examination of which policing model best suits each campus, and which model would best address the needs and concerns of the university community.

- The group received summaries of the findings from the focus groups, the university-wide survey, and campus forums. Perspectives, suggestions, and concerns received through the outreach initiatives were considered in discussions relating to campus policing models. Summaries of the findings from the university survey and focus groups were made public by posting on the Working Group on TUPD Arming webpage (as part of the *Tufts as an Anti-Racist Institution* website).
- The group studied in-depth the role and impact of municipal police forces on the "armed," differential," and "unarmed" campus policing models. The group examined how increased dependency on municipal police forces (necessitated by disarming TUPD officers) would affect response time, university jurisdiction, and familiarity (by responders) with the campus communities and culture.
- The group examined the specific nature of the types and frequency of incidents that would require the response of armed officers vs. the calls for service (CFS) that could utilize unarmed officers or other responders (such as mental health professionals).
- Campus policing models were assessed with the unique needs of each campus considered. Feedback received from focus groups and campus forums helped to highlight the different roles and responsibilities carried

out by TUPD, safety officers, and municipal forces on each campus, and how they interact with students and staff of each campus community.