

Vol. 5 #3, August 2004

BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the PACE Board of Directors is planned for Saturday, September 18th at the Fairfield Inn, BWI Airport, at 11:00 am. Any suggestions from members will be welcomed.

NEW MEMBERSHIP POLICY

PACE membership has been flat for an extended time – about 350 members. Nationwide there are about 600,000 state/local law enforcement officers (450,000 police and 150,000 deputy sheriffs). It is estimated that 25% to 30% of these hold BA degrees. Based on the 25% estimate, there is a potential PACE membership of 150,000 plus professors, civilian employees, etc.

In a major effort to attract a high percentage of this potential membership pool the PACE Board has approved a new policy effect for 2005. Membership to all qualified applicants will be free but a donation card will be enclosed with the membership certificate. (Options will be from \$5 to \$50.)

A major advertising campaign will be necessary to contact all eligible persons and invite them to join PACE. Additional secretarial support and office expenses will be needed. Peggy Triplett is making contacts with potential sources of “seed” money.

All current members are encouraged to inform their eligible colleagues of this new membership program.

ORGANIZATION LIAISON

NAWLEE

A presentation is planned for the annual conference of the National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives (NAWLEE) in late August, in Arlington

VA. Remarks will focus on the leadership role of women in policing supporting college education both in the past and future.

IACP

Plans are being finalized for PACE involvement in the IACP Conference in Los Angeles, October 30 – November 3, 2004. An exhibit booth will be for distributing literature, answering questions and to get a brief survey completed. This will be similar to Philadelphia last year, and again a 19” color TV drawing will be the incentive for the chiefs to complete the survey and drop it in the box for the drawing.

COPS/URBAN LEAGUE

At the COPS Conference in June, a keynote speaker was Mr. Marc Morial, president and chief executive officer of the Urban league. He is described a goal for professional policing consistent with the PACE mission. Afterwards, Lou Mayo approached him and briefly described PACE. He agreed that the Urban League and PACE could work together towards common goals. A follow up letter was sent and waiting on the reply.

PACE has long sought to establish contact with a minority organization such as Urban League or NAACP to work on policies supporting college degrees for officers.

CALEA

PACE member Dennis Bowman is on the advisory committee for CALEA (Commission on Law Enforcement Accreditation). He was to propose a new standard for college degreed officers at the July meeting but this was delayed until the November meeting. We hope he will be successful.

NEW JERSEY POLICE

As previously reported, efforts have been unsuccessful to break the New Jersey Civil Service Rule prohibiting local police from

requiring college education in selecting new officers. Some New Jersey cities are outside the State civil Service and six of these require BA degrees for new officers – the highest number in any state.

PACE has been contacted by Ronald Beattle, President of the Statewide Police PBA's, who is interested in establishing college requirements for police. He is seeking Federal funding similar to the LEEP Program. He has asked for PACE assistance which will be provided as much as possible. He is working with the labor consultant to the New Jersey PBA and Congressman Bill Pascall.

PRESS INQUIRIES

Louisville Courier Journal

A reporter for the Louisville Courier Journal conducted an extensive telephone interview with Lou Mayo concerning the Louisville Police new requirement of two years of college for new officers. (Unfortunately the requirement allows the substitution of four years of military service.) PACE was referenced several times in the resulting article.

The new requirement was strongly supported by Craig Birdwhistell, director of the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police.

Dallas Morning News

A reporter for the Dallas Morning News asked PACE to review and comment on a series of newspaper article described problems in the Dallas Police Department. Three pages of comments were prepared and submitted.

Shortly thereafter, David Knuckle was appointed the new Dallas Police Chief. He was formerly the police chief in Arlington, Texas where he was responsible for implementing a high level of professionalism including two-year college

requirement. He left to become assistant city manager and was succeeded by the present chief Theron Bowman who instituted the four-year degree requirement.

As a courtesy, a copy of the comments sent to the newspaper were sent to Chief Kunkle along with a letter of congratulations on his appointment. A few days later Chief Kunkle phoned PACE to say he agreed with all of the comments sent to the newspaper and he will strive to improve the Dallas department as he did in Arlington. PACE offered every possible assistance.

LITERATURE

A new book, Research in Law Enforcement Selection by Michael Aamodt (Brown Walker pub) summarizes 330 studies investigating the validity of methods used to select law enforcement personnel. His findings include, “conclusively that officers with a college education perform better in the academy, receive higher performance ratings on the job, have fewer disciplinary problems, have less absenteeism, and use force less often than their peers without a college education.”

The article for the Police Chief magazine summarizing last year's IACP panel on college degreed officers is being edited at IACP. Publication date has not been confirmed.

Chief Bowman of Arlington, Texas and Lou Mayo are co-authoring an article on “Changing Police Culture”. Journal for last PERF conference where several speakers emphasized the need for changing police culture.

FUNDING

Mike Kimble has assumed the duties as Director of Development (unfunded) as previously approved by the Board. He will

present his plans for raising funds at the next Board meeting.

DUES

Several members have not yet submitted their 2004 dues. It is requested that this be done using the below coupon.