

November 29, 2022

**Memorandum #2022-165**

**TO: Hampton Roads Mayors and Chief Administrative Officers**

**BY: Robert A. Crum, Jr., Executive Director**

**RE: Hampton Roads Mayors and Chief Administrative Officers Work Session  
December 5, 2022**

Attached is the agenda for the next work session of the Hampton Roads Mayors and Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) scheduled for Monday, December 5, 2022 from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM. This meeting will be held in person in Board Room A/B of the Regional Building located at 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23320.

/cm

Attachment

**Hampton Roads Mayors:**

Donnie R. Tuck, HA  
Robert M. "Bobby" Dyer, VB  
Richard W. "Rick" West, CH  
Frank M. Rabil, FR  
McKinley L. Price, NN

Kenneth C. "Kenny" Alexander, NO  
Shannon E. Glover, PO  
Gordon C. Helsel, Jr., PQ  
Michael D. "Mike" Duman, SU  
Douglas G. "Doug" Pons, WM

**Hampton Roads Chief Administrative Officers:**

Christopher M. "Chris" Price, CH  
Amanda C. Jarratt, FR  
Carol Steele, GL  
Mary Bunting, HA  
Randy R. Keaton, IW  
Scott Stevens, JC  
Cynthia D. "Cindy" Rohlf, NN  
Larry "Chip" Filer, NO  
J. Randall "Randy" Wheeler, PQ

Tonya Chapman, PO  
Michael R. Stalling, Jr., SM  
Brian S. Thrower, SH  
Albert S. Moor, II, SU  
Melissa D. Rollins, SY  
Patrick A. Duhaney, VB  
Andrew O. Trivette, WM  
William Saunders, WN  
Neil Morgan, YK

**Copy:**

Andria McClellan, HRPDC Chair

**Hampton Roads  
Mayors and Chief Administrative Officers Work Session**

**December 5, 2022  
10:30 AM**

**Board Room A/B  
The Regional Building  
723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23320**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Commonwealth Attorney/Police Chief Report**

As follow up to the September 22 Mayors and Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) Work Session, the CAOs held a discussion with the region's Commonwealth Attorneys and Police Chiefs on approaches to address Violence and Crime in our region.

Representatives from the Commonwealth Attorneys and Police Chiefs were appointed to attend and share their insights at Monday's meeting.

**III. Regional Violence/Crime Dashboard Working Group Update**

Since the last Mayors and CAOs Work Session, the Crime Dashboard Working Group (CDWG) met on two occasions: Wednesday, October 19, and Wednesday, November 2.

Captain J.P. Smith of the Newport News Police Department and Chair of the CDWG will brief the Mayors and CAOs on progress made and next steps.

Captain Smith and Greg Grootendorst, HRPDC Chief Economist, will be available for questions.

**IV. Discussion of Next Steps (Attachment 4)**

In previous Mayor/CAO Work Sessions, the attached Regional Violence Prevention Framework was reviewed. This framework is intended to illustrate the complexity of issues related to violence and crime, and to stress the need for a holistic strategy to address issues related to the following topics:

- Concentrated Poverty
- Access to Guns
- Desensitized Communities and Individuals
- Judicial System
- Mental Health/Unaddressed Trauma
- Family Dysfunction
- Poor Conflict Resolution

Input will be requested on potential community partners/subject matter experts under these categories who may be potential presenters/participants in upcoming Mayor/CAO Work Sessions.

**V. Adjournment**

# Hampton Roads Regional Violence Prevention Framework

**Gun Violence in concentrated area committed by a limited group of actors and their associates.**

## Concentrated Poverty

- Racially Concentrated**  
Communities are largely underserved, under-resourced, & underrepresented.
- Deficient Opportunities**  
Lacking access and/or desire to obtain knowledge, skills and abilities required for sustainability. Spiraling patterns of generational poverty, crime, and community disinvestment.
- Inequities**  
Both structural and systemic controls containing overt and implicit biases.
- Deep Roots**  
Perpetual Systems of Marginalization.
- Difficult to address the historical and continuing impacts of segregation.**

## Access to Guns

- High-Risk Individuals**  
Circulating guns into the community through theft, illegal transfers, and their constitutional right to bear arms.
- Fear & Protection**  
Social and Economic issues fuel violence and perceptions that guns are required for safety.
- Societal Norms**  
Anticipating risk of affiliated or unaffiliated acts of violence and/or retaliation.
- Money, Power, Respect**  
Individuals looking to validate status, control, and self-governance.
- Difficult to mitigate access to weapons in the hands of those looking to ensure safety, self-worth, and personal value.**

## Desensitized Communities & Individuals

- Perpetuated Imagery**  
Prevalence of violence as an accepted reality in everyday life.
- Social & Environmental**  
Acts of violence in schools, homes, and communities. Violence normalized in media and popular culture.
- Sense of Hopelessness**  
Communities no longer feel empowered or safe to provide correction. Individuals lack morality, value of life, positive role models, or strong family structures.
- Generational Behaviors**  
Cycles of Trauma and stigma associated with seeking professional help.
- Societal and community norms encourage desensitization and normalize violence.**

## Judicial System

- Ineffective Deterrence**  
Perpetrators do not fear consequences. Citizens do not cooperate as they see perpetrators receive light sentences.
- Judicial Accountability**  
Comparatively light sentences for serious offenses. Perpetrators not consistently punished.
- Political Pressure**  
Lawmakers have a preference for lighter sentences. Appoint judges that share this philosophy, leading to more lenient sentencing.
- Community Norms**  
Politicians and Judges do not fully understand the impact of their sentences on community perceptions.
- Perpetrators do not fear consequences. Citizens do not cooperate because they fear retaliation.**

## Mental Health/ Unaddressed Trauma

- Unaddressed Trauma**  
Individuals experience significant trauma that is not professionally addressed.
- Insufficient Resources**  
Not enough mental health services to meet the need. Cost of services presents challenges.
- Societal Norms**  
The stigma attached to mental health challenges and seeking professional help.
- Education**  
Individuals are unaware of the signs, effects, and importance of treating trauma.
- Individuals do not recognize the importance of treating trauma and the negative effects of unaddressed trauma.**

## Family Dysfunction

- Insufficient Support**  
Economic, emotional & resource challenges lead to insufficient support systems.
- Survival Mode**  
Scarcity leads to focus on survival. May lead to neglect of other values and supportive actions.
- Poor Role Models**  
Lack of access to positive mentors and role models in the home. Few examples of accessible pathways to success.
- Lack of Parenting Skills**  
Lack of proper parenting skills. Continuation of generational parenting practices that may lead to trauma.
- Violence may be reinforced as a legitimate response within the home.**

## Poor Conflict Resolution

- Lack of Education**  
Have not learned appropriate conflict resolution skills & view gun violence as a legitimate response
- Lack of Modeling**  
Proper conflict resolution is not taught or modeled in the home or in the environment
- Under-Utilized Resources**  
Not utilizing available conflict resolution classes or resources. Not valued, do not see the issue with the current approach
- Poor Marketing**  
Not utilizing available conflict resolution classes or resources. Not valued, do not see the issue with the current approach
- Must show the value and need to improve conflict resolution skills**