Villanova University Police Oversight Committee

Mission:

The mission of the Villanova University Police Oversight Board is to provide vision, guidance and oversight to the delivery of police services to the Villanova University community. Through its members, the Committee will facilitate communication and develop a mutual understanding of roles and expectations between the community and the University Police. This highly collaborative partnership will optimize police resources on campus by providing thoughtful insight into the safety and security needs of our diverse campus community and by monitoring police activity on campus.

Appointment of Terms:

1. The Committee shall consist of two students, three faculty members, one staff member, a University Administrator, and an at-large member of the University community (i.e. alumni, parent, neighbor). The Director of Public Safety shall be a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Committee. A representative from the Office of General Counsel shall advise the Committee on police legal issues.
2. The Chair and all other Committee members shall be appointed by the University President.
3. All non-student appointments shall be for two academic years. All Committee members are eligible for three terms of reappointment. Student appointments may vary.

Responsibilities of the Committee:

The Committee functions in an advisory capacity, and should strive to work collaboratively with the Department of Public Safety. However, the Committee is not intended to act as a management arm of the Department, nor is it intended to supplant or replace existing University processes. Existing University policies, procedures, and practices for dealing with issues such as employee relations are to be utilized to adjudicate complaints against Departmental employees.

The specific duties of the Committee shall include:

1. To serve as a liaison between the Public Safety Department and the University community.
2. To advise and make recommendations to the Executive Vice President concerning the provision of police services to the University community.
3. To be briefed by the Director of Public Safety regarding complaints and subsequent investigations by members of the public against Public Safety officers.
4. To be briefed on all use of force incidents.
5. To review a summary of police citations issued and criminal charges filed.
6. To function as a sounding board for the Director of Public Safety on various issues or concerns involving the Department and the Villanova University community.
7. To provide input on programs and initiatives to enhance campus safety.
8. To promote and support public awareness of the University’s police services and programs.
9. To prepare an annual report of Committee activities, which shall be forwarded to the Executive Vice President.

Operating Procedures

1. The Committee will meet monthly during the academic year. The schedule of meetings will be developed at the beginning of each academic year.
2. For purposes of conducting the Committee’s business, a simple majority of the Board’s voting members must be present.
3. The Committee shall adopt such rules of procedure as it deems necessary.
4. Meetings will be closed with the exception of public forums held as necessary and attendance may be restricted to members of the campus community.
5. The Committee shall coordinate an open public forum each academic year to receive campus concerns.
6. The Chair will meet annually with the Trustees’ Audit and Risk Committee.