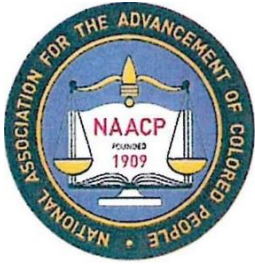


Agreement

Between The



National Association for the Advancement
of Colored People Bucks County



And The

Bensalem Township Police Department

Historical Background

The Bucks County NAACP and the Bensalem Township Police Department have worked together for years to facilitate better communication and understanding, and to improve the police services to all citizens in the community. On September 9, 2020, Bucks County NAACP President Karen Downer and Bensalem Township Police Department Director of Public Safety Frederick Harran signed a historic agreement encouraging citizens to come forward with complaints against the police and providing guidelines for the handling of those complaints. In addition, the document described how citizens could go to the Bucks County NAACP to serve as the complainant's ombudsman in the filing of complaints, and in receiving the final report about the complaint investigation, if any, and the disposition of the complaint. This document contains the official seal of the Bucks County NAACP and the Bensalem Township Police Department, as well as the signature of President Downer and Director Harran.

Current Perspective

As a result of current issues across the U.S. and locally, the Bucks County NAACP and the Bensalem Township Police Department are entering into a formal agreement to ensure that lines of communication and cooperation are open and effective, and that these organizations are working together to obtain the goals listed below.

Agreement

On September 9, 2020, the Bucks County NAACP and the Bensalem Township Police Department entered into the following historic agreement:

1. COMMUNICATION. Both parties agree to maintain an open and active communication, immediately bringing forward questions, concerns or problems as they arise.

2. **KEY CONTACT LIST.** To facilitate this communication, both organizations will maintain a current list of key contacts, including phone numbers, etc.
3. **AVAILABILITY.** Both parties agree to make themselves available to the other . whenever either party deems such meeting as important or necessary.
4. **PERIODIC MEETINGS.** Both parties agree to meet at least three times each calendar year to ensure ongoing lines of communication.
5. **POLICE TRAINING.** Both parties agree to work together to ensure that Bensalem Police Officers are regularly being given training that enhances their ability to have effective, respectful, and peaceful interactions with all citizens, but especially members of our minority communities.
6. **POLICE RECRUITMENT.** Both parties agree to work together to encourage and assist Bensalem residents, especially residents of color, to consider serving the Bensalem Township community by becoming a Police Officer with the Bensalem Township Police Department.
7. **MISCONDUCT COMPLAINTS.** Both parties agree to work together to encourage all citizens to report any incident of perceived police misconduct to:
 - a. Bensalem Township Police Department, Director of Public Safety
 - b. Bucks County NAACP, President
 - c. Office of the Mayor, Bensalem Township
 - d. Directly to any Bensalem Township Police Department Supervisor
 - e. To any member of the NAACP Bucks County Executive Committee
 - f. Any Bucks County religious leader
8. **COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS.** The Bensalem Police Department agrees that, as in the past, all citizen complaints, regardless of their source, will be thoroughly investigated, and that appropriate follow-up, training, or discipline will be applied to the involved officer(s).
9. **INVESTIGATION TRANSPARENCY.** The Bensalem Police Department also agrees that information about the complaint, its investigation, and follow-up will be disclosed to:
 - a. The complainant
 - b. Anyone whom the complainant asks to act on their behalf
 - c. The NAACP Bucks County President, Secretary, Legal Redress Chair

10. ONGOING COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION. Going forward, the leadership of both organizations agree to work in cooperation to continue to improve police/community relations and to ensure just and caring police protection and service, and improved quality of life, for all citizens within the borders of Bensalem Township, Pennsylvania.

For the NAACP Bucks County Branch: **For the Bensalem Township Police Department:**

Karen Downer, President

Frederick Harran, Director of Public Safety