

Bristol Town Administrator

From: Ryan Rossier <ryan.rossier@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 8:39 AM
To: Nason, Bruce
Cc: Ian Albinson; Bristol Town Administrator
Subject: Re: A perspective from our Police Dept on the current climate

Thank you both for the quick responses, apologies for the delay on my side.

Bruce, appreciate your openness, your update on work in progress, and willingness to interface with the community and me in particular. That feels like a great starting point.

So we're clear, my original note was not intended to be baiting, or an indictment of any sort, on the contrary, I thought of it as an invitation for a well respected service in good standing with the community to share perspectives and now that I know, share the proactive work you're doing in the area of policy review. I'm also not asking you and your team to stand on a soap box and speak to your long history of fighting bias and discriminatory brutality in the American police force, if that has not been your experience, but I guess I am asking for you to consider making your voice about this complex matter heard, since it's being discussed throughout our community (at times with you) and in our homes on the regular.

Ian, Valerie, I also noted somewhere the existence of a civil oversight committee, which is something we're hearing more about now in other towns, so I was interested in terms of what the capacity and experience of that group has been over the past years.

Appreciate everyone's service and consideration,
Ryan

On Fri, Jun 12, 2020 at 5:12 PM Nason, Bruce <Bruce.Nason@vermont.gov> wrote:

Ryan,

I welcome and promote communication with residents and visitors to Bristol.

We promote community policing, input from the community is essential to help us achieve our goal of providing the best possible law enforcement service to our community.

Recently, during my daily walks through town, I have had people stop to discuss current events.

I am happy to meet with anyone, individual or groups, to discuss issues/concerns, suggestions, recommendations and criticism to assure we continue to improve upon our service.

We have been reviewing our policies and procedures for the past few months to assure we are using the most current acceptable standards.

We have had some staffing changes and matters that have slowed the process, but we continue to review and update.

I would like to have an opportunity to meet with you, please let me know what days/times are best for you.

Respectfully,
Bruce

Bruce Nason, Chief of Police

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From: Ian Albinson <ianalbinson@gmail.com> on behalf of Ian Albinson <ianalbinson+sb@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 4:21 PM
To: Nason, Bruce <Bruce.Nason@vermont.gov>; Ryan Rossier <ryan.rossier@gmail.com>
Cc: Capels, Valerie <townadmin@bristolvt.org>
Subject: Re: A perspective from our Police Dept on the current climate

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Ryan,

Thanks for reaching out and including me on your discussion with Chief Nason.

I have recently received correspondence from other Bristol residents regarding Bristol's policing policies and overall philosophy and think this is an excellent time to discuss and review at a future Selectboard meeting.

I'll be sure to let you know when and how this will happen.

– Ian

Ian Albinson, Selectboard Member
Town of Bristol

On Jun 12, 2020, 12:32 PM -0400, Ryan Rossier <ryan.rossier@gmail.com>, wrote:

Chief Nason, Ian - I would value, and I wonder if others have requested, a communication from the Bristol PD to the public, that articulates "where we stand" re philosophy and approach to "policing" .. and all that encompasses. Recent events around the country and world are initiating conversations about policing in our communities and homes. Though we may not be a hotbed for racial violence, racism is ever present in Vermont and within policing in VT (Brooks & Seguino Report 2017), and I'd love to have those representing Bristol to articulate a position on the matter.

If this has happened and I've missed it, my apologies, please point me to that.

Thank you both for your service to our community,
Ryan Rossier
11 Spring Street