



Patton Township Police Policy Review

Listening Sessions for Public Input on Use of Deadly Force Policy

2 pm, Wednesday, May 12, 2021 and 5 pm, Thursday, May 13, 2021

(Registration required – see links below)

At the request of Township citizens, the Patton Township Board of Supervisors has been reviewing select Police Department policies. These Listening Sessions will provide an opportunity for the public to provide comments on the following question:

How should the Patton Township Police Department's policy on the Use of Deadly Force be revised to reflect the public's expectations of proper behavior of police officers?

The deaths of Antwon Rose, Breonna Taylor, Osaze Osagie, and George Floyd have elevated the national discussion on the use of force by law enforcement officers. Most everyone recognizes that police must be able to use deadly force to protect others, as in cases of active shooters, and themselves when confronted by those seeking to inflict deadly harm. And everyone hopes that almost all encounters with police can occur with respect for the sanctity of life and community, less confrontation, and more emphasis on de-escalation.

The legal exercise of the use of deadly force by Patton Township Police is predicated upon all the following items:

- Authorization by Commonwealth law
- Decisions issued by the US Supreme Court (e.g. Tennessee v Garner)
- Training mandated by the Commonwealth and Township
- An officer's proper application of his knowledge and training

These sessions are intended to offer an opportunity for the public to provide input and ask questions of the Patton Township Police Chief and Dr. Benjamin Jones, a researcher at PSU who studies policing.

The Chief and Dr. Jones have each prepared draft policies that can be found on the Township's website at <https://twp.patton.pa.us/patton-township-police-department/>.

The input collected through these sessions will be provided to the Patton Township Board of Supervisors as they work with Chief Jolley and Dr. Jones to create an updated policy for the Township.

2 pm, Wednesday, May 12, 2021 Click [here to register](#)

5 pm, Thursday, May 13, 2021 Click [here to register](#)