

BOARD OF REGENTS

BRIEFING PAPER

1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE: HANDBOOK Revision, University Police Services, Northern Command

MEETING DATE: December 2-3, 2021

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

Existing Board policy for University Police Services, Northern Command (UPSNC) does not list Great Basin College in Title 4, Chapter 1, Section 12. Presidents Helens and Sandoval wish to revise the existing policy to include the Great Basin College President as one of the presidents included in the reporting structure for the Northern Command police department head (Exhibit 1). This is consistent with the parameters of the new UNR/GBC MOU and consistent with the other northern institutions supported by UPSNC. This partnership complements the existing security force at the Elko Campus while enhancing the services, tools, and equipment at the disposal of GBC statewide. Though Great Basin College has a significant geographical separation from the other northern NSHE institutions, University Police Services, Northern Command successfully consolidated their operations to implement a hybrid model which supports all GBC campuses statewide. This includes interlocal agreements with regional partner law enforcement agencies, which will allow for expedient response time to all GBC campuses.

Additional highlights of the successful hybrid model include:

- A full-time sworn officer from UPSNC relocated to Elko in October 2021 and is working full time out of the GBC Elko office in coordination with existing Community Service Officers (CSO). The CSO's will transition to the same uniform across all Northern NSHE Institutions. This will enable them to be easily recognized as a CSO and the ability to serve at any northern campus.
- UPSNC provided a fingerprinting machine and training to GBC's Elko office so that service may be offered to institutional employees and the public.
- UPSNC sworn officer is also a threat assessment manager for GBC that will help with any student, faculty, or staff who is in need of help or threat assessment.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

Great Basin College President, Joyce Helens, and University of Nevada, Reno President, Brian Sandoval, request to amend Title 4, Chapter 1, Section 12 to add Great Basin College to the list of Presidents that the University Police Services, Northern Command head shall report to.

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

Great Basin College and the University of Nevada, Reno have recently completed an update to their shared services MOU expanding safety and security services to the GBC campuses, similar to those that exist at other Northern Command institutions, while recognizing GBC's large geographic footprint. As such both institutions now request this update to the Handbook language to formalize that authority within the Northern Command.

5. CHECK THE NSHE STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL THAT IS SUPPORTED BY THIS REQUEST:

- Access (Increase participation in post-secondary education)
- Success (Increase student success)

- Close the Achievement Gap (Close the achievement gap among underserved student populations)**
- Workforce (Collaboratively address the challenges of the workforce and industry education needs of Nevada)**
- Research (Co-develop solutions to the critical issues facing 21st century Nevada and raise the overall research profile)**
- Not Applicable to NSHE Strategic Plan Goals**

INDICATE HOW THE PROPOSAL SUPPORTS THE SPECIFIC STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

Maintaining a safe campus is one of the fundamental requirements for providing learning and research spaces that support academic and other scholarly initiatives.

6. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

This proposed language recognizes the expansion of safety and security services to the GBC campuses through the Northern Command, and formalizes that change through this *Handbook* update.

7. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

None have been presented.

8. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:

None.

9. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHANCELLOR’S OFFICE:

10. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title # _____ Chapter # _____ Section # _____

Amends Current Board Policy: Title # 4 Chapter # 1 Section # 12

Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter # _____ Section # _____

Other: _____

Fiscal Impact: Yes _____ No X

Explain: _____

Exhibit 1

POLICY PROPOSAL **Board of Regents Handbook** **Title 4, Chapter 1, Section 12**

Additions appear in *boldface italics*; deletions are [~~stricken~~ and bracketed]

Section 12. NSHE Police and Security Forces

17. University Police Services, Northern Command

University Police Services, Northern Command shall be responsible for providing security and police services to NSHE campuses and facilities in northern Nevada (including Tonopah). This department shall provide sworn uniformed officer(s) to enforce relevant laws and promote public safety to follow procedures in a manner commensurate with the needs of each relevant campus or facility.

The police department head shall report directly to the Presidents of Desert Research Institute, *Great Basin College*, Truckee Meadows Community College, the University of Nevada, Reno, and Western Nevada College, respectively, or their designee, as to matters related to their respective institutions. However, with respect to day-to-day administrative supervision (e.g., approval of leave time), the police department head may directly report to one of the institution Presidents or their designee. The police department head shall serve as the administrator-in-charge of the department and, as such, shall be responsible for upholding and enforcing the policies and procedures of this department in service of the mission of this Section and the missions of each institution.

In any dispute arising under this Section, the Presidents of the relevant institutions shall meet and confer with the police department head and attempt to reach a satisfactory resolution. If no resolution is reached, the Chancellor shall be notified and the Presidents of the relevant institutions shall meet, confer, and attempt to reach a satisfactory resolution. If no resolution is reached, the Presidents of the relevant institutions shall refer the dispute to the Chancellor who shall make a decision. The Chancellor's decision shall be final.

The Presidents of the relevant institutions shall meet and confer with one another as needed and at least annually to discuss the police department head's performance. The Presidents of the relevant institutions shall have an opportunity to comment on their satisfaction with the services delivered and request adjustments or modifications.

In the event of a vacancy in the office of the police department head, the Presidents of the relevant institutions shall convene to determine the process for filling the vacancy.