



News from the Office of  
**ERIE COUNTY EXECUTIVE MARK POLONCARZ**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **ERIE COUNTY POLICE REFORM AND REINVENTION COLLABORATIVE TASK FORCE COMPLETES DRAFT PLAN**

*Public input sought for development of final plan; must be adopted as local law by April 1*

**ERIE COUNTY, NY**— The Erie County Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Task Force, formed last summer pursuant to NYS Governor Cuomo’s [Executive Order 203](#), has announced the completion of a preliminary [Report and Recommendations](#) ready for public review and input. The Governor’s Executive Order mandated local governments to, among other items, “perform a comprehensive review of current police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices, and develop a plan to improve such deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices, for the purposes of addressing the particular needs of the communities served by such police agency and promote community engagement to foster trust, fairness, and legitimacy, and to address any racial bias and disproportionate policing of communities of color.”

“This Task Force was created to study the issues, provide residents with a voice in reform efforts, construct findings from such efforts, and offer recommendations that will improve the Erie County Sheriff’s Office Police Services Division. Our thirteen Task Force members represent an extremely talented and diverse group of county residents who bring a wide range of experiences, backgrounds, expertise, and viewpoints to their work,” **said Task Force Chair Martin S. Floss, Ph.D.** “I want the public to know that we worked very hard, in a mandated short period of time, and believe that we have started conversations that need to be considered, with a commitment to making changes to the ECSO in ways that improve its ability to protect Erie County and serve all members with dignity and humility.”

The Task Force has been reviewing the Erie County Sheriff’s Office’s Police Services Division since September 2020. They are charged with creating a plan to adopt and implement the recommendations resulting from their policy and procedural review as well as consultations with local law enforcement, community members and organizations, interested non-profit and faith-based community groups, and local elected officials, among others.

**Community input is welcomed and public comments will be taken into consideration in development of the Task Force’s final plan, which must be adopted as a local law no later than April 1, 2021.**

The public can review the draft Plan and offer feedback at <https://www3.erie.gov/pollicereform> .