

Regional Police Services – Pennsylvania Model

Presented at Regionalization Tool Kit, A Practical Guide to
Sharing Municipal Services, Worcester, MA
By Thomas K. Dubas

Disclaimer and Explanation

- PA is not MA
- PA > 1100 PD's – no one really knows for sure (next nearest is Texas with fewer than 700)
- PA less “organized” labor related
- PA has “huge” number of part-time officers

Pennsylvania at a glance

- Total Departments – 1,150 (considered active departments by Commonwealth of PA)
 - Total Certified Officers – 22,430
 - # employed by 1 dept. - 21,005
 - 2 dept. – 1,130
 - 3 dept. – 233
 - 4 dept – 54
 - 5 or more - 8
- # does NOT include PA State Police

Pennsylvania at a glance

- # of "active" departments by size

1-5 officers	307
6-10 officers	2,337
11-30 officers	7,435
31-100 officers	3,688
>100 officers	19

Methods of Police Services

- Traditional
- Centralized Support Services / Decentralized Patrol
- Contracted Police Services
- Consolidated (Regionalized)
 - (in PA - 32 depts. Serving 114 municipalities)

History of Police Consolidation (Regionalization) - Nationally

- 1967 – *The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society*
– recommended police consolidation
- 1973 – *National Advisory Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals* –
recommended consolidation of departments
with less than 10 sworn officers

Status in Pennsylvania

- 1972 – PA adopts national standard – Police Consulting Services program instituted in state – the push for consolidation begins.
- Late 1980's - Governor's Center for Local Government Services –
 - “Peer to Peer Program” introduced – 20 Chiefs chosen
 - Regional and Management Studies prepared at no cost to municipalities
- Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)– program continues

“Gut” Issues in Regionalization

- “Political and social pressures linked to the desire for local self government offer the most significant barrier...” (President’s Commission on L.E. and the Administration of Justice *Task Force Report on Police*)
- The desire for local self-government is probably a barrier to consolidation – but there is some question as to it being the most significant (DCED Manual)

“gut” Issues continued

- Police officers are unconvinced they will not suffer personal loss or diminished opportunity
- Citizens are unsure of what will actually result
 - Town’s names taken off cars
 - Headquarters moved
 - New phone numbers
 - Does it have citizen’s support?

Legal Authority

- Does it exist in Massachusetts - YES

Advantages

- Improvement in the Uniformity and Consistency of Enforcement
 - *e.g. speeding policy made consistent throughout the region*
- Improvement in the Coordination of Law Enforcement Services
 - *e.g. series of criminal offenses being investigated by several departments when they are tied together*

Advantages, cont.

- Improvement in Distribution & Deployment of Personnel
 - *Officers assigned by highs & lows in activity not by minimum numbers needed for safety*
- Improvement in Training & Personnel Efficiency
 - *Larger pool of officers allows for better training as shift coverage is not sole criteria for officers*

Advantages, cont.

- Improved Police Management & Supervision
 - *Some chiefs and ranking officers must act as patrol officers just to cover shifts – not best return for the dollar*
- Reduced Costs
 - *Statistical analysis shows there is a savings – 90% of consolidated depts. operated on average 24% lower cost*
- Improved Career Opportunities
 - *Larger department = greater career paths for officers*

Negative Factors

- Loss of local “non-enforcement” services
 - *Miscellaneous jobs performed by some departments are lost*
- Loss of Local Control
 - *In some situations, entire governmental body is involved in running the police department*
- Loss of Citizen Contact
 - *Because department is larger and officers assigned throughout, citizens feel loss of identity with “an” officer.*

Determining Feasibility

- Is there a history of intergovernmental cooperation?
- Do geographic conditions allow?
- Are demographic conditions conducive to it?
- Adaptability of Police Dept. operating conditions
- Attitudes of police officials

Public Opinion

- People want:
 - Atmosphere of personal safety and protection of their property
 - Expectation that police will respond rapidly when they call
 - Investigate, record and solve crimes

Reality of Public Opinion

- Most citizens are willing to pay reasonable taxes for reasonable service
- Some officials feel they know the attitudes of their constituents - knowing opinion is important. Some effort must be made to assess opinion
 - *Schools, civic organizations etc. MAY do a public opinion survey as a community project*

Reality of Public Opinion, cont.

- Referendum / ballot issue, town warrant
- Be wary of over influence by those directly affected (police, elected officials, career criminals *{just a joke}* etc.)

Basic Steps

- Appoint study committee
- Determine procedure to study issue
- Gather data
- Analyze Data & Determine Feasibility
- Establish timetable and procedure

Legal Agreements

- Determine level of service wanted and costs
- Develop “sales” agreement
- Pension issues ???
- Develop the department

Legal Agreements, cont.

- Develop Governing Body make-up
- “Host Community” to do payroll etc.
- What about current assets?
- Pension Issues?
- “Sell” service to others?

Legal Agreements, cont.

- Staffing levels
- Equipment plans
- Facilities
- Finances
 - Total costs
 - Costing formula

Questions, Comments, Concerns

- Thank you.

CONSOLIDATED POLICE AGENCIES IN PENNSYLVANIA (2009)

Agency	Municipalities Served	Regional Police Commission Chairman	Police Chief Executive	Composition of Regional Police Agency	Number of Officers	Population Served	Square Mile Area	Officers per 1000 Population
Adams County Eastern Adams Regional Police Dept. 01-01-92	Oxford Twp. Berwick Twp. New Oxford Boro Contract to Abbottstown Boro	Michael Noel 6945 York Road Abbottstown, PA 17301 717-624-1614	Robert C. Then 6945 York Road Box 266 Abbottstown, PA 17301 717-624-1614 x 204 Fax 717-624-1487 rthen@eadamsregionalpd.net	3 Commission members 3 Alternate members 2 Oxford Twp 2 Berwick Twp 2 New Oxford Boro	11 FT 5 PT [13.5]*	9,989	19.0	1.4
Allegheny County Northern Regional Police Dept. 01-01-69	Bradfordwoods Boro Pine Twp. Marshall Twp. Richland Twp.	Herbert Dankmeyer 230 Pearcemill Road Wexford, PA 15090 724-625-3157	T. Robert Amann 230 Pearce Mill Road Wexford, PA 15090 724-625-3157 Fax 724-625-3209 pmbw@zoominternet.net	9 Commission members 3 Pine Twp 2 Marshall Twp 1 Bradfordwoods Boro 3 Richland Twp	30 FT	31,000	52.0	1.0
Berks County Central Berks Regional Police Dept. 07-01-93	Lower Alsace Twp. Mt. Penn Boro	Josh Nowotarski 2147 Perkiomen Avenue Reading, PA 19606 610-779-1100	Anthony Garipoli 2147 Perkiomen Avenue Reading, PA 19606 610-779-1100 610-779-7135 agaripoli@centralberksregionalpolice.org	6 Commission members 2 elected officials 2 residents 2 alternate elected officials from each municipality	12 FT	7,652	22.8	1.6
Berks County Berks Lehigh Regional Police Dept. 01-01-91	Upper Mucungie Twp. Lyons Boro Topton Boro Maxatawny Twp.	Edward Early 8330 Schantz Road Breinigsville, PA 18031 610-395-4892 early@fast.net	Michael Weiser 127 Quarry Road Kutztown, PA 19530 610-683-8740 Fax 610-683-8747 mweiser@berkslehigh.berksco.org	8 Commission members 2 Upper Macungie Twp. 2 Lyons Boro 2 Topton Twp 2 Maxatawny Twp	29 FT	27,500	52.0	.95
Berks County Northern Berks Regional Police Dept. 05-01-91	Maiden Creek Twp. Ontelaunee Twp. Leesport Boro	Roy Timpe 37 Ontelaunee Drive Reading, PA 19605 610-926-2999	Scott W. Eaken 37 Ontelaunee Drive Reading, PA 19605 610-926-2999 Fax 610-926-0309 seaken@nbrpd.org	3 Commission members 1 representative from each municipality	14 FT	8,759	30.8	1.6
Bucks County Pennridge Regional Police Dept. 01-01-92	E. Rockhill Twp. W. Rockhill Twp.	John Cressman 1027 Ridge Road Sellersville, PA 18960 215-257-5104	Dave Mettin 1027 Ridge Road Sellersville, PA 18960 215-257-5104 Fax 215-257-9324 dmettin@penridgepd.org	3 Commission members 1 per municipality & Chairperson (alternates yearly)	13 FT	9,432	29.3	1.4
Bucks County Chal-Brit Regional Police Dept. 1-1-10	Chalfont Boro New Britain Boro		Donald L. Bowers, Jr. 56 Keeley Avenue New Britain, PA 18901 215-345-1080 FAX 215-230-8191 chief.bowers@comcast.net	5 Commission members 2 Chalfont Boro 2 New Britain Boro 1 member at large	12 FT	8,125	2.95	1.5
Cambria County West Hills Regional Police Dept. 01-01-78	Brownstown Boro Southmont Boro Westmont Boro Lower Yoder Twp.	Dr. Robert Callahan 2127 Hayden Drive. Johnstown, PA 15905	Andrew Havas, Jr. 1000 Luzerne Street Johnstown, PA 15905 814-255-4145 Fax 814-255-7443 westhillspolice@atlanticbbn.net	12 Commission members 2 Brownstown Boro 3 Southmont Boro 5 Westmont Boro 2 Lower Yoder Twp.	11 FT 8 PT [15]*	11,779	19.93	1.3
Chester County Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Dept. 01-01-82	Westtown Twp. E. Goshen Twp. Contract to Thornbury Twp.	Dr. Thomas Clapper 1433 Linden Street West Chester, PA 19382 610-692-7171	John M. Dumond 1041 Wilmington Pike West Chester, PA 19382 610-692-9600 Fax 610-692-2094 jdumond@westtownpolice.org	3 Commission members 1 Westtown Twp 1 Goshen Twp 1 Thornbury Twp	32 FT 10 PT [37]*	30,000	22.6	1.2
Clearfield County Morris Cooper Regional Police Dept. 01-06-75	Morris Twp. Cooper Twp.	Wayne Josephson Cooper Twp. P.O. Box 208 Kyslerstown, PA 16847 814-345-6571	Lt. Todd Lombardo (OIC) P.O. Box 186 Allport, PA 16821 814-342-5621 Fax 814-342-5810 mcrpd@comcast.net	6 Commission members 3 representatives from each municipality	1 FT	5,794	60.1	.17
Columbia County Orangeville Area Police Dept. 04-01-03	Orange Twp. Orangeville Boro	Robert Miller 510 Main Street P.O. Box 93 Orangeville, PA 17859 570-683-5076 globob@sunlink.net	Steven R. Rothermel 301 Mill Street P.O. Box 192 Orangeville, PA 17859 570-683-5372 Fax 570-683-5915 oxpd@pa.metrocast.net	5 Commission members 2 from each municipality 1 member at large	1 FT 2 PT [2]*	1,700	13.4	1.5
Crawford County Conneaut Lake Regional Police Dept 10-01-95	Conneaut Lake Boro Sadsbury Twp.	Roy Whaley 9878 State Highway 285 Conneaut Lake, PA 16316	Todd Pfeifer 9878 State Highway 285 Conneaut Lake, PA 16316 814-382-4364 Fax 814-382-4365 clrpd@zoominternet.net	5 Commission members 2 Boro 3 Supervisors from Twp Rotates yearly	3 FT 3 PT [4.5]*	3,649	24.7	1.2

Agency	Municipalities Served	Regional Police Commission Chairman	Police Chief Executive	Composition of Regional Police Agency	Number of Officers	Population Served	Square Mile Area	Officers per 1000 Population
Cumberland County West Shore Regional Police Dept. 01-01-95	Lemoyne Boro Wormleysburg Boro	Thomas Martini 510 Herman Avenue Lemoyne, PA 17043 717-737-8734	Cpl. James E. Karns (OIC) 510 Herman Avenue Lemoyne, PA 17043 717-737-8734 jekmesh@msn.com	5 Commission members 2 Lemoyne Boro 2 Wormleysburg Boro 1 Citizen (At Large)	10 FT 3 PT [11.5]*	6,602	3.3	1.8
Fayette County Southwest Regional Police Dept. 11-03-03	Belle Vernon Boro Newell Boro Long Branch Boro Coalcenter Boro Cokeburg Boro Mariana Boro	Richard Saxberg 10 Main Street Belle Vernon, PA 15012 724-929-8484	John D. Hartman 10 Main Street Belle Vernon, PA 15012 724-929-8484 Fax 724-929-6523 jhartmanswrp@us	4 Commission members Determined by call load	4 FT 6 PT [7.0]*	2,962	4.8	2.4
Lancaster County Northwest Lancaster County Regional Police Dept. 10-01-03	West Donegal Twp. Mount Joy Twp.	Charles Tupper 155 Merts Drive Elizabethtown, PA 17022 717-367-8481 Fax 717-367-3382	Samuel Gatchell 155 Merts Drive Elizabethtown, PA 17022 717-367-8481 Fax 717-367-3382 gatchells@police.co.lancaster.pa.us	5 Commission members 3 from West Donegal Twp. and 2 from Mount Joy Twp. which rotates yearly.	15 FT 4 PT [17]*	17,000	46.0	1.0
Lancaster County Susquehanna Regional Police Dept. 07-01-96	Conoy Twp. East Donegal Twp. Marietta Boro	John Murphy 188 Rock Point Road Marietta, PA 17547	Charles E. Haugh 188 Rock Point Road Marietta, PA 17547 717-426-1164 Fax 717-426-2001 haughe@police.co.lancaster.pa.us	3 Commission members 1 from each municipality	14 FT 1 PT [14.5]*	11,161	45.0	1.3
Lancaster County Southern Regional Police Dept. 01-01-03	Pequea Twp. Conestoga Twp.	Bruce Groff 80 Indian Hill Road Conestoga, PA 17516 717-464-4464 pequeatw@comcast.net	John Fiorilli 3284 Main Street Box 254 Conestoga, PA 17516 717-872-0352 Fax 717-872-7341 fiorilli@police.co.lancaster.pa.us	3 Commission members 1 from each twp. 1 civilian rotates every 2 years	9 FT 4 PT [11]*	8,107	28.3	1.4
Lawrence County Northwest Lawrence County Regional Police Dept. 10-01-04	Mahoning Twp. Pulaski Twp.	Vito Yeropoli 1172 State Route 208 Pulaski, PA 16143 724-964-8891	James B. Morris, Jr. 1172 State Route 208 Pulaski, PA 16143 724-964-8891, Ext. 104 Fax 724-964-1028 jbmorrisjr@hotmail.com	3 Commission members 2 from Pulaski Twp. 1 from Mahoning Twp. Reverse each year	2 FT 5 PT [4.5]*	7,105	56.6	.6
McKean County Otto Eldred Regional Police Department 09-01-04	Eldred Boro Otto Twp.	Mark Palmer P.O. Box 270 3 Bennett Street Eldred, PA 16731 814-225-4777	Craig Switzer P.O. Box 270 3 Bennett Street Eldred, PA 16731 814-225-4777 eldredboropolic@roadrunner.com	3 Commission members 1 from each municipality 1 civilian	5 PT [2.5]*	2,600	45.0	1.0
Mercer County Southwest Mercer County Regional Police Dept. 05-01-92	Farrell City West Middlesex Boro Wheatland Boro Shenango Twp.	Thomas Tulip 2491 Highland Road Hermitage, PA 16148 724-981-1561 ttulip@mccog.com	Riley Smoot Jr. P.O. Box 70 500 Roemer Boulevard Farrell, PA 16121 724-983-2720 Fax 724-981-2988 rsmoott108@neohio.twcbc.com	9 Commission members 1 mayor and council person from each municipality CEO of the Mercer County COG acts as Chairman	20FT 5PT [22.5]*	13,000	34.5	1.7
Mifflin County Mifflin County Regional Police Dept. 08-30-93	Armagh Twp. Bratton Twp. Brown Twp. Burnham Boro Derry Twp. Lewistown Boro Union Twp. Contracts to: Mifflin Co Housing Authority	John McCullough 301 Cottage Place Lewistown, PA 17044 717-248-5019	Sgt. Michael Moyle (OIC) 13225 Ferguson Valley Road Yeagertown, PA 17099 717-248-1900 x601 Fax 717-248-3635 mmovle@mcrpd.org	7 Commission members 1 from each municipality	27 FT	30,810	229.3	.9
Monroe County Pocono Mountain Regional Police Dept. 06-13-94	Tobyhanna Twp. Mt. Pocono Boro Tunkhannock Twp. Coolbaugh Twp.	Roy Gross HC 89 Box 200 Route 940 Pocono Summit, PA 18346 570-895-2400 pmpdp@ptd.net	Harry Lewis HC 89, Box 200 Route 940 Pocono Summit, PA 18346 570-895-2400 Fax 570-895-2450 hlewis@pmpdp.com	10 Commission members 3 Coolbaugh Twp 3Tobyhanna Twp 2 Mt. Pocono Boro 2 Tunkhannock Twp	43 FT	29,082	187.8	1.5
Monroe County Stroud Area Regional Police Dept. 05-01-00	East Stroudsburg Boro Stroudsburg Boro Stroud Twp.	Roger DeLarco 100 Day Street East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 570-421-3411 delarco@po-box.esu.edu	John Baujan 100 Day Street East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 570-421-6800 Fax 570-421-5979 jbaujan@sarpd.com	9 Commission members 3 from each municipality	56 FT	29,618	39.1	1.9
Montgomery County Upper Perk Police District 02-04-80	East Greenville Boro Pennsburg Boro	John Lear 101 E. 11 th Street Pennsburg, PA 18073 jlear@verizon.net	Michael S. Devlin 88 West 6 th Street Pennsburg, PA. 18073 215-679-8203 Fax 215-679-3919 chmfdevlin@upperperkpd.org	6 Commission members 3 from each borough	9 FT	5,950	1.3	1.4

Agency	Municipalities Served	Regional Police Commission Chairman	Police Chief Executive	Composition of Regional Police Agency	Number of Officers	Population Served	Square Mile Area	Officers per 1000 Population
Northampton County Colonial Regional Police Dept. 10-01-95	Bath Boro Hanover Twp. Lower Nazareth Twp. Contracts to: Chapman Boro	Eric Nagle 248 Brodhead Rd. Bethlehem, PA 18017 610-837-4557	Roy D. Seiple 248 Brodhead Rd. Bethlehem, PA 18017 610-861-4829 Fax 610-861-4829 chief@colonialregionalpd.org	6 Commission members 1 representative and 1 alternate from each municipality	24 FT	19,404	21.2	1.2
Pike County Eastern Pike Regional 01-07-08	Matamoras Boro Westfall Twp.	Richard Gassmann 10 Ave I Matamoras, Pa 18336 570-491-4003	Chad D. Stewart 10 Ave I Matamoras, PA 18336 570-491-4040 Fax 570-491-4099 cstewart@eprpd.org	5 Commission Members 2 Representatives from each municipality and 1 member of the public appointed by the 4 commissioners	9 FT 4 PT [11]	4,912	31.0	2.2
Washington County RESA Regional Police Dept. 09-22-90	Allenport Boro Dunlevy Boro Elco Boro Roscoe Boro Stockdale Boro	Thomas J. Wilkinson Box 568 Roscoe, PA 15477 724-938-3228 twilkinson@zoominternet.net	Mark Stuart 402 Locust Avenue P.O. Box 300 Stockdale, PA 15483 724-938-7773 Fax 724-938-7773 resa@zoominternet.net	10 Commission members 1 mayor and 1 member of council from each municipality	7 PT [3.5]*	2,711	3.4	
York County Northeastern Regional Police Dept. 01-01-83	East Manchester Twp. Manchester Boro Mount Wolf Boro	David Naylor 1070 Canal Road Manchester, PA 17345 717-266-1572	Darryl Albright 5570 Board Road Mt. Wolf, PA 17349 717-266-6195 x 101 Fax 717-268-8645 chief@neregionalpd.us	8 Commission members 2 representatives from each borough 4 representatives from the township	11 FT	8,801	17.5	1.3
York County York Area Regional Police Dept. 06-29-00	York Twp. Windsor Twp. Contracts to Dallastown Boro Felton Boro Jacobus Boro Windsor Boro Yoe Boro Red Lion Boro	Paul Smith 33 Oak Street York, PA 17402	Thomas Gross 33 Oak Street York, PA 17402 717-741-1259 Fax 717-741-5209 chief@vapid.org	3 Commission members 1 representative from each municipality 1 member at large	50 FT	50,685	59.0	1.2
York County Southern Regional Police Dept. 01-01-92	New Freedom Boro Shrewsbury Boro Glenn Rock Boro Contracts to: Railroad Boro Southern York County School District	Richard Buchanan 212 Cardinal Drive Shrewsbury, PA 17361 717-235-1878 buckchopper@aol.com	James C. Childs III 47 E. High Street New Freedom, PA 17349 717-235-3944 Fax 717-235-1609 chief@srpd.us	9 Commission members 3 mayors 3 council 3 citizens	11 FT 1 PT [11.5]*	11,500	9.0	1.0
York County Southwestern Regional Police Dept. 07-01-02	Heidelberg Twp. Manheim Twp. North Codorus Twp. Spring Grove Boro	John Rupert 6115 Thoman Drive Spring Grove, PA 17362 717-225-1333 Fax 717-225-0635	Gregory M. Bean 6115 Thoman Drive Spring Grove, PA 17362 717-225-1333 x 101 Fax 717-225-0635 gbean@swrpd.org	8 Commission members 1 elected and one appointed from each municipality	13 FT	17,947	69.8	1.0
York County Northern York County Regional Police Dept. 09-01-72	Conewago Twp. Dover Boro Dover Twp. Franklin Twp. Jackson Twp. Manchester Twp. North York Boro Paradise Twp. Spring Grove School District	Lance A. Biesecker 1445 E. Canal Road Dover, PA 17315	Carl Segatti 1445 E. Canal Road Dover, PA 17315 717-292-0542 Fax 717-292-0543 chief@nycrpd.org	8 Commission members 1 representative from each municipality Spring Grove School District non-voting member	50 FT	64,023	145.0	.7