

**Volunteer Homeland Reserve Unit (VHRU)
1st General Membership Meeting, February 28, 2012**

- Call the meeting to order.
- Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Please remember in your prayers the 20 VHRU members we have lost over the past few years, especially most recently Ray Hinson.
- Treasurer, Frank Bruton will give us his report on our Treasury.
- I would like to spend a few minutes updating everyone on the State of Nevada, Governor's position regarding support of our organization.
 1. Letter from the Chief of Division of Emergency Management.
 2. Letter from the Governor's Council regarding a meeting with the Governor.

The Core Leaders have discussed these letters and have decided to remain an active support organization for local law enforcement. Those agencies are, the Las Vegas Metro PD, Henderson PD, North Las Vegas PD and most recently, the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe in Laughlin, Arizona and California.

- Robert Borener, our Secretary and Tri State Coordinator has stepped down from that position. Bob will remain an active member and still serve on the Board. His replacement is Dan Christian from Bullhead City, AZ and in addition, a number of other changes in Team and Squad Leader positions have taken place in Laughlin and Arizona. These changes are reflected on our new organizational chart (Copies handed out this evening) and on our web site, www.vhru.com.

Our appreciation goes to Dan Christian, Arnie Wetzstein and Tom Hewitt for taking on leadership roles.

I want to thank Bob for all the time and effort he has put into building the Laughlin and Arizona Teams over the past few years. It's an honor to have him remain a member and on our Board. Thanks Bob.

- The organization will continue to collect \$30.00 annual dues. If you have not paid your 2012 dues, please see Frank Bruton this evening.

- **We now have a new ID card, which will replace the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management State card. I will try to get the new cards out as soon as possible to everyone who is a member in good standing for 2012. These new cards will not have an expiration date and please don't carry your State ID card once you receive this new card. That State card is not valid.**
- **The organization will be moving away from supporting Metro programs other than a resource when needed. The Downtown Area Command (DTAC) Surveillance assignment will no longer be supported. Metro has been informed of our decision to withdraw.**
- **Tonight we need to discuss the Laughlin River Run coming up in April. Some background on this event, last year Metro did not include us in the daily briefings, which caused a problem for one of our units on patrol. A marked Metro unit stopped one of our vehicles doing patrol on a casino property. The uniform Officers didn't know who we were and why we had no registration for the vehicle we were operating. It was explained that the vehicle is a Metro unmarked auto and we were supporting the event. The Officers were not aware of the VHRU assisting. This put our people in jeopardy. As a result I sent a letter to Lt. Evans, CO Laughlin, expressing our displeasure on how we were treated last year. A copy went to Assistant Sheriff Flynn.**

On Wednesday February 15, I did receive a call from Metro Captain Kurt Williams who was very apologetic and requested we consider helping them again this year.

The dates for the Run are April 25, 26 and 27. I need to know how many members attending tonight wish to spend three days in Laughlin on this event.

- **The administrative work for the VHRU was overwhelming when we had to do so many reports and spreadsheets for the State. Now that we are no longer a resource, this will help reduce this burden. In addition, by not issuing yearly renewals for our ID cards, will also help reduce the number of hours on administrative tasks.**

If the police agencies call us to assist, we will respond and deploy as many of our members that are available at that time. The Core Leaders discuss the future of how we run our organization and it was agreed to try quarterly meetings. These meetings will be held here in the Henderson Police Department at this same location on the following dates, starting at 7 pm:

**Tuesday 5/8,
Tuesday 8/2
Tuesday 11/27**

Please mark your calendar.

We are planning on having food available at our next meeting. The Henderson PD will allow us to bring in food as long as we clean up after we eat. At this time, we are not sure if it will be a hot meal or box lunches.

- With limited funds in our Treasury, we will be watching our expenses going forward. For now, we have enough supplies, including uniforms for this year. We will consider at the end of this year if we wish to hold a raffle to add funds to our Treasury.**
- The Adopt- A- Highway program in Arizona, Laughlin, Pahrump and Vegas will continue on a quarterly basis. When the time comes around for the clean up, an e-mail will be sent if anyone wants to come out to help. In the past the Core Leaders handled Vegas and Pahrump. The Laughlin and Arizona teams handled those two locations.**
- The Veterans Administration Police Agency who is responsible for the safety of the campus of the new Veterans Hospital on Pecos Road, asked for a meeting to discuss an MOU.**

If you recall, last year we assisted the Hospital Police with a simulated exercise at the VA Hospital just prior to its opening.

I met with a Lieutenant Nestor Lopez last week to discuss our operation and how we can assist his agency. Frank Bruton prepared a draft MOU, which was sent to him to be reviewed by their Legal Department. Hopefully we can get this signed soon.

- The St Patrick's parade will be held on Saturday March 17th in Henderson. An application to march was submitted as we have done for the past four years. Once approved, I will set up our breakfast at the Eldorado Casino on Water Street in Henderson. We will meet in the coffee shop at 8am and after we eat, go to the designated area for us to form up and march. More details will be coming out on e-mail.**
- The North Las Vegas Police Department will be conducting a simulated Point of Distribution (POD) exercise in late March. This will occur over a three day period. It's not clear if they will need our**

assistance. As soon as I have some information, I will advise everyone and seek volunteers to assist.

- **The VHRU organization, offers at no cost to our members, accidental Insurance in the amount of \$5,000. If you have not sent in your form to be included under this policy, please see me after the meeting to get an application form.**

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