

**BTFS Speech CP Mass-Event on Sunday May 6th, 2018 / ret. Police Captain Felix F. Walz / Reflects personal perception and opinion**

Short intro of UN Career with focus on LNP Community Police Policy based on the Police Act

**The world is watching – Switzerland is watching – potential Investors are watching**  
Media’s responsibility – the Police responsibility – the society responsibility

**What does “Adherence to the Rule of Law” mean?**

**Observation 1:** Every day more and more big, shiny black vehicles with escorting vehicles seems to have a privileged right to neglect all the traffic rules, driving on opposite lanes at high speeds, endangering pedestrians, Motorcyclists, commercial taxi drivers and ordinary people moving in their vehicles in the huge traffic every day. Children are monitoring and adapting what they see how adults and especially rich and privileged people behave in traffic.

**Question:** Is this “Adherence to the Rule of Law” by all?

**Observation 2:** Reckless and dangerous driving by Motorcyclists and by so many drivers of vehicles on a daily basis on Monrovia congested streets. Endangering Pedestrians, Children, Women, elder and handicapped people trying to cross the streets. Children are monitoring and adapting what they see how adults behave in traffic.

**Question:** Is this “Adherence to the Rule of Law” by all?

**Observation 3:** The Liberian National Police is way more visibly present on the streets. The Liberia National Police as a whole has undergone enormous efforts to stress the issues of a non-violence approach, based on de-escalation, dialog and communication; hence effective community engagement programs fostering the LNP’s endeavors to bring all community stakeholders like their leaders, the youth, women, girls, schools, business, Motorcyclists, Transport Union etc. on one table for dialog to discuss mutual ways forward – in a peace- and respectful manner.

**Conclusion:** LNP is challenged in regards of Transportation, Response time, resources to train Officers appropriately. LNP cannot do miracles and are dependent on sufficient support to enhance its institutional and operational capacity. As such, a cohesive partnership with the communities will help bridge the gaps and foster trust and confidence in the rule of law.

**Observation 4:** We all respect our Religions and attend Services. We all pray to the Almighty and listening to what our Pastors and spiritual leaders teaching us: to plan our lives, to stay away from wickedness, feel the love of GOD, and let always be GOD in control.

**Question:** What are we doing after we are back on the street, outside of the house of GOD?

**Conclusion: My four observations are conflicting!**

**What is the way forward? Using the famous philosophers Galileo Galilei's word: Curiosity is the key to solve problems (and not violence and aggression). What can we do on the very ground – people centered, embracing the concerns of community dwellers, leaving in poor conditions beyond words – especially during the rainy season and also the dry-season when the wells provide hardly water**

- I. Effective community partnership building activities across the country
- II. Regular workshops and trainings to discuss mutually what matters to Dwellers, the Youth, Women, Motorcyclists, Business people and what matters from a perspective of the Police.
- III. Explain each other's role – listen to each other and respect others view!
- IV. Be professional – use and exploit talents of individuals for the problem-solving approach – we have so many smart and young members of all entities – including the Motorcyclists.
- V. Establish local committees, provide Project Management and Dialogue Training, instead of embarrassing each other
- VI. Invite the LNP' Community Service Section for Mentorship and Training, jointly with your local Police in the various Zones. Each of the Zones has also special trained CPO's and they are highly motivated to demonstrate TOGETHERNESS for problem solving.
- VII. The Staff of the Bowier Trust Foundation is available to accommodate dedicated training and facilitate trainings for all parties in these dialogue

**Finally:** Be aware, the more we are together and stay away from violence; the more we are forgiving to each other; the more we are respecting each other; the more we ALL adhere to the rule of law – the more positive attention we get from the world outside Liberia – concerning BTFS: especially attention from potential investors from Switzerland, but also from other European Countries.

**Final words** – touching the issues, what are the future merits if we all reach a level of stability and growth of the Liberian economy, education and sanitation.

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