

Davis Police Department
Community Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2008

Present: Shelly Bailes, Landy Black, Hamza El-Nakhal, Patti Fong, Pam Mari, Diane McGee, John Pamperin, Carla Pion, Carol Rosset, Mark Rutheiser, Gen Sparks, Scott Wieking

Guests: Bob Aaronson – Ombudsman, Darren Pytel – Captain, Pat Snyder – Minutes Taker

***Citizen
Complaint
Process***

Captain Darren Pytel, who currently heads the Professional Standards Unit, developed a revised Citizen Complaint Process. He said his team sought to find a way to handle complaints that would bring opportunity for more supervisory oversight within specific divisions.

Informal complaints are any complaint that an immediate supervisor should handle. The intent is to have the watch commander meet with the complainant to find out what happened. It maybe something that can be resolved right away.

If it is a complaint about an employee, the supervisor makes a decision based on the nature of the complaint. If serious (excessive force or a violation of constitutional rights), then a form must be completed so the complaint will be formally processed. If minor, the supervisor would ask the complainant if they want a formal investigation or the officer to be spoken with and counseled; which would result in documentation in his/her file. Chief Black has expressed that he wants complaints put in writing in the supervisory file so that the supervisor doing evaluations, counseling and training can work with the officer at that level. Division commanders must be notified whenever any of complaints are documented and put in file.

Formal complaints will continue to follow the current process. They fall in two categories:

1. A person wants a formal investigation, but knows that even if the allegation is true it will result in counseling and training. This type of complaint will go to Assistant Chief for decision of whether the division supervisor or the Internal Affairs division investigates it. When completed, a written report is generated and given to the division commander who will make a finding. If sustained, documentation is placed in the employee's training/evaluation file and training, counseling, etc is provided. The Chief receives a report.

2. Professional Standards – The Chief does the analysis and ultimately decides what the disposition will be and how to discipline. Options are written reprimands in the personnel file, suspension from duty, demotion, termination or referral to the prosecuting attorney.

Chief Black explained that high quality policing is paramount. He believes that all supervisors have the responsibility to hold their employees to high standards. Supervisors need to have ownership of their departments. He said that all complaints have to be treated as valid.

<i>Citizen Complaint Process</i>	<p>Ombudsman Aaronson said that this is clearly better than the method we used before. The new policy will bring a level of consistency and dependability and it will not take as long. Issues can be handled in a timelier manner.</p>
<i>Chief's Update</i>	<p>Chief Black said that hate crimes have plagued many in America. We are fortunate to have a police department that is sensitive to hate crimes. Since being in Davis, he has witnessed a great effort to solve these types of crimes and reduce fear.</p> <p>The recent graffiti on residential garage doors and at Holmes Junior High turned out to be hateful, but there were other factors involved other than race. Both will be solved and information will be released as soon as possible.</p> <p>The copper crescent from on top of Islamic Center was taken. Hamza El-Nakhal and Chief Black agree that probably copper thieves took it.</p> <p>Patti Fong mentioned that there is a Hate Crime fund of \$1,500, which the Davis Agents for Racial Equality have set aside for rewards for information and ways to solve hate crimes. DPD staff in attendance was unaware of this fund.</p> <p>Chief Black reported that our Crime Analyst took another job and we currently have the position advertised.</p> <p>Officer Owens arrested five young people burglarizing cars and they admitted to the crimes. Also, about a month ago power tools were taken and coin boxes broken into. Some suspects were arrested in another county and our crimes stopped.</p> <p>Pam Mari said DJUSD felt lucky that the January 4 – 6 storms happened while school was out. They are thinking about the threshold of when to cancel school, how to get the whole county to do it together, and how to get out information.</p> <p>Chief Black said that during the storm the PD had over a 50% increase in calls for service. There were five vehicular accidents, with two due to traffic lights issues. For the most part people were courteous at intersections. Yolo County Communications lost power completely. Our 9-1-1 lines are connected to them. Police Officers were challenged to the limits of their resources and could not go door to door. In situations like this, neighbors need to start looking out for each other. DPD will get an alarm so we know when 9-1-1 is down.</p> <p>Office Edens, who suffered the loss of his lower left leg during an off duty motorcycle accident, has been released from the hospital. He is expected to return to full duty.</p>
<i>Round Table</i>	<p>Carla Pion suggested having PD Cadets or students from DaVinci High School provide childcare for the upcoming Community Meetings.</p> <p>Gen Sparks works with the Energy Commission and plans to talk with Fire Chief Conroy about contingent plans for emergencies.</p>

***Round Table
continued***

Gen Sparks distributed the Community Meeting announcement to her Beat 2 leadership. She recommends doing a mailing, possibly a tag-on mailing to what Anne Brunette sends out to Neighborhood Associations.

Shelly Bailes spoke about the recent deaths of two individuals from the Davis gay community. She said that the 2007 Holiday Meal served over 700 meals.

Shelly Bailes went to a Human Relations Commission Conference in Sacramento at which she attended a workshop about discrimination in schools. She found it interesting that while we have issues with gay slurs in Davis, many other school districts are fighting problems like gangs and gunfire in schools.

Diane McGee asked if there was an increase of burglaries during the holidays. There was not a significant increase. However, the PD publicized crimes tips to help the public be aware of the possibility.

Diane McGee said she believes Police and Fire did a great job during the storm.

During the monthly pastor's association meeting, Scott Wieking was asked to see if the department would be willing to work with congregations about emergency plans. Specific concern was expressed about the possibility of a gunman entering the building like happened in Colorado Springs. Chief Black will have someone contact Scott about training and setting up protocol. He suggested giving the Police floor plans with information about how power and gas can be shut down.

Hamza El-Nakhal announced the Celebration of Abraham on January 27 at St. James from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. All are invited.

Mark Rutheiser said that banners can be hung across 2nd and B Streets. The Chamber of Commerce can help with that.

Carol Rosset asked if the South Davis burglaries are continuing. Chief Black said that the PD has not identified a trend.

Patti Fong said that the shooting of the Asian police officer by an Asian gang member was a wake up call for the Asian community.