

# **RICHMOND POLICE COMMISSION**

**Wednesday, October 5, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**Employment & Training Building**  
**330 – 25<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Conference Room 1**

## **MINUTES**

### **I CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice Chair Bea Roberson

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Nemy Bautista  
Scott Gillespie  
Felix Hunziker  
Bea Roberson  
Glenn Stephenson  
Eleanor Thompson

**Absent:** Therese Barquet  
Dolores Hembree  
Cora J. Ward

**Vacancies:** None

**Administrative Staff:** Don Casimere, Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer – Present  
Malia Glover, Executive Secretary I – Present

**Council Liaison:** Jeff Ritterman, Council Liaison – Present

**City Attorney's Office Representative:** Bruce Soublet, Assistant City Attorney – Present

**Vice Chair Bea Roberson** moved Item VII up to behind Item III.

### **II APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 7, 2011**

Upon motion by **Commissioner Bautista** and second by **Commissioner Stephenson**, the minutes for the regular meeting of September 7, 2011, were approved as written.

### **III COMMENTS BY COUNCIL LIAISON JEFF RITTERMAN**

**Councilmember Ritterman** said Lawrence Berkeley National Lab (LBNL) will announce their decision on 11/15/11. He said it continues to be a positive benefit to the city economically. He reported that Chevron Refinery has a new general manager, Nigel Hearne. There was a proclamation of thanks to Mike Coyle, the previous general manager, for what he's done for the community. He said, as far as public safety, there was an effective suppression after the July/August spree of murders. They had an interesting presentation by District Attorney Mark Peterson; they hope to work on truancy with the school district. **Councilmember Ritterman** said he met with **Vice Chair Roberson** and **Commissioner Hunziker** regarding the commission's efforts about educating the community about the police commission and police-community relations.

**Commissioner Bautista** asked how the LBNL announcement will be made.

**Councilmember Ritterman** said he was not sure how they will release the information but they are on schedule.

### **IV BRIEFING BY DEVONE BOGGAN AND/OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE OF OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY**

**Devone Boggan** said the ONS was created to provide targeted intervention services for individuals most likely to be confronted by gun violence. He introduced **Sal Garcia**, a Neighborhood Change Agent for ONS. **Mr. Boggan** said the goals of Operation CeaseFire are to reduce group related gun violence, reduce recidivism, promote community reconciliation between youth, community and police, as well as to build a form of services and economic development opportunities for these youth. A work group has been established that includes representatives of law enforcement, community, clergy and service providers of the community. The goal is to create a call-in where individuals are invited in to a room where the stakeholders let them know that the shooting must stop. They have a choice. If they stop shooting, they will be provided with the necessary resources/alternatives to gun violence that will help them be successful in life. Those who choose to not take the services that are offered will have very focused attention on them as individuals and the groups they represent. They hope to have their first call-in in November. They are presently developing a list of individuals who are believed to be the target audience. These include people that are actively pulling triggers now, people that have a significant influence on the streets around triggers being pulled and those that "talk it up." Their hope is that the talkers go back out into the community and relay the message that if they don't make the right decision, they may find themselves somewhere they do not want to be for a very long time.

**Commissioner Bautista** asked if they envision a gang injunction for these individuals if this program fails. **Mr. Boggan** said that, considering the level of violence in Richmond, they should be considering all strategies that have evidence of success in other places.

**Commissioner Stephenson** asked for an explanation of the term “talk it up.” **Mr. Boggan** said there are a lot of people that instigate and spread rumors that actually promote violence in the city. If they can use that asset in a positive way about what will happen if they don’t change, then the message creates a buzz.

**Commissioner Hunziker** said that an important component of CeaseFire is the community’s expression of moral outrage. How will the community express that they’ve had enough during the call-ins. **Mr. Boggan** said that each of the stakeholders at the call-in will give a presentation and express the impact of violence on their lives and let them know that they will no longer tolerate it. They will do, as a community, everything that they can to get them what they need to turn their lives around. If they choose not to, the stakeholders will support their partners in law enforcement and their efforts to do what they do.

**Commissioner Stephenson** asked if the police commission would be allowed to attend the call-ins. **Mr. Boggan** said it is by invitation and to let them know if they are interested.

## V **REPORT OF CHIEF OF POLICE (Chris Magnus or his representative)**

### A. Report of recent activities, events, incidents, and related matters

**Deputy Chief Brown** distributed a disc containing RPD policies for the commission to review. He also passed out an Advanced Officer Training schedule, a copy of their current organizational chart, and a copy of a special order that explains Policy 200 – Organizational Structure and Responsibility. He said that July and August were bad months for them in terms of gun violence and murders, which were mostly attributed to gang violence. They still have a temporary task force with the sheriff’s office and the DA’s office is also helping them deal with some of the tougher crime challenges in Richmond. They currently have a coalition involving some of the West County justice partners where they regularly communicate and share information and work together on common problems to help impact violent crimes. An article regarding the value of surveillance cameras was handed out.

**Commissioner Stephenson** asked if AB1389 that severely restricts impounding of vehicles in southern California will affect Richmond’s policy. **D/C Brown** said they have been working on this policy for a while. Some of the laws conflict and there is a lot of legal scrutiny. The latest draft has not been implemented yet.

**Commissioner Hunziker** asked if the towing policy will be on the agenda for review at the next meeting. **Vice Chair Roberson** said yes, as well as the policies on the disc.

**Commissioner Hunziker** said that per DMV statistics, unlicensed drivers are five times more likely to be involved in a fatal accident. It seems that they are increasing the risk to the community by finding ways to let these unlicensed drivers go. He asked **D/C Brown** to comment on that. **D/C Brown** said RPD’s policy doesn’t call

for an unlicensed driver to not be cited and then, therefore, have to place the penalty and sanctions that are associated with driving while unlicensed, if it's purely unlicensed only. It does not add an extra penalty of having their car impounded and held on top of being an unlicensed driver if the only violation is unlicensed. It really depends on the circumstances involved in each incident.

**Jackie Thompson** reported that in the area of 23<sup>rd</sup> and Macdonald down to Bissell and 22<sup>nd</sup> the area is infested with loiterers, drug dealers and muggers. She would also like to see something done about the panhandlers at McDonalds. She feels there is a lack of security at this property.

**VI REPORTS BY RICHMOND POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION, LATINO POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION, GUARDIANS OF JUSTICE**

No representatives present.

**VII PUBLIC FORUM**

**Jackie Thompson** spoke on a public safety matter that deals with cars heading west down 37<sup>th</sup> St. to the curve on Wall Avenue. People speed through this area and often go over the line and meet oncoming traffic. She also requested that the police department patrol the area past the housing development on the 500 block of Stege for suspicious vehicles. She said she supports the drivers' license checkpoints.

**VIII DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR PROMOTING POSITIVE POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY ABOUT THE POLICE COMMISSION (Commissioner Hunziker)**

**Commissioner Hunziker** gave an update on the video they are producing at the RYSE Center. It should be ready by the end of the year. He and **Commissioner Roberson** met with **Councilmember Ritterman** to explain the mission of the Police Commission and its origination. He said they will schedule a meeting with Human Rights Human Relations Commission to talk about their different roles and how they can work together.

**Commissioner Roberson** said she does not have an update regarding the article for the neighborhood council newsletters. She said they will bring the video to the Police Commission for their review before final approval. They are also asking **Councilmember Ritterman** to report on things that are pertinent to the Police Commission during his monthly report to the commission.

**IX COMMENTS REGARDING NACOLE CONFERENCE**

**Commissioner Bautista** read his report out loud. He said the conference was very educational, the speakers were outstanding and it gave him the opportunity to learn from the professionals of various oversight agencies and other conference participants.

**Commissioner Gillespie** said he found the conference very informational, particularly the Los Angeles Police Commission who spoke about their efforts to reduce the incidents of racial profiling during traffic stops. He said he attended as many presentations as possible. It was very eye opening and expands the possibilities of what police oversight can and should be doing.

**CIAO Casimere** said the conference was very beneficial for the delegates who did attend. He had the privilege of being on a panel on the subject of basic investigative skills. He said it was beneficial to him to be able to provide training and to stimulate dialogue with others. He did have the opportunity to meet with the mayor of the City of New Orleans and talk to others who are involved in trying to bring about culture change in their Professional Standards Unit.

**X REPORTS BY:**

- **CHAIRPERSON**
- **COMMISSIONERS**
- **STAFF**

**Commissioner Roberson**

- Attended RNCC meeting
- Attended Crime Prevention meeting
- Attended Home Front Festival meeting
- Taught REACT

**Commissioner Bautista**

- Attended NACOLE Conference

**Commissioner Gillespie**

- Attended NACOLE Conference

**CIAO Casimere**

- Submitted Daily Activity Logs for September 2011
- Attended NACOLE Conference

**XI ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

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Don Casimere  
Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer