



Office of Police Ombudsman Commission Minutes

November 19, 2019

Meeting Minutes: 2:40

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm

Attendance

- OPOC Commissioners present: Ladd Smith, Jenny Rose, James Wilburn, and Blaine Holman
- OPOC Commissioners absent: Elizabeth Kelley
- Legal Counsel: Dennis Hession
- OPO staff members present: Bart Logue, Luvimae Omana and Christina Coty

Items Session

- Agenda approved
- October 15th minutes were approved

Public Forum

- None

OPO Report

- OPO Highlights for October
 - 131 contacts, 8 complaints, 18 referrals, 30 OPO interviews
 - 6 times the complaints from Ombudsman's first year
 - Focus from the community and media surrounding the UOF policy update and the BWC from an incident in February
- Critical Incident on October 23rd – Suicidal Male
- Training – International Association of Chiefs of Police: IACP, in Chicago

Analyst Update:

- International Ombudsman Expo – Luvimae attended this in Abuja Nigeria at the end of October.
- The focus of the conference was on expanding the Ombudsman frontier, with one entire day devoted to women in the Ombudsman role.
- International Ombudsman Expo, Women in Ombudsman Leadership – Abuja Nigeria

Administrative Specialist Update:

- NACOLE Regional Conference in Washington DC – focused on strong Community-Police relationships and how important communication is. A majority of complaints received around the country are primarily due to communication issues (officers being perceived as rude and/or arrogant)
- Was able to make connections with other Oversight agencies and was encouraged to take things to court if our ordinance is not being followed.
- Spoke with the Investigating Manager from the Department of Police Complaints in DC and she recommended that we have at least 1.5 FTE - 2 FTE's in the complaint intake based on the number of complaints, interviews conducted and referrals our office has completed.

Commissioners' Business

- City Council Brief– Commissioner Holman
 - Discussed with City Council the importance of funding for the OPO specifically in the Administrative Specialist position and moving the position to a full time position.
 - Spoke about the number of complaints doubling the previous year and the variance of the OPO budget to that of the Police departments.
 - Blaine spoke with CM Burke about possibly tying the OPO budget to the budget of the SPD.
- NACOLE Regional Conference Recap – Commissioners Smith
 - Discussed the Community Policing thing. Educating the children about how to interact with the police. More training is needed for the PD to understand how to work with people who are on the disability spectrum.
- Recent Use of Force Case Speak out – Commissioners
 - Commissioners discussed their concerns with the Use of Force used during the incident in February (Can be viewed on the meeting recording)
- IRFP Update – Motion to change date to December 31st
 - Motion approved
 - Special Meeting scheduled for January 8th to conduct interviews.
- Commissioner Speak out –
 - Commissioner Rose – Discussed cancelling the December 17th OPOC meeting.
 - Motion approved
 - Commissioner Wilburn – Northtown Mall Kwanzaa Celebration. N Word discussion at EWU in January, Speaking on Racism at Morning Start Thursday 21st, 6pm
- Annual Report Sub Committe
 - Commissioners Rose and Smith will take this project.

Motion Passes or Fails: 4

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:40pm

**Note: Minutes are summarized by staff. A video recording of the meeting is on file -
Spokane Office of Police Ombudsman Commission**

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