



Office of Police Ombudsman Commission Minutes

May 18th, 2021

Meeting Minutes: 1:21

Meeting called to order at 5:40pm

Attendance

- OPOC Commissioners present: Ladd Smith, James Wilburn and Luc Jasmin
- Legal Counsel: David Bingaman
- OPO staff members present: Bart Logue, Luvimae Omana and Christina Coty

Briefing Session

- Agenda approved
- March 23rd and April 13th minutes approved

Items Session

- Public Forum – No one signed up to speak
- OPO Monthly Report
 - Deputy Ombudsman training on interviews and case work
 - HR Deputy Ombudsman position description
 - Meetings with Chief Meidl re: Guild Grievance to May 31st Protest report and a way forward.

Commissioners' Business

- Guild Grievance Update
 - It's in limbo right now. It seems that the Guild has flushed out any concerns that they may have and that we are close to being ready.
- Deputy Ombudsman Position Update
 - Commissioner Smith met with the City HR representative, Amber Richards to discuss the progress. They are hoping to have a mid-summer approval.
- Reporting Process Overview
 - Changes to the Police Guild contract and the requirements for reports being written by the OPO. There are 7 report options. 1 is required and 6 are optional (Required Report: After a mediation. Optional Reports: Complaints we received at the OPO but decided not to send to IA, when the OPOC directs an independent investigation for an existing IA investigation, OPO Independent Investigations (IA notifies OPO in writing that there will be no investigation and it is a complaint of a serious nature), Closing Report on a complaint (after the complaint is certified), Policy and Procedure Report, Policy and Procedure report from Review Boards
 - The process will take 3 weeks to a month to get to the OPOC
 - 8 potential cases that have been identified including: Taser utilization on a juvenile; collision of a police vehicle by an off-duty officer; requesting of a same sex police officer for body search; and theft of a police vehicle while keys were left inside
- OPO Recommendation R21-01
 - Duty to intervene – Several links from various LEO agencies around the country.

- This policy recommendation was originally researched and written by the Ombudsman for submission to NACOLE as part of an effort to create a model use of force policy.
- It has been updated to include some of the mandated reforms becoming law in Washington
- Unanimously Approved
- Chief Meidl Vimeo Review
 - In the video Chief Meidl addressed an article and concerns that are circulating stating that Spokane is ranked #3 in the country most violent police cities.
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 - The question being asked of the citizens is to just trust the SPD but we are not hearing much about how they are working to reduce the numbers
 - Commissioner Jasmin: Only focusing on the Black population is problematic considering that the Black population only represents 2% in Spokane
 - Commissioner Wilburn: Thinks it would be best to wait to act until there is a federal law instated.
- Commissioner Speakout
 - Commissioner Wilburn: Would like to see our Law Enforcement be a more friendly force with the community. The concern that the Black community has for their safety from Law Enforcement is deeply ingrained and will take a long time to repair.
 - Commissioner Jasmin: Appreciates all the hard work that the OPO puts into the reports and he agreed with Commissioner Wilburns statements.

Motion Passes or Fails: 4

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:05pm

**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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