

**Commission on Police Practices**

**COMMISSION ON POLICE PRACTICES  
REGULAR MEETING REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
AND AD HOC PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**JOINT MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, March 6, 2024**

**4:30pm-7:30pm**

**Balboa Park Santa Fe Room  
2144 Pan American W. Road  
San Diego, CA 92101**

Click [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6Xp\\_0267hE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6Xp_0267hE) to view this meeting on YouTube.

**CPP Commissioners Present:**

Chair Gloria Tran  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Dennis Brown  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Doug Case  
Octavio Aguilar (arrived at 5:00pm)  
John Armantrout  
Alec Beyer  
Cheryl Canson (arrived at 4:58pm)

Lupe Diaz  
Armando Flores (arrived at 4:56pm)  
Dwayne Harvey  
Clovis Honoré  
James Justus  
Darlanne Mulmat  
Ada Rodriguez  
Yvania Rubio (arrived at 5:14pm)

**Excused:**

Brandon Hilpert  
Bonnie Benitez  
Christina Griffin-Jones

**Absent:**

Laila Aziz  
Dennis Larkin

**Ad Hoc Personnel Committee Present:**

Committee Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Dennis Brown  
James Justus  
Darlanne Mulmat  
Clovis Honoré

**CPP Staff Present:**

Danell Scarborough, Interim Executive Director  
Duane Bennett, CPP Outside Counsel  
Olga Golub, Chief Investigator  
Alina Conde, Executive Assistant  
Jon’Nae McFarland, Administrative Assistant

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- I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: Chair Gloria Tran called the meeting to order at 4:41pm.
- II. ROLL CALL: Executive Assistant Alina Conde conducted the roll call for the Commission; established quorum.
  - A. Executive Assistant Alina Conde conducted roll call for the Ad Hoc Personnel Committee; all present
- III. PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION ON POLICE PRACTICES: The purpose of the Commission on Police Practices (CPP or Commission) is to provide independent community oversight of SDPD, directed at increasing community trust in SDPD & increasing safety for community and officers. The purpose of the Commission is also to perform independent investigations of officer-involved shootings, in-custody deaths and other significant incidents, and an unbiased evaluation of all complaints against members of SDPD and its personnel in a process that will be transparent and accountable to the community. Lastly, the Commission also evaluates the review of all SDPD policies, practices, trainings, and protocols and represents the community in making recommendations for changes.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
  - A. CPP Regular Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2024  
Motion: Commission James Justus moved for approval of the CPP Regular Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2024. Commissioner John Armantrout seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 11-0-0.  
Yays: Chair Tran, 1st Vice Chair Brown, 2nd Vice Chair Case, Armantrout, Beyer, Diaz, Harvey, Honoré, Justus, Mulmat, and Rodriguez  
Nays: None  
Abstained: None  
Absent/Excused: Aguilar, Aziz, Benitez, Canson, Flores, Griffin-Jones, Hilpert, Larkin, and Rubio
  - B. CPP Regular Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2024  
Motion: Commission James Justus moved for approval of the CPP Regular Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2024. Commissioner Dwayne Harvey seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 10-0-1.  
Yays: Chair Tran, 1st Vice Chair Brown, 2nd Vice Chair Case, Armantrout, Beyer, Diaz, Harvey, Justus, Mulmat, and Rodriguez  
Nays: None  
Abstained: Honoré  
Absent/Excused: Aguilar, Aziz, Benitez, Canson, Flores, Griffin-Jones, Hilpert, Larkin, and Rubio
- V. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT: None
- VI. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS
  - A. Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee
    1. Presentation of DRAFT Bylaws
    2. Public Comment – None
    3. Discussion (*Timestamp 9:30*)
    4. Vote on DRAFT Bylaws  
Motion: Commissioner James Justus moved to accept the Bylaws with the

recommended amendments (minor edits and inclusion of Conflict-of-Interest Policy and Form). Commissioner John Armantrout seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 15-0-0.

Yays: Chair Tran, 1st Vice Chair Brown, 2nd Vice Chair Case, Aguilar, Armantrout, Beyer, Canson, Diaz, Flores, Harvey, Honoré, Justus, Mulmat, Rodriguez, and Rubio

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent/Excused: Aziz, Benitez, Griffin-Jones, Hilpert, and Larkin

VII. CLOSED SESSION (NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

A. Public Comment – None

B. Outside Counsel Mr. Duane Bennett – Led CPP into Closed Session

C. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE

Discussion & Consideration of Complaints & Reports: Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 to discuss complaints, charges, investigations, and discipline (unless the employee requests an open public session) involving San Diego Police Department employees, and information deemed confidential under Penal Code Sections 832.5-832.8 and Evidence Code Section 1040. Reportable actions for the Closed Session items on the agenda will be posted on the Commission's website at [www.sandiego.gov/cpp](http://www.sandiego.gov/cpp) or stated at the beginning of the Open Session meeting if the meeting is held on the same day.

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|-------|---|
| I.    | San Diego Police Department Feedback on Case Specific Matters   |
| II.   | Officer Involved Shooting (0)   |
| III.  | Category II Case Audit Reports (0)  |
| IV.   | Discipline Reports (0)  |
| V.    | Category I Case Review Reports (2)  |
| VI.   | Case-Specific Recommendations to the Mayor/Chief (0)  |
| VII.  | Referrals to other governmental agencies authorized to investigate activities of a law enforcement agency (0) |
| VIII. | Legal Opinion(s) Request & Response (0)   |

VIII. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION (5:28pm): Outside Counsel Duane Bennett reported that there was no reportable action.

IX. NEW COMMISSIONERS INTRODUCTIONS

X. COMMUNITY HEARING ON VEHICLE PURSUITS (6:00 p.m.)

A. Opening Comments regarding the purpose of the Community Hearing and an overview of police pursuits (Chair Gloria Tran)

Here are some statistics from a nationwide investigation done by the San Francisco Chronicle newspaper:

- Pursuits claim nearly two lives each day across the United States.
- From 2017 through 2022, police pursuits killed 3,336 people, including:  
551 innocent bystanders  
15 officers

The Chronicle believes these numbers are significantly undercounted by the

federal government.

In addition, it appears that communities of color take the biggest hit.

- According to the Chronicle's data, police chases kill four times as many Black people per capita as white people,
- And Latinos die at a rate 50% higher than whites.

The issue of police pursuits here in the City of San Diego was brought to our attention by a community member during non-agenda public comment at a Commission on Police Practices regular business meeting in December 2023. The resident spoke about a crash that killed 8-year-old Malikai and 4-year-old Mason Orozco-Romero on December 8, 2023. An official complaint was filed with both the Police Department's Internal Affairs Unit and the Commission on Police Practices regarding the accident.

The Commission will not address the specific complaint at the Community Hearing. Until the CPP gets investigative powers, which will be drafted, then approved by City Council, the Commission is only authorized to review cases investigated by Internal Affairs.

The purpose of the Community Meeting was to gather information as the first step to determine if:

- 1.) The Commission will recommend changes to the Police Department's pursuit policy; and
- 2.) If the Department's pursuit policy is being implemented correctly by officers.

B. Overview of the Legal Framework for Pursuits and San Diego Police Department's Pursuit Procedure (Outside Counsel Duane Bennett)  
(PowerPoint Presentation Attached)

C. Testimony from Community Members  
(*Timestamp 21:36 and 49:03*) Tasha Williamson  
(*Timestamp 34:21*) Andrea St. Julian  
(*Timestamp 37:50*) Yusef Miller  
(*Timestamp 45:17 and 47:53*) Paloma S.  
(*Timestamp 46:39 and 48:33*) Gina B.

D. Commissioner Discussion (*Timestamp 50:58*)

E. Next Steps and Closing Comments

XI. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.