



Commission on Police Practices

COMMISSION ON POLICE PRACTICES SPECIAL MEETING AND COMMUNITY HEARING Saturday, September 14, 2024

4:30pm-7:30pm
Logan Heights Library
567 S. 28th Street
San Diego, CA 92113

Click <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OSbmPV66N6c> to view this meeting on YouTube.

CPP Commissioners Present:

Chair Gloria Tran
1st Vice Chair Dennis Brown
2nd Vice Chair Doug Case
Octavio Aguilar (arrived at 12:30 pm)
John Armantrout
Bonnie Benitez
Alec Beyer
Cheryl Canson (arrived at 12:30 pm)
Stephen Chatzky

Lupe Diaz (arrived at 12:30 pm)
Jessica Dockstader
Christina Griffin-Jones (arrived at 12:30 pm)
Brandon Hilpert
James Justus
Dan Lawton (arrived at 12:30 pm)
Daniel Mendoza (arrived at 12:30 pm)
Imani Robinson (arrived at 12:30 pm)
Gonzalo Rocha-Vazquez (arrived at 12:30 pm)
Ada Rodriguez

Excused:

Dwayne Harvey
Clovis Honoré
Darlanne Mulmat

Absent:

Armando Flores
Viviana Ortega

CPP Staff Present:

Paul Parker, Executive Director
Duane Bennett, CPP Outside Counsel
Olga Golub, Chief Investigator
Aaron Burgess, Policy Manager
Yasmeen Obeid, Community Engagement Coordinator
Jon'Nae McFarland, Administrative Aide

- I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: Chair Gloria Tran called the meeting to order at 11:00am.
- II. ROLL CALL: Executive Director Paul Parker conducted the roll call for the Commission and established quorum.
- 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. CLOSED SESSION (NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)
 - A. Outside Counsel Duane Bennett led CPP into Closed Session
 - B. 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 or stated at the beginning of the Open Session meeting if the meeting is held on the same day.

I.	San Diego Police Department Feedback on Case Specific Matters (0)
II.	Officer Involved Shooting (0)
III.	Category II Case Audit Reports (1)
IV.	Discipline Reports (1)
V.	In-Custody Death (0)
VI.	Case Review Reports (4)
VII.	Case-Specific Recommendations to the Mayor/Chief (0)
VIII.	Referrals to other governmental agencies authorized to investigate activities of a law enforcement agency (0)
IX.	Legal Opinion(s) Request & Response (0)

- V. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION (12:30pm): Outside Counsel Duane Bennett reported that there was no reportable action.

12:30 PM

- VI. TIME CERTAIN COMMUNITY HEARING- PRETEXT STOPS
 - A. Chair Gloria Tran led the introduction of the Hearing. (*Starting Timestamp 3:13*)
 - B. Overview of Protest Policy – Commissioner Brandon Hilpert presented information, background, and statistics on Protest Policy. (*Starting Timestamp 4:33*)

C. Public Comment on Protest Policy – 11 community members gave both in person/virtual testimony on protest policies. (*Starting Timestamp 25:46*)

In Person Testimony

- Kylie Belanger – (*Starting Timestamp 26:36*) Showed the Commission what The Legal Observer Program wears to protests. Belanger spoke regarding Officer ID's, unlawful assemblies, and use of bikes as weapons.
- Francisco Peralta – (*Starting Timestamp 30:00*) Commented his experiences and views on protest policies. Peralta also shares concern regarding other law enforcement agencies that come to San Diego to collaborate with SDPD and holding them accountable as well.
- Patricia De Arman – (*Starting Timestamp 32:15*) Commented on her experiences and views on protest policies after the death of her brother.
- David De Arman – (*Starting Timestamp 35:32*) Commented on his views on protest policies after the death of his son. De Arman comments on accountability that needs to be taken regarding actions during protests.
- Sarah Faruk – (*Starting Timestamp 36:33*) Commented on a UCSD protest that involve riot gear, chemical sprays, weapons, and police escalation. Faruk comments on accountability of SDPD and collaboration with other agencies.
- Kate Yavenditti – (*Starting Timestamp 39:00*) Commented on her experiences and views on protest policies, the role of legal observers, and use of SDPD held red books.
- David Emerson Stotlar – (*Starting Timestamp 42:27*) Commented on his experiences (internationally) protests. Stotlar suggests for the CPP to look at best practices from around the world (primarily Korea and Turkey).
- Tasha Williamson – (*Starting Timestamp 44:02*) Commented on her experiences and views on protest policies and holding SDPD accountable. Williamson shares the inappropriateness of sergeants and subordinates during SDPD training.

Virtual Testimony

- Lilly Ostra – (*Starting Timestamp 49:55*) Commented on her experiences and views on protest policies. Ostra shares her concerns regarding rejected proposals from the SDPD.
- Darwin Fishman – (*Starting Timestamp 53:00*) Commented on his views on protest policies. Fishman suggests monitoring collaborations with other agencies and use of force during protests. Request of CPP to have more of an active role during protests.
- Janine Erikat – (*Starting Timestamp 56:02*) Commented on her views on protest policies and importance of de-escalation. Erikat shares concerns with use of force, use of riot gear, and use of chemical sprays and/or weapons.

D. Commissioner Discussion

- Commissioner Christina Griffin-Jones (*Timestamp 58:39*) and (*Timestamp 1:11:55*)
- Commissioner Jessica Dockstader (*Timestamp 1:03:34*)
- Commissioner Imani Robinson (*Timestamp 1:05:20*)
- Commissioner James Justus (*Timestamp 1:13:52*)

VII. CLOSING COMMENTS

A. Next steps for the Commission (*Starting Timestamp 1:14:07*)

VIII. STANDING COMMITTEES

- A. Presentation (*Starting Timestamp 1:16:03*)
- Training and Continuing Education Committee—change from Ad-Hoc – will be chaired by Darlance Mulmat. Committee will also include 1st Vice Chair Brown, Commissioners Hilpert, Aguilar, and Chatzky.
 - Community Outreach Committee – will be chaired by Ada Rodriguez. Committee will also include Commissioners Griffin-Jones, Beyer, and Canson.
 - Rules Committee – will be chaired by Bonnie Benitez. Committee will also include Commissioners Beyer, Dockstader, Rocha-Vazquez, and Case.
 - Executive Committee – will be chaired by Gloria Tran and will include the Cabinet and Chairs of all standing committees.
- B. In Person Public Comment
- Tasha Williamson - (*Starting Timestamp 1:27:11*) Commented on the importance of training on continuing education of officers and holding the SDPD accountable.
- C. Discussion – The Committees must meet at least once a quarter, in person, be agendized, and can be held in the Office of the CPP.
- D. Vote on formation of standing committees
- Motion:** Chair Tran moved for the formation of the following standing committees: Training and Continuing education, Community Outreach, and Rules. Commissioner James Justus seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 19-0-0.
- Yays: Chair Tran, 1st Vice Chair Brown, 2nd Vice Chair Case, Aguilar, Armantrout, Benitez, Beyer, Canson, Chatzky, Diaz, Dockstader, Griffin-Jones, Hilpert, Justus, Lawton, Mendoza, Robinson, Rocha-Vazquez, and Rodriguez
- Nays: 0
- Abstained: 0
- Excused/Late Arrival: Flores, Harvey, Honoré, Mulmat, and Ortega

IX. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 2:17 pm.