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CITIZEN POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION MEETING

May 10, 2006 Community Room, First Floor, City Hall Minutes

Members Present:

Chairperson Wayne Spencer Vice Chairperson Adrianne Sears Commissioner Joy Brown-Price Commissioner Rita Hall Commissioner Judy A. Bowles Commissioner Ozell Butler Commissioner Gerald Thompson Commissioner David P. Stewart

Members Absent:

Commissioner Curlee Ross Commissioner Donald Nicholson

Staff Present

Kevin Hawkins, Special Assistant to the City Administrator Steve Overly, Sergeant Lloyd Waters, Detective Greg Held, Officer Katie Howe, Administrative Analyst Kathy Ares, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Wayne Spencer called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Stewart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Butler gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chairperson Spencer requested that a motion be made to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2006 meeting.

Prior to the approval of the minutes there was discussion on what constitutes an excused or unexcused absence.

Commissioner Bowles moved that the minutes of the April 12, 2006 meeting be approved. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

Citizen Police Oversight Commission Minutes of May 10, 2006 Page 2 of 4

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chairperson Spencer introduced members from the Inglewood Police Association and Inglewood Police Management Association.

Sergeant Steve Overly, President of the Inglewood Police Management Association advised the Commission that he has been employed with the City of Inglewood Police Department for eighteen years and has worked in the homicide, patrol, K-9 and internal affairs units. He expressed to the Commission that he looks forward to creating a dialogue with the Commissioners and welcomed any questions.

Officer Greg Held, President of the Inglewood Police Association advised the Commission that he has been employed with the City of Inglewood Police Department for five years; however, has prior experience with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. He also advised the Commission that he would like to focus on getting to know the Commission and creating an open dialogue.

Commissioner Joy Brown-Price arrived at 6:43 p.m.

Lloyd Waters, Vice President of the Inglewood Police Association advised the Commission that he has been employed with the City of Inglewood Police Department for seventeen years. He has served as a Board member for approximately nine years.

The Commission was advised that there are approximately 158 members in the Inglewood Police Association and 43 members in the Inglewood Police Management Association.

Chairperson Spencer opened the floor for questions.

Commissioner Thompson inquired about the types of complaints received by the Police Department.

The Association Representative replied that the majority of the complaints are for discourtesy.

Vice Chairperson Sears inquired if there are any "mentorship programs" available for new officers?

The Association Representative informed the Commission that there are seasoned training officers (field training officers) that ride along with new officers. After training has been completed, new officers are assigned to other fairly new officers as partners.

Citizen Police Oversight Commission Minutes of May 10, 2006 Page 3 of 4

Commissioner Price inquired if the police associations request training for their members? She also inquired about the reason they feel that a chief of police has not been selected from Inglewood?

The Association Representative replied that he believes the reason qualified individuals are not applying for the chief of police position is due to the salary range not being comparable to surrounding cities.

The Association Representative advised the Commission that P.O.S.T. requires 24 hours of mandatory training every two years for police officers. Officers are encouraged to study their Policies Manual and MOU.

Commissioner Stewart inquired if Inglewood police officers go through a psychology testing process?

The Association Representative replied that Inglewood police officers are given an oral evaluation with a psychiatrist.

Commissioner Thompson asked how the Associations feel about continued dialogue between officers and the community?

The Association Representative advised the Commission that officers go to various schools and conduct an open dialogue with students.

Commissioner Sears inquired about the ways the Inglewood police unions encourage community policing.

The Association Representative advised the Committee that in the month of December there is a Santa sleigh for the children in the community and a holiday dinner for senior citizens. The police also conduct an American Cancer Walk. The police will also be working with the various schools to conduct a literacy program campaign. The Commission was advised that monies are donated to various organizations by the police associations.

Another Association Representative discussed the presence of lead officers in the community and at police centers as part of community based policing.

COMMISSION ADVISOR REPORTS

Special Assistant to the City Administrator, Kevin Hawkins, thanked Chairperson Spencer for contacting and inviting the Associations to the meeting, as City Administrator, Joseph T. Rouzan, Jr. had originally made the suggestion to extend the invitation to the Associations. Mr. Hawkins gave a brief background on his employment with the City of Inglewood and interest in the Commission.

Citizen Police Oversight Commission Minutes of May 10, 2006 Page 4 of 4

CLOSED SESSION

The Citizen Police Oversight Commission recessed for closed session at 7:42 p.m. Closed Session adjourned at 9:03 p.m. The meeting re-adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

Chairperson Spencer reported that twelve complaints were reviewed; nine complaints were referred to the police department for further investigation and three complaints were considered no further investigation.

COMMITTEE MEMBER REMARKS

Chairperson Spencer and Commissioner Bowles commented that the presentations given by the associations were good.

Commissioner Butler expressed that he was happy to be back.

Vice Chairperson Sears read a letter addressed to the Inglewood Police Associations.

Commissioner Stewart commented that on behalf of the Inglewood Chamber of Commerce, he has signed a letter in support of Measure 1A.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m.