

POLICE CONDUCT OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
Oct. 14, 2014
Outreach Committee Chair Report

Chair Brown and Commissioners,

The Outreach Committee met on September 25, 2014. Commissioners Giraud-Isaacson and Singleton were present, as well as Committee Clerk Leda Schuster.

The Committee received a report on Minneapolis Police Department Outreach and Engagement activities and discussed four items of ongoing business: (1) the PCOC's planned off-site meeting; (2) the Committee's liaison duties with the Civil Rights Commission; (3) the Minneapolis Transgender Work Group Equity Summit; and (4) planning for a winter listening session.

I. REPORT ON MPD OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Sherman Patterson, the Community Engagement Coordinator for the Minneapolis Police Department, presented to the Committee on MPD's outreach and engagement efforts. Mr. Patterson detailed the various activities MPD has participated in since he began in January 2014. Among other events, MPD has held various bike rides with Chief Harteau and community members, including on the North Side; held a North Side Safety Summit on April 19 to address 11 core areas of concern; initiated a series of one-on-one conversations between Chief Harteau and Minneapolis residents; worked with the new Youth Council and begun planning a Youth Summit for Summer 2015; and has implemented the Cops out of Cars program. Overall, Mr. Patterson emphasized that he is attempting to create opportunities for officers to begin developing relationships with community members to increase trust among the community.

The Committee noted that during the Jan. 18 Sabathani community forum, some community members expressed a desire for more events such as precinct open houses, during which community members can get to know officers, and vice versa, in a more relaxed environment. In addition, the Committee suggested that officers conduct more outreach out of uniform because wearing a uniform and carrying a gun creates a barrier to open communication for many community members.

Handouts provided by Mr. Patterson are attached at the end of this report.

II. ONGOING BUSINESS

A. *Off-Site Meeting*

The PCOC moved on July 8, 2014, to host its October meeting off-site. The off-site meeting will be held at the Minneapolis Adult Education Center, located at 2225 Lake Street. The OPCR Office has worked with the City's communications office to push a press release for the meeting to media partners. The press release will also be published through social media and provided to council members. Commissioner Giraud-Isaacson emphasized that he would like to make sure community members get adequate time to address the PCOC.

B. Civil Rights Commission Liaison

Commissioner Giraud-Isaacson volunteered to reach out to the Civil Rights Commission.

C. Minneapolis Transgender Work Group

The Minneapolis Transgender Issues Work Group hosted the Minneapolis Trans Equity Summit on September 25, 2014, at the University of Minnesota Humphrey School of Public Policy. Commissioner Singleton was able to attend the breakout session on community-police relations. Commander Case was present at the session and the meeting was focused on the new Department of Justice training developed to help law enforcement better serve the transgender community. Many community members expressed skepticism that the training could overcome institutional/societal racism and transphobia but community members also stressed the importance of having grassroots trans groups involved in developing the Minneapolis training.

D. Winter Listening Session

Commissioner Singleton is attempting to schedule a meeting with a contact at Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES) who she met at the Sept. 18 Sabathani Listening Session, and would like to explore the possibility of partnering with CLUES. The Committee requests that Commissioners refer other suggested partnerships to the Committee for exploration.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jennifer L. Singleton

Jennifer L. Singleton
PCOC Outreach Committee Chair

When Chief Janeé Harteau took over the Minneapolis Police Department's "Top Office," she systematically changed the culture, commitment, integrity and transparency within the ranks. Her plan is known as MPD 2.0 and every officer lives and breathes it; and it starts at the top of the organizational chart. Every conversation and meeting the Chief has, and there are far too many to count during her normal 7 day work week, revolves around making the city safer. It is the Chief's firm belief that the best way to do that is through community engagement. The conversations take place in boardrooms and community rooms, in hallways and lobbies, on street corners and inside mom-and-pop shops. Policing is about community and the solutions come from law enforcement working together with the residents they serve and protect.



Chief Janeé Harteau

Here's what MPD's "Community Engagement" Looks like in 2014: Chief Building Trust and Relationships

- **Law Enforcement Programs**
 - Northside Safety Summit
 - Joint Enforcement Teams or JET (Henn. Co, Metro Transit, State Patrol) *Chief Ride-along*
 - With the Park Dept.-Summer Safety Collaboration
 - MN Dept. of Corrections-reentry information sharing
 - Downtown Security Executive Group - information sharing
 - Gun Summit with PERF (Police Executive Research Forum)
 - Hosted and lead Heroin Summit with PERF
 - US Justice Dept. Study and Outreach with Somali Community
 - 10 Additional officers added in Precincts 3 & 4
 - Community Engagement Teams (CET)
 - School Resource Officers on bikes over the summer
 - Multi-cultural recruitment unit to improve diversity
 - Domestic Gun Violence Initiatives w/ US Sen. Klobuchar and US Rep. Giffords
- **Youth Outreach**
 - Chief's Youth Advisory Committee
 - MPD Youth Summit
 - Youth Work "Sleep Out"
 - With the Dept. of Public Health-Youth Dialogues
 - Creation of Juvenile Outreach and Diversion Unit
 - Police Activities League
 - Youthlink partnership
 - Corner House partnership-"children victims services"
- **"Cops out of Cars"**
 - Chief on the Beat-walking the streets to connect with residents and listen to concerns after critical incidents
 - Chief and Bike Cops tour the Northside
 - Chief and Bike Cops tour the Southside
 - 36th and Fremont Community Gathering: conversation starter
 - Battle of the Badge Community Cook-off with MFD





Chief Harteau has created a new position that clearly demonstrates our commitment to community engagement. Sherman Patterson, our new Community Engagement Coordinator, provides a vital link between the MPD and the diverse communities that make up the dynamic City of Minneapolis. Patterson has built hundreds of grassroots-level relationships and contacts as an aide to former Mayor RT Rybak and he provides an energy and expertise that has rallied and unified residents throughout the city. "Sherm" was recently awarded a prestigious Bush Fellowship for his work with youth and gun violence initiatives.

"Community Based" Chaplains

The Minneapolis Police Department is proud and excited to announce a new and improved "Community Based" Chaplain program. 12 people have recently been selected from varying and diverse religious institutions to work as liaisons between different neighborhoods and the Police Department. The Chaplains will attend community meetings and walk alongside law enforcement officers doing proactive work and following critical incidents.



"Community Engagement" Continued

- **Progressively looking at successful, established programs**
 - Chief's Advisory Council extended, working groups added
 - National Night Out: Minneapolis continues to be a national leader with gatherings and block clubs
- **Faith and Community Connections**
 - Faith Patrol Outreach
 - Chief's Sunday Sermons-weekly church visits
 - Faith Leadership Meeting w/ community stakeholders
 - Chief's Somali television appearance
 - Chief's KMOJ, WCCO, and KFAI radio appearances
 - Several visits to the American Indian Center
 - Chief served as Co-Grand Marshal for MPLS Pride Parade
- **New Police Oversight**
 - Fair and Impartial Policing Training throughout the Department
 - Police Legitimacy Study participant (Department wide)
 - Partners in Leadership Initiative-building a culture of accountability
 - Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Review, complete with validation of current practices and suggestions on improvements
- **Volunteer Efforts**
 - Law Enforcement Torch Run & Law Enforcement Polar Plunge with Special Olympics MN
 - Annual Turkey Giveaway
 - Lucy Laney School playground build with the Minnesota Vikings
 - Bike Cops for Kids gives away dozens of high-quality bikes and hundreds of bike helmets

***It should be noted that the action items listed above represent a portion of Chief Harteau's involvement in community engagement and does not include the dozens, if not hundreds, of community meetings that MPD Inspectors, Commanders, Lieutenants, Sergeants, and Officers attend every week.**

