



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

January 4, 2024, 9:30 a.m.
Chula Vista Police Department, Community Room
315 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista

CCAC Members
Present:

- Ray Aragon
- Martin Barros
- Gustavo Bidart
- Norma Cazares
- Patty Chavez
- Takisha Corbett
- Jose de la Garza
- Henrietta Harb
- Marla Kingkade
- Shante Lampkin
- Jesse Navarro
- Gerry Sablan

Staff Present:

- Chief Roxana Kennedy
- ASM Jonathan Alegre
- Captain Phil Collum
- Captain Miriam Foxx
- SAS Cathy Miller
- Captain Dan Peak
- Karina Lafarga

1. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Police Department’s Community Advisory Committee of the City of Chula Vista was called to order at 9:41 am in the Community Room, located at the Chula Vista Police Department, 315 Fourth Ave. Chula Vista, California.

2. ROLL CALL

Secretary Miller called the roll.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

One request to speak was from Mr. Robert Johnson. Mr. Johnson expressed CAC members are held accountable for their attendance in order to hold these meetings as liaisons between the police department and the community. He recommended members review the Ericsson Report submitted at the last meeting.

Assistant Chief Collum synopsised Mr. Johnson's six ecomments and then thanked Mr. Johnson for alerting the Police Department on several website details not being correct. These were corrected immediately.

4. ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Approval of Meeting Minutes

Moved by Member Marla Kingkade

Seconded by Jesse Navarro

Approve minutes of October 5, 2023.

Member Ray Aragon: Yes / No / Abstain / Conflict; Member Martin Barros: Yes / No / Abstain / Conflict; Member Gustavo Bidart: Yes / No / Abstain / Conflict; Co-Chair Norma Cazares: Yes / No / Abstain / Conflict; Member Patty Chavez: Yes / No / Abstain / Conflict; Member Takisha Corbett: Yes / No / Abstain / Conflict; Member Jose de la Garza: Yes / No / Abstain / Conflict; Member Henrietta Harb: Yes / No / Abstain / Conflict; Member Marla Kingkade: Yes / No / Abstain / Conflict; Member Shante Lampkin: Yes / No / Abstain / Conflict; Jesse Navarro: Yes / No / Abstain / Conflict; Member Gerry Sablan: Yes / No / Abstain / Conflict

Carried / Defeated / Defeated / Carried Unanimously / Defeated Unanimously

5. CHIEF'S COMMENTS

Chief Kennedy thanked members for attending. Recognized Co-Chair Cazares who was recognized by Southwestern College at their Jaguar Awards for her contribution to the Southbay Community and Southwestern College. She and her husband have dedicated their lives to making a positive impact on the community.

CAC member Jesse Navarro was also recognized for his many contributions to the community and was honored as one of the Hispanic leaders on a wall in National City.

5.1 Recap of Recent Car Fire Rescue

Chief Kennedy shared a video of a call for service (CFS) of officers responding to a 911 call of a vehicle on fire on the freeway with a person trapped inside. The video showed why the DFR and Live911 programs are a valuable tool for our community. CHP normally responds to freeway calls for service, however, a Chula Vista sergeant listening to Live911 determined this was a matter of urgency. The sergeant dispatched officers to the scene. The officers located the car which was quickly being engulfed in flames. The driver was still inside and couldn't get out. Putting their own lives at risk, the officers managed to get into the vehicle and pull the driver to safety. A life was saved that day. The DFR tool located the location faster than relying on a caller who might be traumatized and provides the wrong location. The family has given permission to publicly sharing this video.

CAC Corbett asked whose responsibility it is to listen to Live911. It is up to each officer to monitor Live 911, but due to the many other things that officers need to pay attention to, it is not mandated. Many officers listen routinely. Chief Kennedy also explained some CFS designated locations (like schools) will automatically override the officers' choice and be broadcasted in all nearby patrol vehicles if Live911 is activated. Live911 was a gamechanger in the vehicle fire incident because the sergeant dispatched officers quicker than relying on CHP to respond, hence saving a life.

5.2 2023 Year End Highlights

Staffing update: Have hired 156 recruits; 42 laterals for a total of 198 sworn since Jan 2017. There are currently 21 sworn vacancies. Have hired 160 professional staff and have promoted 172 employees.

Online reporting has been very successful. Reports that meet certain criteria, such as not having suspect information can be reported

electronically online, helping reduce demand on patrol officers so they can focus on more pressing calls.

The police department's goal for priority 2 response time is 12 minutes. Currently priority 2 response times are at 12 minutes and 51 seconds. With the hiring of hourly CSOs, the hope is response time will improve. Hourly CSOs have made an impact on community response as well as increasing police proactivity.

Three new hourly positions include a wellness coordinator, a range coordinator, and a use of force coordinator.

Two community forums will be scheduled for AB481 (military equipment) in March.

CAC member Kingkade discussed the 8 hour de-escalation training offered to law enforcement.

CAC member Navarro discussed one of his youths he mentored being a CSO and how well he is doing at the department.

Members were encouraged to "give the nudge" to anyone they think would be a suitable candidate for officer or dispatcher.

CAC member Navarro asked how CVPD ranks on the salary scale county wide. It is not currently known, but salary negotiations between the City and bargaining groups will start in April.

A question was asked on how the department is doing on racial diversity and gender. This will be placed on April's CAC agenda.

5.3 CoChair Cazares' Comments

CoChair Cazares was unable to attend the meeting.

5.3.1 Discussion and Potential Action on Committee Member Absences

Assistant Chief Collum mentioned a member who had not attended the regularly scheduled meetings since 2020. The member has been unable to be reached by email or phone and the next step would be by mail. Bylaws states a member may be expelled by the Chief of Police by good cause; failure to carry out duties; conduct business detrimental to this committee; or a conflict of interest. The Chief may take action and formally have the position vacated.

CAC members were asked if there was concern or comment prior to taking next steps. CAC member Kingkade asked if a registered

letter should be sent to them, thanking them for their service. Assistant Chief Collum agreed to follow up. Assistant Attorney McClurg required that any official committee action to be reflected in the minutes. Since the Chief is granted authority to vacate positions under the conditions spelled out in the bylaws, the committee did not take any actions.

CAC member Sablan also requested review for training and goals for the new year.

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1 City Attorney Neighborhood Protection Unit Highlights and Updates

Deputy City Attorney Nicole Carnahan was present to discuss the City Attorney Neighborhood Protection Unit and the highlights and updates with that City department. In 2023, the City Attorney's office processed 15 gun violence prevention restraining orders. She discussed several cases; one which recovered 117 guns, body armor and ammunition from a residence.

Her unit also helped the Traffic Department establish a program with the court for 30 day impounds of vehicles involved in reckless driving.

Her unit is also working with CVPD on a tobacco grant to conduct enforcement against those who sell to minors.

Worked with the owner of the property; code enforcement; fire and police to raze a building which attracted illegal activity; fire and problems for the local businesses.

This year's goal is to work with law enforcement against the 911 abusers and unpermitted conduct at massage businesses.

CAC member Navarro asked about a house on "J" Street and Third Avenue. Chief Kennedy requested for further information after the meeting so police and code enforcement can handle.

6.2 Organized Retail Theft and Local Observations

Sergeant Hall with the Property Crimes Unit had a presentation on organized retail theft (a crime involving 2 or more people who conspire to steal retail merchandise with the intent of reselling or returning the items at a profit. He also discussed the catalytic converter thefts.

Sergeant Hall discussed several of the organized crimes as seen on the news. Chula Vista trends reported 153 organized retail thefts in Chula Vista for 2023. The highest location was Dick's Sporting Goods (53) followed by Target, Macy's, Ulta Beauty and Marshall's. A felony grand theft is anything over \$950.

The BSCC of CA has grants to combat retail theft. Chula Vista was awarded \$3,037,986.

Sergeant Hall discussed thefts of catalytic converter. There was a total of 172 thefts in Chula Vista in 2003.

The next free community event for the "Engrave and Save" will be sometime at the end of February or the beginning of March. It will be at Southwestern College. The engraver machines were purchased through the Chula Vista Police Foundation.

Deputy City Attorney Carnahan asked what vehicles are the most targeted. The Toyota Prius and the Ford F150 and F250 are the vehicles that are being most targeted.

CAC member Corbett asked what a catalytic converter would be used for. There are precious metals that can be recycled. One converter could go for \$700.

CAC member Navarro asked about making reservations for a future engrave and save. The City will put out a community announcement and anyone can sign up. Space is limited.

6.3 New Laws 2024

Assistant Chief Collum discussed the following laws that changed:

AB 2188 - Prohibits (except for certain conditions) employer from discriminating against a person in hiring, termination, or terms and conditions of employment based on the person's off the job use of cannabis, or on drug screening test finding presence of non-psychoactive cannabis metabolites in their system. Suggests that employees' and applicant/candidates' use of cannabis off the job generally can't be held against them. Also prohibits inquiring about this during background investigations. See attached.

AB 89 - 2021 law now pending recommendation to POST (possibly effective Nov 1, 2025) that each peace officer candidate have both a

modern policing degree AND a bachelor's degree prior to obtaining a POST Basic Certificate.

AB 2773 - 2021 law goes into effect January 1, 2024 relating to traffic and pedestrian stops. Requires that, before engaging in questioning related to a criminal investigation or traffic violation, officers MUST state the reason for the stop (unless the officer reasonably believes that withholding the reason for the stop is necessary to protect life or property from imminent threat).

SB 2 - Removes the 'good cause' requirement for CCW permit applications and creates new issuing process following the US Supreme Court ruling in New York Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen. Removal of 'good cause' requirement may result in significant increase in number of CCW licenses issued.

Officers Sheena Ramirez and Daniel Anderson presented to CAC members additional new laws that went into effect January 1, 2024. These are taught during the cycle training for officers. They chose 13 laws that the community might be interested in:

SB 602 - extends the timeframe for trespass letters from 30 days to 12 months for properties where there is a fire hazard, or the owner is absent.

Furthering Education - requires CA State University and University of CA to grant priority registrations to students employed as first responders.

AB 443 - requires POST to establish a definition of biased conduct and develop guidance for law enforcement agencies when screening applicant's social media accounts for bias.

AB 1089 - Firearms related laws - defines 3D printers and CNC milling machines and adds them to list of firearm related products.

AB 994 - social media - requires law enforcement to remove a booking photo shared on social media within 14 days unless the subject of the image is a fugitive or an imminent threat to public safety or continuing to share the image is otherwise justified by a legitimate law enforcement interest.

SB 14 - amends the statutory lock in date for the three strikes law to 1/1/24 in order to make human trafficking of a minor for purposes of a commercial sex act a strike.

AB 256 Expired Registration - Beginning 7/1/24 eliminates the ability for law enforcement to take any enforcement action against a person for their registration being expired for only a month. Additional vehicle code violations will need to be in place before enforcement action if within a month.

AB 413 Crosswalk Parking - Prohibits a person from parking a vehicle within 20' of either side of any marked or unmarked crosswalk or within 15' of any crosswalks where a curb extension is present but permits a local government to allow parking for bicycles or motorized scooters within 20' of a crosswalk. to take effect 1/1/25 unless area is marked using paint or a sign.

AB 436 - Cruising - removes the authorization for a local authority to regulate cruising and repeals the prohibition on cruising.

AB 641 - Catalytic Converters - revises the definition of automobile dismantler making it a misdemeanor for a person to possess 9 or more catalytic converters cut from a vehicle unless a licensed auto dismantler.

AB 925 - Vehicle Tows - requires law enforcement to verify with DMV that no current vehicle registration exists before towing a vehicle for having expired registration longer than 6 months and prohibits the vehicle from being towed if the law enforcement does not have immediate access to those records.

AB 1125 - Bail/Fine Punishments - repeals existing law authorizing courts to impound a person's driver's license and order the person not to drive for 20 days if they fail to make an agreed upon installment payments for bail or fine.

7. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS

CAC member Navarro asked if the new 2024 laws could be posted on the CVPD website and felt it would be a great community forum discussion.

CAC member Aragon asked if the PD could discuss the drone controversy seen in the news, however, it is in active litigation and can't be discussed.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 am.

Minutes prepared by: Cathy Miller, Secretary

Cathy Miller, Secretary

DRAFT