



Community and Police Relations Commission

Memorandum

To: Mayor and City Council

CC: City Manager's Office

From: Chairman, Michael Lesley and former Chairperson Candy Morales

Re: 2019 Annual Report

Background

The National City Community and Police Relations Commission (CPRC) was established in October 2003 under the leadership of the Mayor and City Council. Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council. The Commission is comprised of eight individuals of which only seven members are voting members. The one non-voting member is a member of the National City Police Officers Association (NCPD/POA). Commissioner terms are three years and subject to reappointment by the City Council.

The Commission meets quarterly on the third Thursday in the months of February, May, August and November at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the National City Civic Center, 1243 National City Boulevard, 2nd Floor, National City, CA 91950, unless otherwise designated.

2019 Year Review

During the beginning of the 2019 calendar year the Commission was composed of the following members, Chair Victor Barajas, Vice-Chair Diana Plazola and Commissioners Victor Gonzalez, Gill Garcia and Zachary Gomez, including NCPD/POA non-voting member Bill Philips.

The Commission appointed three (3) new commissioners, Candy Morales (2/21/19), Marianne Delatorre (8/15/19) and Daniel Orth (8/15/19). Additionally, on February 21, 2019, NCPD/POA non-voting member Daniel Long was designated to serve on the Commission.

On November 21, 2019, the Commission elected Commissioner Morales, to serve as Chair and Commissioner Lesley to serve as Vice-Chair from November 2019 – November 2020.

Complaint Review Subcommittee

On February 21, 2019, Michael Lesley and Candy Morales were appointed as primaries in the Complaint Review Subcommittee. Zachary Gomez was appointed as an alternate.

This subcommittee continues to meet with National City Police Department (NCPD) - Internal Affairs (IA) Department on a monthly basis. All complaints that are reviewed by this subcommittee are presented to the entire Commission in a closed session for further review and discussion.

Cases Reviewed in 2019

A total of seven (7) cases were brought before the commission for review.

On August 15, 2019, the Commission unanimously supported the findings of the NCPD-IA on four (4) cases, determined no further action was necessary on one (1) case and took no action on one (1) case.

On November 21, 2019, the Commission unanimously supported the findings of the NCPD-IA on one (1) case.

Training and Special Presentations / Discussions

The annual (NACOLE) Conference:

- As a cost savings measure, the commission voted not to send a representative to the 2019 conference. The Commission will reassess in 2020 to determine whether sending representation would be appropriate.

National City Police Department:

- Presentation on Police Accountability, presented by National City Police Sergeant Antonio Ybarra (8/15/19).
- Discussion of National City's Homeless Outreach Efforts, presented by National City Police Corporal Walter Wade and Neighborhood Services Manager Joe Olson (11/21/19).

City Staff:

- Senate Bill 1421 (Peace Officer Records), presented by Deputy City Attorney Robby Contreras (2/21/19).
- Presentation on Gun Violence Restraining Orders Penal Code Sections 18100-18197, presented by Senior Assistant City Attorney, Nicole Pedone (5/16/19).
- Public Records Act and Brown Act, presented by Deputy City Attorney Robby Contreras and city Attorney Angil Morris-Jones (11/21/19).

Meeting Attendance for 2019

Thursday, February 21, 2019:

Voting Members Present – Barajas, Garcia, Gomez, Lesley, and Morales.
Non-Voting Members Present – Daniel Long (NCPD/POA)
Excused Absences – Commissioner Victor Gonzalez

Thursday, May 16, 2019:

Voting Members Present – Gomez, Lesley, Morales and Plazola.
Non-Voting Members Present – Daniel Long (NCPD/POA)

Thursday, August, 15, 2019:

Voting Members Present – Barajas, Delatorre, Gomez, Lesley, Morales, Orth and Plazola.
Non-Voting Members Present – Daniel Long (NCPD/POA)

Thursday, November 21, 2019:

Voting Members Present – Barajas, Delatorre, Gomez, Lesley, Morales, and Orth.
Non-Voting Members Present – Daniel Long (NCPD/POA)
Excused Absences – Commissioner Diana Plazola

2020 Goals

1. Continue the development of complaint review practices.
2. Increase subcommittee case reviews.
3. Pursue community outreach and engagement efforts.