
From: Los Angeles Citizen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2025 4:20 PM
To: Police Commission
Subject: Public Comment 1/07/25

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LAPD BOPC, Chief McDonnell, and All,

Wishing you all a Happy New Year that is Blessed and Safe!

God Bless the LAPD and Us All, Every One!

Forward Boldly,
Steve Reilly

From: Voices For LAPD <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2025 4:19 PM
To: Police Commission
Subject: BOPC public comment 01/07/25

ATTENTION: This email originated outside of LAPD. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To the LAPD Police Commissioners, Chief McDonnell, the entire LAPD and All citizens,

First, we would like to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy, Safe New Year full of Blessings!

But before we move on to the topics of the new day in the new year we think it would be useful to look back and reflect on the year 2024 as it relates to the Police Commission, LAPD, community policing and the general subject of public safety.

Let's review what the role of the Police Commission is as proclaimed on the website LAPDONLINE.ORG.

Under the City Charter, the Board of Police Commissioners is the Head of the Police Dept. The Board sets overall policy while the Chief of Police manages the daily operations of the Department and implements the Board's policies or policy direction and goals.

The Board of Police Commissioners, originally created in the 1920's is comprised of five civilians who donate their time to the city while maintaining their professional careers. They are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. The Commissioners serve a maximum of two five-year terms. The Commissioners routinely spend 25-50 hours per week on Commission business, and serve as the citizen's voice in police affairs and as a means of ensuring more responsive and effective City government.

The Commissioners concerns are reflective of the community-at-large and their priorities include implementing recommended reforms, improving service to the public by the Department, reducing crime and the fear of crime, and initiating, implementing and supporting community policing programs.

With the role of the Police Commission clearly in mind we would like to focus

on a few observations that seem to run counter to the definition of the role of the Commission:

1. The Police Commission was established in the 1920's when the population of Los Angeles was much less in number and complexity of the demographics. Perhaps it is time to re-examine the composition of the Board and number of Commissioners. There is consistently at least one empty seat at each meeting causing the Public to wonder how seriously the Commissioners take their responsibility. Recently appointed Police Commissioner Teresa Sanchez-Gordon has not been seen or heard since her appointment which occurred last October. The public deserves an explanation as to why she has been missing in inaction.

2. What exactly has the Police Commission done in 2024 to initiate, implement and support community policing programs? Perhaps an annual report would be in order so we can see what the Police Commission has been doing for the entire year since most people cannot attend meetings on a Tuesday at 9:30 AM due to work and school commitments.

3. Since the Police Commission is the head of the department and sets policy would it not be common sense to include one Commissioner who actually was in the profession of policing full time as a vocation? Why not consult with the Los Angeles Police Protective League on whom they think might make a good representative on the Police Commission Board who actually understands policing through extensive life experience?

We would like to acknowledge what we consider to be the greatest positive accomplishment of the Police Commission, and that was the selection of the Chief of Police which was an arduous and essential task. We are very aware of how difficult a process and decision it was for Mayor Bass and the Commissioners and grateful for the most outstanding selection of Chief Jim "Gentleman Jim" McDonnell. One has only to look at the current Sex for OT scandal rocking the NYPD to appreciate how important it is to have leadership with high moral standards! Double standards and lack of moral standards destroys morale and organizations!

We are going into a New Year together and will still be confronting old concerns until they are addressed and remedied or fixed. We will also be confronting new and unforeseen challenges for the benefit of the people! Furthermore, We the People, will do our part to bring community policing going to the next level, a reality! Will you do the same, Police Commissioners?

God Bless Us All, Every One!

Respectfully,
Voices For LAPD