



SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

College Police Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes for November 3, 2023

11:00 am – 12:00 pm, Zoom

Committee Members Present: Joel Peterson, John Parker, Jack Beresford, Nadia Sayeh, Darius Spearman, Caitlin Tiffany, Jessica Varnado-Swall, Stacy Surwilo, Neill Kovrig, Miski Abdi, Saigel Ghotra, Robby Crowe (proxy for Ixchel Diaz), Joseph Ramos, Nancy Schumaker, Patrick Velasquez

Committee Members Absent: Kimberly Tapia, Kimberly Palek, Anna Liza Manzo, Adriana Dos Santos, Ixchel Diaz, Aaron Burgess

Guest Attendee: A/Chancellor Greg Smith, Aimee Gallagher

Meeting commenced 11:06 am

VPAS Parker asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented, approved with unanimous consent.

VPAS Parker asked for a motion to approve the minutes from October 5, 2023, approved with unanimous consent as distributed.

Committee membership was discussed and all present agreed to replace the following vacant or inactive positions: Administrator, (1) Faculty *Miramar College*, (1) Classified Professional *Mesa College*

Chief Ramos shared updates on notable police investigations, incident calls and trainings.

During the month of October, the police department received 843 calls for service to the communication center. The officers initiated 2,515 services including 1,800 security checks (233 alarm responses). They assisted with 40 staff and student assists including escorts, doors, vehicle starts, 14 vehicle lockouts, and 11 classroom call box responses. They investigated 89 reported crimes and or arrest reports including 12 misdemeanors, 5 felonies, 43 citations, and facilitated 3 protective custody for mental health evaluations.

One noteworthy incident included a follow-up to a lewd conduct case that occurred at Mesa College in September. The timely warning notification resulted in another similar case reported with a similar suspect description so the detectives went back through case files and found a similar case with a matching description. The suspected individual was a registered sex offender wearing a monitoring device so the detectives were able to get confirmation from GPS data that the individual was at Mesa College during both of the recent lewd conduct incidents. The suspected individual is now in custody awaiting trial. He also shared that his department is following up on another separate timely warning issued at Mesa College and they are working to get the suspected individual identified.

He added that all of our officers receive Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) training and have to report descriptive information including race and the reason for contact when making a stop, an arrest or making contact with an individual. Chief Ramos was asked if the racial data reported was just for people they detain or arrest; and, if some of the data could be presented to this advisory group. Chief Ramos confirmed that all of the data is captured and would not be difficult to present. He confirmed that the data is collected when an officer writes a citation, detains or arrests an individual, meets with a subject of an investigation, and makes a traffic or pedestrian stop; however, officers do not report citizen contact data when approached to ask a question.

Additional trainings recently provided include a presentation on how law enforcement and prosecutors collaborate within the justice system at Mesa, a safety presentation at West City, meetings with the collaborative care teams at City and Mesa, a New Hire Institute and a College Council Safety Forum at City. They participated in the national bi-annual drug take back event held at Mesa, represented at a Title IX kiosk, and attended various community events including four coffee with a cop events.

There was an inquiry about the status of a sexual assault that occurred on 10/31 at Mesa College. Chief Ramos shared that the assault is still an active investigation and they are making progress; and, he has asked officers to increase patrols during evening hours. Mesa's ASG is working on offering additional escorts to include the lengthy walk to the bus stop and Chief Ramos will ask officers to be attentive to the areas around the bus stop.

Vice Chancellor Peterson shared that the Academic Senate President from City College previously presented the Board of Trustees with a resolution addressing concerns about the potential deployment of Tasers and the Academic Senate recommended against deployment of Tasers unless there was independent evidence showing there was a benefit that outweighed any potential risks or detriments to using it. Vice Chancellor Peterson and Chief Ramos have not made any recommendation of deploying Tasers to the Board of Trustees yet, but do support the continuation of evaluating evidence.

This committee confirmed they have not been provided any studies to review from the San Diego Community College District or Board of Trustees and have not systematically reviewed any specific studies. There were links to some studies included in the May 2023 resolution presented to the Board by the City College Academic Senate. Acting Chancellor Smith clarified that this committee would have an opportunity to review studies and have a primary voice in the Board's decision making. The committee discussed voting to form a subcommittee to continue the research and create a presentation. Caitlin motioned to create a subcommittee to research the use of Tasers and Neill seconded the motion. There were no nays or abstentions so the motion to form a subcommittee carries. The committee members further discussed that the research needs to include unbiased independent studies conducted separately from local or statewide law enforcement agencies or Taser manufacturers. Nancy stated that she has been researching studies online and there aren't a lot of independent studies of Taser use and the reports she has discovered were compiled statistically including whether the Taser was deployed, how it deployed, the circumstances leading to use, and medical issues. Vice Chancellor Peterson shared that Chief Ramos and his team have also been doing a lot of research and identified approximately 30 academic, non-law enforcement, non-manufacturer initiated or sponsored reports.

Vice Chancellor Peterson recommended the formation of a subcommittee to conduct further analysis of Tasers, not just the deployment, and then present a recommendation to the broader Police Advisory Committee. Acting Chancellor Smith stated that there is no specific timeline or deadline for the committee to present a conclusive recommendation to the Board of Trustees as long as it conducts a thorough review.

Agenda item #6 was not discussed and will be tabled to the December agenda.

Acting Chancellor Smith thanked the students for their input today and suggested next steps to address campus safety with their perspective ASGs to bring forward formal requests for safety education to students.

The next meeting will be December 7, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 11:59 pm