

CITIZEN PETITION

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL TRANSPARENCY ON OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTINGS

phoenix.gov/police Important Links/"Community Relations"

MODELED AFTER THE LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

lvmpd.com/transparency

June 27, 2018

Following our 2009-2014 Officer-Involved Shooting Review, both officers and community members of good conscience supported transparency and accountability in policies, practices and training to reduce number of shootings that show that black and brown citizens are being killed at disproportionately higher rates.

Currently, in 2018, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of officer-involved shootings that has also increased the demand for accountability and transparency from citizens. A study to address the growing number of shootings was requested on June 13th by the Department that will hopefully improve the chances of reducing the frequency of these deadly force encounters through changes in protocol, but the analysis will not lessen citizen need for "public dissemination of releasable police information and data" and for expedited "expansion of the Body-Worn Camera Program to other precincts within the Patrol Division." These two needs, along with the development and formalization of a transparency protocol for use following critical incidents to enhance information sharing internally and externally, are three means identified in the 2017-2019 PPD Strategic Plan to improve internal and external transparency.

To fulfill this increased need for transparency, this Citizen Petition requests that the model of Transparency developed by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department be considered for our Department.

In all, there are 10 Links to "TRANSPARENCY:" "Annual Reports," "Body Camera Video," "ACLU/NAACP Petition Recommendations," "Air Support," "COPS," "Force-Related Policies," "Fatal Officer Involved Shootings," "Non-Fatal Officer Involved Shootings," "Statistical Data & Reports," "Press Releases," "Consortium for Police Leadership in Equity Report," "Internal Affairs," and "Internal Oversight & Constitutional Policing."

On their website under "Transparency," the vision statement for the "Internal Oversight and Constitutional Policing" appears to align with our Department's Goal 5 of the 2017-2019 Strategic Plan to "Increase Legitimacy" by "Improv(ing) Internal and External Transparency." Their statement clearly states:

"Our vision is to significantly reduce deadly force incidents" and to accomplish this by "providing a continuous critical review in order to be more accountable to the community."

"The goals of (their) Office of Internal Oversight are based upon seven fundamentals of Policy, Training, Tactics, Leadership, Investigations, Accountability and Community Inclusion."

"LVMPD's commitment to the public is to be both transparent and accountable regarding (their) use of deadly force incidents involving employees. For each use of deadly force incident that has not been through the Coroner's Inquest process, (they) have made available to (the community) three reports. Beginning with the first use of deadly force in December of 2010 and moving forward chronologically, the report allows (the citizen) to be able to view the following documents:"

1. District Attorney's Decisions
2. Force Investigation Team (FIT) Reports
3. Office of Internal Oversight (OIO) Review

Additional Documents may include:

- a. VIDEO: On Scene Briefing
- b. VIDEO: Media Briefing
- c. Initial Press Release
- d. Officer Identified
- e. Final Press Release

Beginning in 2012, "the LVMPD allowed (the release of reports) on non-fatal shootings similar to the way (the Department) released reports in events resulting in death." Because, in many, "there are related criminal charges pending," reports are made available on the OIO website when they become public records. "For this reason, LVMPD (does) not (release these) reports in chronological order."

Application of this "best practices" model which provides transparency through primary source documentation and official records of decisions, reports and reviews offers us an opportunity to further strengthen the trust between our community and our department that began in 2010 with Councilman Michael Johnson's Phoenix police altercation and began once more in 2015 following the officer-involved shooting of Romain Brisbon. Trust can only be built on transparency and constant communication.

PASSED by the Council of the City of Phoenix this day of _____, 20__.

Respectfully Submitted,

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