

Attachment A

CITIZEN'S PETITION

2018 JUL 5 PM 3:25

CITY CLERK DEPT.

**FOR THE PHOENIX POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PARTNER WITH
THE CENTER FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OF ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
IN A LONGITUDINAL STUDY TO TRACK THE EFFECT
OF THE EXPANSION OF BODY WORN CAMERA PROGRAM AND INTRODUCTION OF AN EARLY
INTERVENTION SYSTEM
ON OUR ANNUAL NUMBER OF OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTINGS**

July 5, 2018

In the hope of reducing the number of incidents of using deadly force, we increased training and refined use-of-force policies following the 2009-2014 Officer-Involved Shooting Review. In 2015 we established the Tactical Review Committee to examine each shooting thereafter and to offer recommendations to amend or add policies. Change has increased yet changes in statistics have not followed. In fact, this year the number of officer-involved shootings has risen dramatically. Although we were recognized as a national model for de-escalation training by U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch in 2015, our average of officer-involved shootings has remained steady as one of the highest in the nation. Our total for last year was 21, on level with our average for the last 20 years (1998-2017) of 21.45 with a range of 13 to 31. Suddenly, in June of 2018, we've risen above last year's average by 35%. Wisely, our Department is making an "emergency request to enter into an agreement with the National Police Foundation for an officer-involved shooting study" beginning on or about July 5, 2018. "The term shall be for six months."

We will be compared with 50 of the largest law enforcement agencies across the United States and Canada. The study "will allow regional and national comparisons between officer-involved shootings in Phoenix to those in other agencies." Most have in place what we lack – dash cams, body cams, and Early Intervention Systems. Our Strategic Plan for 2017-2019 has the implementation of these as goals, but currently our exemplary training is the singular best practice in

place. This makes it vital that an outside agency examine our deadly force incidents. "The how and the why (will be examined) from the point of initiation to conclusion."

As we move forward in 2019 with the expansion of our Body Worn Camera Program and the introduction of Early Intervention System, we have a unique opportunity to study their effects on our number of shootings. We currently have a 20-year baseline against which to measure their effects as they are introduced. Please consider partnering the ASU Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety to conduct a longitudinal study to track the effect of the expansion of body cams and the introduction of an Early Intervention System on our numbers.

Through this collaboration, our Department and others nationally will benefit. For ourselves, two goals of our Department's Strategic Plan, Employee Well-Being and Increasing Legitimacy, most likely can be met when such a longitudinal study will most likely indicate a decrease in officer-involved shootings through an increase in officer wellness and transparency. For the Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety whose mission is "predicated on the concept that violence is predictable and preventable," their study will most likely establish a unique "best practice" standard through its partnership with our Department, serving as a model nationally that further honors the sanctity of life.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne Scott Woods 15449 N. 25th Ave., #2012, Phoenix, AZ 85023


