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Questions and Comments from the Cloverdale City Council Presentation
March 11, 2015

1. There is a concern that the cities have not been involved and there is a portion of the community that believes whatever the County adopts will be implemented in all the cities of the County and that is not the case.

2. Police officers get over 880 hours of training required by the State plus the in-house training they receive when hired. It was suggested that a thorough review should be done of the training provided and what the Task Force feels might be lacking in that training (e.g. mental health, use of force).

3. Funding needs to be identified for cities/school districts that want to participate in the various programs recommended.

4. Lack of transparency and no understanding of complaint process will not change with an OIA – has to be done at the state level. Is this a good use of money?

5. Recruiting of specific groups (i.e. minorities) is difficult in general and is even more difficult in smaller cities. There should be targeted non-financial incentives to motivate minority recruits to come to small cities. County should facilitate a strategic plan to help cities recruit and not compete against one another for the limited number of recruits out there.

6. The Grand Jury is not a practical law enforcement oversight body as they do not have the background or experience necessary for that kind of work.

7. How does the election of the County Sheriff affect a city's police chief? Are there incentives for the city police departments to take this program on if the cities are not required to participate?
Questions and Comments from the Healdsburg City Council Presentation  
April 20, 2015

1. Will the OIA be a department of the County? Is it a volunteer program or will their staff be paid by the County?

2. Auditing means investigating citizen complaints, not criminal investigations?

3. Would the attorneys staffing the OIA run out of things to do?

4. Did the Task Force only focus on the Sheriff’s Department? Did the Task Force reach out to other agencies to get their thoughts on the OIA?

5. Community outreach to young people is very helpful to help the youth see law enforcement in a different way. There are unique aspects that the County has when it comes to law enforcement.

6. What about encouraging more young people to enter law enforcement and become officers?
1. What is the next step for the Task Force?

2. Was there any discussion if there should be a coroner versus a medical examiner? Should that position be appointed or elected? Did the Subcommittee look at other jurisdictions to see what models are being used?

3. The Sonoma County Coroner’s office has been the topic of a Dateline documentary highlighting ongoing issues with the office, including errors made in a Petaluma murder trial. We share the same physicians with several other counties – there are significant issues of backlog. What is our goal? How do we fix the problems? How do we recruit people to come here to be pathologists? Who can run for that office if it is to be elected? What are the qualifications to be a forensic pathologists?

4. As to counseling and mental health, when we look at the implementation of the Proposition 63 changes and expansion of services including mobile mental health teams, we haven’t seen that implementation outside of Santa Rosa. A concern is that southern Sonoma County is forgotten and not equally served when it comes to mental health services. Before we look at new programs, we need to look at the full implementation of programs that are already in place.

5. The presentation fails to highlight programs that are working well as far as community policing in law enforcement. It is a shame that Petaluma’s community policing program was not highlighted in the presentation.

6. Looking at diversity and disparity in hiring, it is not across the board. There are departments in the County where the law enforcement population and staff actually match, including Petaluma. That was not highlighted in the presentation.

7. One thing that is problematic is that the City of Santa Rosa had 2 members appointed to the Task Force, as well as 4 of the 5 Board Members of the Board of Supervisors represent Santa Rosa, leaving 2 people representing the City of Petaluma, which is a reflection of how Petaluma is treated on different issues. While the 2 representatives appointed by Supervisor Rabbitt have provided valuable feedback into this process, it is not a true representation of the whole county or the whole picture of law enforcement in the county.

8. When looking at implementation of some of the recommended programs, where is the money going to come from? Petaluma does not have the money to fully staff their police department, and does not have the money for school resource officers. Where will the money come from?

9. Petaluma offers a citizen’s academy in English, Spanish and for youth during breaks and summer.

10. There is pushback against one-size-fits-all solutions to problems. If the Task Force wants the cities to participate in the recommendations, they should be tailored to the cities. It is not self-evident that the City of Petaluma has the same issues as the Sheriff’s Office.
Ms. Barnes -- thank you for the presentation. The Commission's information was very informative. The Commission's existence and their report was born out of tragedy. If you stayed in the Chambers through "public comment" you would have heard several public speakers argue that the report you presented did not go far enough. They called for greater oversight and potential sanctions against police officers who take severe actions.

One point missing from the report and possibly not a point with many followers, is the issue of "parental responsibility" for their children. There is no question that Andy Lopez had a toy gun but a "toy" made to look real in almost every aspect. When I was a child, we played with toy guns ... chrome cap guns that looked like the wild west pistols carried by the Lone Ranger and Gene Audry. Today, toys look like assault weapons. The news is filled of other types of tragedies, with students bringing real guns onto school campuses and killing and injuring their peers. We can sit back and point fingers. We can second guess the police officer in the Lopez shooting. We have that luxury. Here was a trained and experienced police officer called upon to make a split second decision. This decision had tragic results. Certainly, when the officer was eating his breakfast that morning, he was not expecting his day to end in such a horrific manner.

What if the parent told their child that they could not have that "toy". They could not borrow the "toy" from their friend. If they were allowed to play with the "toy", they needed to do so in the safety of their own yard, not wandering the neighborhood streets. It is not a popular argument but when these types of tragedies occur and there have been several, I place a percentage of blame on the parents or the child's "responsible adult", who allows the child to go out and play with this "toy" that is a very realistic and authentic looking toy weapon.

Again, thank you for your time and informative presentation. -- Chris Albertson

On Tue, Apr 7, 2015 at 12:01 PM, Caluha Barnes <caluha.barnes@sonoma-county.org> wrote:

Dear Mayor Glass and City Council Members:

On behalf of the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force, I want to thank you for the opportunity to present the Task Force’s draft recommendations at last night’s City Council meeting. Your questions and comments provided a valuable perspective that will inform the final reporting out to the Board of Supervisors in May.
Questions and Comments from the Rohnert Park City Council Presentation  
April 14, 2015

1. The Rohnert Park Public Safety Department’s Community Policing program is often complimented for what a good job the officers do.

2. Were the city manager and Chief involved in any meetings with any members of the Task Force?

3. There is a concern that cities (other than Santa Rosa) were not involved in the Task Force meetings. Was there a City Day presentation for the city managers?

4. This is a split jurisdiction with an elected Sheriff and District Attorney – the Board of Supervisors cannot adopt policies that direct the Sheriff or the District Attorney, so does the Sheriff appear before the Board of Supervisors to say if he agrees with the recommendations? And then the Board would adopt them?

5. There is skepticism as to the ability to come to the point of collaboration with the Sheriff’s office.

6. Regarding the counseling and mental health services recommendation, who pays for that? Is it primarily for Santa Rosa and the County? Rohnert Park does not get a lot of mental health dollars from the County. Mental health is a huge problem in the schools in Rohnert Park.

7. The person who runs the San Jose OIA receives $173,000 per year, not including staff, where will the funding come from for the Office in Sonoma County?

8. (Public Comment) Susan Kinder of Restorative Resources encouraged the city council to support the recommendation regarding Restorative Justice and to expand the services currently provided to Santa Rosa City Schools.

9. (Public Comment) Jim Duffy asked the Council to support the function of the OIA (if established) be agreeing to let complaints against their law enforcement agency be received by the OIA to be forwarded to the correct agency for investigation.
-----Original Message-----
From: Belforte, Gina [mailto:gbelforte@rpcity.org]
Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2015 6:15 PM
To: Caluha Barnes
Subject: Re: Community and Local Law Enforcement Presentation to the Rohnert Park City Council

Thank you Caluha,

As they say, "the devil is the details". To make significant change the details should be clear to all before recommendations are made. If the details are unclear then a door is left open for opponents to criticize and detrimentally alter the program.

The best of luck to you all on this project.

Gina

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 15, 2015, at 10:07 AM, "Caluha Barnes" <Caluha.Barnes@sonoma-county.org<mailto:Caluha.Barnes@sonoma-county.org>> wrote:

Dear Vice Mayor Belforte and City Council Members,

On behalf of the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force, I wanted to thank you for the opportunity to present the Task Force’s draft recommendations at last night’s City Council meeting. Your questions and comments of Brian Vaughn and Chair Bañuelos provide a valuable perspective that will inform the final reporting out to the Board of Supervisors in May.

Additionally, we welcome any formal feedback that you would like to provide either directly to me, or via the Task Force website’s draft recommendations page<http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Community-and-Local-Law-Enforcement-Task-Force/Draft-Recommendations/>.

Sincerely,
Caluha

Caluha Barnes, MPA
Principal Analyst
County Administrator's Office
Phone: 707.565.3085
Questions and Comments from the Santa Rosa City Council Presentation
April 14, 2015

1. What role do foundations have in these recommendations?

2. Where does this effort intersect with the City? The focus is on county issues, but there are a lot of issues that cross jurisdictions? How does this affect Santa Rosa, if at all? How do the TF efforts mesh with what the city does?

3. Our police department has worked with the Task Force – will that continue going forward and if so, in what form?

4. During the Andy Lopez incident, the SRPD was called upon to investigate the procedures of the County. Would the OIA have staff to do their own investigations of this type? Or would there still be law enforcement agencies investigating each other? How does it work in San Jose? There are reservations having Santa Rosa continue to investigate the Sheriff because the two agencies coordinate services between each other and have a good working relationship currently.

5. Access to records and personnel files is very tricky – are there laws impeding access to those files? Is that why you are recommending an auditor that is an attorney?

6. Is any action recommended to go to the state level to allow some privileges to be rescinded to allow access to records for the sake of transparency? Did you consciously not make that recommendation?

7. Many times it seems we put on the police department the responsibilities of others and ask them to do more than we should – for example, making mental health services in school the responsibility of the School Resource Office instead of working to improve school nursing and other medical services?

8. Did you consider other services be made available to the schools?

9. Are you recommending that the OIA does the criminal investigation? Or do they audit another agency’s criminal investigation?

10. Did the Task Force talk about the measures of success for the community policing recommendations?

11. As for demographics of the law enforcement agencies matching the demographics of the community, did the Task Force have any specific suggestions of how to achieve that goal?

12. Partnership for implementation is important – youth organizations should be specifically included as well as faith based community organizations. Building those partnerships is essential to the success of whatever we do.

13. What kind of a role can the OIA play in the community policing efforts? In engagement and healing? In educating the community on law enforcement practices? In improving outcomes in critical incidents?
14. Recruiting efforts can’t be left to just the law enforcement agencies – the whole community needs to be involved.

15. Can the OIA include a place for positive recognition of all of those in the community that helps to keep us safe?

16. What is the status of the mistrust between youth and law enforcement since you started your work?

17. How much will the OIA cost? What is the funding? Is there any idea at all? What is the County’s total budget? What is the Sheriff’s budget?

18. Does San Jose’s model require the auditor to be an attorney?

19. Human resources staff has access to personnel files, why is the OIA limited to being an attorney? There is a large part of society that is disillusioned with the court system.

20. It is at the Sheriff’s discretion whether or not they participate? That is tough for the OIA to be independent.

21. Does the Sheriff’s office audit the OIA?

22. Is statistical trend tracking another way of saying crime statistics?

23. Don’t like the name auditor.

24. Is it a function of OIA to review statistics of feeling safe versus being safe?

25. Methodology should be consistent when track trending.

26. Only the Sheriff’s Office is included in the OIA model – if the Sheriff’s office isn’t involved in a critical incident, would the OIA have any jurisdiction to review the investigations of the other agencies involved? What would it take to get the OIA involved in the investigations of other agencies?

27. What is the role of the youth council in the OIA? Are they part of the OIA or another County department?

28. How would the advisory bodies be selected?

29. What about social equity issues between the community and law enforcement? Did you address that or was that too big to take on?

30. (Public Comment) There should be cameras on every officer every day.
Questions and Comments from the Sebastopol City Council Presentation
March 17, 2015

1. OIA diagram is county-centric. How does it relate to municipalities?

2. Where is the funding for mental illness training for law enforcement? How will it be implemented? How will the resources be monitored?

3. Who is going to work on making sure the recommendations get implemented?

4. Recruiting police from minority neighborhoods is highly important. There should be outreach to bring in kids from Roseland Prep and other feeder schools to get the kids interested in their community.

5. What is the concern about the office of the Coroner being separate from the office of the Sheriff? What is the perceived conflict? Is the concern the opportunity for a cover-up to occur?

6. Define more clearly the “high level quality service to ensure officer safety and accountability” in the Use of Force recommendation.

7. Is there any understanding that the Sheriff’s Department has not historically reached out to minorities in their hiring practices? Are they tapping the available pool of officers at this point or is there room to improve their outreach?

8. OIA would be a new county position? If so, it should be a budget priority for the Board of Supervisors to get it funded.

9. Citizen Advisory Board and Youth Council provides for community and youth participation which is very important.

10. Parent organizations, case workers in DA and DCSS offices, DHS workers and mental health professionals should all be included in getting the message out to families about these recommendations.

11. Coroner and Sheriff being independent of one another to avoid proscribed justification in the combined office.

12. What models do other counties have as far as the Sheriff and Coroner offices are concerned? Have you looked nationwide? What is the data in California?

13. As for hiring practices, police forces accurately reflecting the community they work in is “common sense” and is a valid goal and will take time.

14. There is a rapid change of demographics in the state and we should keep up with that rapid change in hiring practices.
15. Getting small agencies involved is a valuable way to get information about what works and what doesn’t work in small cities and should be modeled and patterned.

16. Using law enforcement in lieu of proper mental health care is setting everyone up for failure. Additional training is needed for law enforcement due to the lack of proper mental health care in the community.

17. What is the body worn camera policy recommendation about?

18. The deputy’s choice to escalate vs. de-escalate the situation was a poor choice in the Lopez tragedy – does not believe it was a race issue but rather just a poor choice with no consequence. The lack of acknowledgment of that poor choice by the Board of Supervisors and the Sheriff is a problem.

19. There is no data that the San Jose model is effective.
Questions and Comments from the Sonoma City Council Presentation
April 6, 2015

1. Did you check in with faith based organizations in the process of contacting stakeholders?

2. How many meetings were held with kids?

3. It would be interesting to have a meeting with age-affected children along with law enforcement
   for the youth to learn what each law enforcement agency does.

4. The School Resource Officers and Community Service Officers – that is key in reaching the youth
   in our community.

5. There is a Youth Council in Marin – outreach to them might be something you should do.

6. On the Body Worn Cameras, when will those start being used?

7. Are there other counties around us that use Body Worn Cameras?
Questions and Comments from the Windsor Town Council Presentation
April 1, 2015

1. How would the OIA complaint receipt structure be incorporated into the cities?

2. There are duplication of services between cities and county which is a funding problem. For example, mental health services are always a matter of budget. The recommendations will impact Windsor in particular if the Sheriff adopts them as Windsor contracts with the Sheriff’s office for law enforcement.

3. Public Comment: The Grand Jury should be used for subpoena power. There should be mental illness services recommended for law enforcement as well as the public. Restorative Justice should have been applied to Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus’s incident. Body worn camera is still at the discretion of the officer and that is unacceptable. Where is the change in approach to how protesters are treated?
April 7, 2015

Caroline Bañuelos, Chairperson
Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
Sonoma County Administration Building
575 Administration Dr., Rm. 104A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Dear Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force,

The Sonoma County Advisory Board on Alcohol and Drug Problems would like to thank the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task force for its extensive and culturally inclusive recommendations in regard to law enforcement accountability, community policing and community engagement and healing.

The Board also thanks you for soliciting our input on the Task Force’s proposed recommendations. We have the following recommendations:

1. That the office of the coroner be split off from the Sheriff’s Office. Sonoma County citizens deserve a modern concept in determinations of cause of death situations, one that is medically based. In other words, a modern medical examiner’s office. Doing so would create more transparency in cases where death occurs and law enforcement is involved. This would promote community trust.

2. That an independent inspector’s office be created to review any citizen complaints against law enforcement and to review situations where death of serious injury occur.

Also, the Board endorses the increased use of community based policing. In doing so, emphasis should be placed on education on the perils of alcohol and drug use, and community based policing officers should be familiar with community resources available to help community members who may need help with substance abuse issues.

Again, thank you for soliciting our input.

Kevin McConnell, Vice Chair
Sonoma County Advisory Board on Alcohol and Drug Problems
February 24, 2015

Judy C. Rice, Chair
Community Engagement and Healing Subcommittee
Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
Sonoma County Administration Building
575 Administration Drive, Room 104A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Dear Ms. Rice,

The First 5 Sonoma County Commission wants to commend the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force on the Community Engagement and Healing Subcommittee for their work over the last year. The nine initiatives outlined in the report take into consideration the individual child and youth who may have Adverse Childhood Experiences (exposure to violence, substance abuse, mental illness), addresses how those experiences may impact their relationship with the school, the larger community and, in particular, their relationship with the law enforcement community.

The Subcommittee has incorporated multiple viewpoints from committee members, as well as community input to form its recommendations. The First 5 Sonoma County Commission encourages the Subcommittee to expand the scope of its recommendations to include a focus on prevention by addressing the needs of very young children (from the prenatal stage through age five) and their families. The First 5 Commission recommends adding the following guiding principles:

Invest in early childhood to prevent problems before they begin. The Subcommittee recommendations focus only on middle and high school-aged youth who undoubtedly have critical needs, but who could have benefited most from interventions and support in their first five years. Effective, evidence-based support for young children should include developmental and social-emotional screening and interventions; support for positive parenting; interventions for parental mental health issues; and high quality child care and universal preschool.
February 24, 2015
Page 3

The first five years play a critical role in the physical, cognitive, and social-emotional development and lifelong health and success of all children. The Commission urges an equal focus on the needs of very young children and their families in order to prevent downstream problems for the children and avoidable costs for their families and our community. This approach has been proven to be effective and is consistent with the Portrait of Sonoma County recommendations for decreasing local health, income and education disparities.

Support parents to help their children succeed. The Subcommittee recognizes the need to support children and youth by providing more services but does not speak to the important role that parents play. Parents are a child’s first and most important teacher. The most effective services provide a two-generation approach that integrates high-quality educational opportunities for young children with strong evidence-based education and parenting programming for their parents. This strategy engages children and parents together to build successful lives. This approach is demonstrated in First 5-funded programs like Nurse Family Partnership, AVANCE Parent-Child Education Program, Pasitos, and Triple P—Positive Parenting Program. Each of these programs includes parents as full partners in their child’s well-being and education. They increase parents’ skills, confidence, and competence to build children’s resilience and readiness for school.

Align approaches to leverage existing initiatives and resources. The County of Sonoma and its many community partners have invested heavily in several aligned initiatives to collectively impact school readiness, third grade reading, and high school graduation. The Portfolio of Model Upstream Investments recommends three tiers of evidence-based programs to meet the relevant needs of all ages. First 5 funds an array of evidence-based programs that promote optimal child development.

Cradle to Career’s five goals span early childhood to career preparation. The First 5 Commission recommends that the Subcommittee consider how its recommendations align with Upstream, First 5 and Cradle to Career and how that alignment can be leveraged. For example, the Subcommittee’s recommendation to enhance mental health services and restorative justice practices in schools aligns with Cradle to Career’s Goal Area 3—Every child is supported in and out of school. How might such alignments with existing initiatives be leveraged to achieve the common goal of increasing high school graduation rates among Latino youth?

The County also has key resources that can be leveraged. For example, recent changes in child welfare and behavioral health services have allowed for more early prevention approaches to serve children at risk of maltreatment and foster placement in high-risk communities, such as southwest Santa Rosa. Public Health provides programs—such as Maternal Child and Adolescent Health’s home visiting programs, serving women as early as pregnancy—to teach parents how to help their children thrive, how children develop, and what resources and supports are available to them in the community to help meet their family’s needs. All agencies serving southwest Santa Rosa should work together to develop a comprehensive approach to identify and assist families in crisis.
February 24, 2015
Page 3

Under the Affordable Care Act, increased mental health services will allow for more children and youth to be screened for developmental delays and the prevalence of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in their young lives. Santa Rosa Community Health Center’s clinics, Roseland Pediatrics and Elsie Allen Teen Clinic, have been leaders in screening for ACEs. Partnering with Santa Rosa Community Health Centers or other Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) to provide site-based health services at schools would provide access to sustainable funding for services after an initial capital and staff investment. Medi-Cal provides another source of funding for those who are eligible.

**Build family resilience through the community schools model.** School districts should be encouraged and supported to bring new resources to their school campuses, creating community schools that efficiently serve students and families. For example, the Via Esperanza Family Resource Center on the campus of Cook Middle School is building a resilient community by coloconating existing health, mental health and social services at the school. Two-generation programs like AVANCE and Pasitos, along with counseling and parenting education programs like Triple P and Abriendo Puertas, are being provided in the family resource center. Additional capital investment is needed to fulfill the vision that Via Esperanza will be a comprehensive community hub for family, health, and other support services. Fully developing Via Esperanza would create a model for other districts to replicate.

The First 5 Sonoma County Commission thanks the Subcommittee and the Task Force for the opportunity to respond to this year-long effort and its resulting recommendations.

Sincerely,

Alfredo Perez
Executive Director
First 5 Sonoma County Commission

Chiara Bacigalupa
Chair
First 5 Sonoma County Commission
March 11, 2015

To: Caroline Bañuelos, Chairperson, Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
Re: Feedback and Input from Health Action to the Task Force

Dear Ms. Bañuelos:

The Health Action Council wishes to acknowledge the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force for your work to develop comprehensive recommendations to guide our community healing and to identify opportunities to build healthy and resilient communities for all of our residents.

The Health Action Council is committed to serve as a catalyst to improve community health through cross-sector, collective action. Our current priorities focus on improving health, educational attainment and economic wellness, with a strong commitment to community and youth engagement. As such, we recommend the following concepts and principles, particularly as they relate to creating equitable, safe, healthy communities:

Continue to utilize the Portrait of Sonoma County to guide recommendations and interventions: A Portrait of Sonoma County is a tool to identify and address vulnerable populations. More specifically, the Portrait details specific geographic areas of unmet potential in the County as well as an Agenda for Action with broad population-focused interventions as well as place-based recommendations to address disparities. One of the highlighted priority areas for action is Southwest Santa Rosa, which dovetails with several of the Task Force recommendations. Further, a Health Action Chapter, a local, place-based community health improvement effort, is emerging in this region and could be an optimal group to leverage.

Leverage and expand upon ongoing strategies developed through Cradle to Career: The Cradle to Career network spans early childhood to career preparation, with focus on improving access to early childhood education, closing the achievement gap in third grade literacy, and improving high school graduation rates. Critical interventions are being developed to support these initiatives, including expanding access to preschool, professional development for early childhood education providers, support for parents and families, community schools models, mental and behavioral health services in schools, and expanding career technical education opportunities.

Leverage and expand upon ongoing strategies developed through the Economic Wellness Initiative: The cross-sector initiative focuses on ensuring that Sonoma County families have the economic resources to make ends meet. Critical interventions are being developed to incorporate financial education opportunities within schools and social service delivery programs, assessment of barriers to saving and financial empowerment, and expanding access to affordable housing and middle wage job opportunities, particularly in the neighborhoods highlighted in the Portrait.

Broadly, we recommend aligning approaches to leverage existing initiatives and resources and using the Collective Impact approach to maximize our successes. Specific initiatives with which to align include the network of Health Action Chapters throughout the county and related efforts of First 5 Sonoma County and Upstream Investments, among others.

The Health Action Council thanks the Task Force for the opportunity to contribute to the final recommendations.

Sincerely,

Rita Scardaci

Lisa Wittke Schaffner

[Signature]

[Website: sonomahaction.org]
Questions and Comments from Los Cien Presentation
February 20, 2015

1. Going forward, can the audience be asked to help with prioritizing the Recommendations?

2. What type of oversight do you propose for the adherence to County EEO policies for the hiring of Latinos and female Sheriff Deputies?

3. What is/are the one or two most important and urgent strategies that must be accomplished that would make most other needed reforms truly possible?

4. Law enforcement issues are not only taking place in Roseland and Moorland. What are the plans to include other areas?

5. Since the underlying problems that lead to error, conflict and tragic outcomes are multi-factorial, the solutions must also involve multi-sectors. What recommendations regarding the following can help: parenting, citizen stewardship, business responsibility, child development, education/graduation, jobs/living wage, housing and transportation?

6. What is the current make-up of Latino officers in the Sheriff’s Department?

7. Are any of the recommendations that the previous US Civil Rights Commission made being adopted? If not, why not?

8. How many of the 26 Recommendations that were recommended by the Federal Civil Rights Commission in 1998 have been adopted in Sonoma County?

9. Has a budget been developed for the recommendations?

10. Please describe the metrics, timelines and costs for the recommendations?

11. As for the OIA, who is the client? To whom is their duty of loyalty and duty of confidentiality? The County? The Complainant/Victim? The law enforcement agency? The officer?

12. Is there room in the recommendations to include new officers to be trained in Restorative Justice or to encourage officers to attend classes?

13. What is the time frame to implement the recommendations? How will they be implemented?

14. What are the measures of success?

15. How were the Task Force members chosen?
March 26, 2015

Caroline Bañuelos, Chairperson
Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
Sonoma County Administration Building
575 Administration Drive, Room 104A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Dear Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force,

The Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Advisory Board would like to thank the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force for the extensive and culturally inclusive recommendations in regard to law enforcement accountability, community policing and community engagement and healing. We are particularly appreciative of the emphasis placed on recommendations that facilitate building partnerships and strengthening trust between the community and law enforcement.

In alignment with the MCAH Advisory Board’s mission to promote universal access to comprehensive health services for children, adolescents, mothers and their families in Sonoma County to achieve optimal physical, social, and emotional health, the Board encourages the Subcommittee to include pregnant women, infants, and children up to five years of age in their recommendations. Recent research has shown that chronic stress in infancy and toddlerhood (a.k.a. Adverse Childhood Experiences, ACEs) impedes healthy brain development, and if not addressed, can be associated with lifelong negative physical and mental health consequences. Providing early support and intervention to vulnerable children and families can go a long way in reducing exposure to chronic stress. This can be achieved by working collaboratively with evidence-based programs, such as Nurse-Family Partnership, AVANCE, Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) and many other evidence-informed programs that are on the Upstream Portfolio. These established programs are culturally competent, known in
our community and well positioned to support implementation of the Task Force recommendations.

Providing parents and community services with tools and resources to build resiliency in children is of utmost importance in building a healthy community. The MCAH Advisory Board strongly supports expanding current mental health services in schools and community settings to address the potentially lifelong impacts of ACEs resulting from unbuffered exposure to toxic stress in early childhood. In addition, it is important to strengthen access to trauma informed care in the areas of mental health services, education, and law enforcement which results in more effective ways to promote healing.

The MCAH Advisory Board would like to thank the Task Force for the opportunity to provide feedback to its comprehensive recommendations.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Rebecca Forth
Co-Chair
Maternal, Child & Adolescent Advisory Board
Questions and Comments from the Santa Rosa City School District Board Presentation
March 25, 2015

1. How can the school districts be engaged in the process of the Task Force report? How to create more civic engagement with our students? Teachers are currently working on getting students involved in civic issues by studying issues such as those raised in the Task Force report.

2. School districts would be directly involved in art and mural recommendation as well as in community policing and mental health services. Schools can help facilitate services and identify needs. Community forums are directly connected to schools as are resource officers, art and music programs.

3. Community engagement is critical.

4. Improving hiring and cultural diversity training across the board – not just law enforcement – is needed and important. Sometimes “cultural diversity training” can have a negative sound to it. Encouraging people to do this is important.

5. Counseling and mental health is dreadfully lacking in our community.

6. A theater component should be included in the social music program.

7. A Student Congress is very important as a pipeline to civic engagement.

8. Law enforcement citizen academies directed toward youth would be beneficial.

9. What is the next step?

10. Which recommendations were not well received in the straw poll the Task Force took at their last meeting?

11. Training across organizations can be powerful in moving the community forward and could be cost effective if done jointly.

12. Hiring practices (even within school districts) should be similar when it comes to cultural diversity.
April 6, 2015

County Administrator's Office
Attn: Caroline Baltoes, Chair
Robert Edmonds, Vice Chair
Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
575 Administration Drive, Rm. 104A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Re: Presentation on Task Force Recommendations

Dear Ms. Baltoes and Mr. Edmonds:

Please accept our gratitude in recently viewing a presentation of draft recommendations of the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force. The presentation, led by Oscar Chavez, went into appropriate detail regarding the members of the Task Force and the charge of the group. As an educational organization, much of the information resonated with our work in the Santa Rosa City School District. We share the concerns about hiring the highest quality staff that reflect our diverse community. Similarly, we also are focused on providing quality professional development in the areas of community engagement, cultural inclusion and implicit bias as an organizational goal. We look forward to working collectively towards these goals, believing that these steps are necessary, not only for local law enforcement, but for our entire community and, certainly, the governmental organizations like ours that serve Sonoma County.

Please also hear our strong support for the recommendations from the Community Engagement and Healing Subcommittee. This group’s recommendations reflect our organizational mission to serve our community’s greatest assets: its youth. In particular, the recommendations about comprehensive mental health support, restorative community work (including SROs and community service officers), arts and civic engagement (murals, music and the Student Congress) are completely and directly aligned to our strategic plan for serving our community. For your appointed task force leaders, who represent all areas of the community serving on the Task Force, to value the same services for families and students speaks to the ‘collective impact’ and strong synergy fueling the work of this entire county. It fortifies the shared belief that upstream investments in our youth and families will create the strongest community. These recommendations truly reflect the ascribed values underpinning the Portrait of Sonoma. The only hope for truly sustainable change and strong neighborhoods across our county is the belief that all parts of our community will purposefully take coordinated steps together.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
211 Ridgeway Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 • Phone: (707) 528-5181 • Fax: (707) 528-5440
www.srcs.k12.ca.us
County Administrator’s Office
April 6, 2015
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Thank you again for sharing the voices and wisdom of our many different parts of Sonoma County through the task force work. You are to be commended for having the fortitude to synthesize the needs through a cross section of leadership and perspective. We strongly support the recommendations of the task force, most urgently those of community engagement and healing, for the sake of our youth and their brightest future.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Sororcorro Shells
Superintendent

[Signature]

Donna Jete
President, Board of Education

cc: Oscar Chavez, Assistant Director, Sonoma County Department of Human Services
Sylvia Lemus, Chair of Community Policing Subcommittee
Melissa James, Clerk of Task Force
Calahna Barnes, Principal Analyst, Office of the County Administrator
Veronica Ferguson, County Administrator
County Board of Supervisors
Questions and Comments from the Sonoma County Law Enforcement Chiefs' Association Presentation
March 5, 2015

1. What is the definition of Critical Incident used by the Task Force?

2. What is the basis of the OIA? What is the relationship between the OIA, the Citizens Advisory Board and the Youth Council?

3. What is the projected cost of the OIA? If attorneys staff it, won't that be expensive?

4. Is the Independent Auditor appointed by the Board? How are the members of the Youth Council and Citizen Advisory Board appointed? Would those members represent districts similar to the BOS districts?

5. In the process of auditing investigations, what happens if IA and the OIA disagree?

6. Has there been a cost/benefit analysis of the OIA?

7. What is the basis of the separation of the offices of the Coroner and Sheriff? Wouldn't there still be a conflict if the offices were separated since the County of Sonoma would still be the employer of both those offices?

8. How much of the OIA staff time would be dedicated to auditing vs. community outreach? How many investigations are expected each year?

9. What data has the TF found to show that the San Jose model has been effective?

10. What is the “problem” that the TF is trying to solve? How big is the issue? Is it a hyper-media reaction? Is this really a non-problem being met with a huge knee-jerk response? What is the measuring stick of success and, if there is no way to measure, then why create an OIA?

11. Can the OIA initiate an investigation absent a complaint?

12. What is the timeline going forward?
Questions and Comments from the Sonoma County Office of Education Presentation
March 5, 2015

1. Is the OIA Auditor a civil service auditor or a financial auditor?
2. Are some of the programs already in progress in other places?
3. Have these recommendations been shared with LE unions?
4. When are the recommendations going to BOS?
5. Is the OIA a new office that is being recommending for the County? Or does the County have a something they can build upon?
6. Will the Citizen Advisory Board and Youth Council be responsible for the outreach in the model?
7. Who will holding the BOS and Sheriff accountable after the Task Force has been dissolved?
8. What are the priorities?
9. Will there be a group of stakeholders for the recommendations that are prioritized? Is that direction you see this going?
1. Strategizing how to respond after a critical incident is very important, especially working with teachers and students during the time immediately after the incident.

2. Counseling and Mental Health Recommendation (CEH #1) – The city schools are currently writing grant applications for behavioral health counseling and mental health programs for students. Was there a particular model that the Subcommittee had in mind when writing their recommendation?

3. First 5 Commission sent a letter to the Task Force regarding the fact that early childhood parenting and prevention were completely missed in the recommendations. Will this issue be revisited by the Engagement and Healing Subcommittee?

4. What type of oversight do you recommend for the diversification of the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office? Would that include tying funding to that diversification?

5. In a response to a critical incident, there are multiple groups convening with information coming from various sources (school district, city) – will there be a central live real time “feed” of information being communicated to the community service providers? Is there a way to utilize technology so that information can come quickly so that the providers can mobilize quickly? A communication center that can tell providers where to go or where to be in order to provide services?

6. Would a critical incident response fall under the Office of the Independent Auditor? Or would that land under a current county department?

7. Would the oversight body only enhance the County structure as whole? What about engaging other jurisdictions? What are the next steps? How could other jurisdictions sustain this type of oversight?

8. Has the Task Force engaged local funders for the purpose of investment opportunities and increasing resources for these recommendations? Funding should not be a barrier to providing services to the community.

9. Is the Office of Independent Auditor a hybrid model? Or is it based on a particular jurisdiction?

10. Is the Office of Independent Auditor a brand new idea or is there currently an agency that provides oversight in our community?
1. Congratulations to the Board of Supervisors for starting this important conversation.

2. Although these recommendations are specific to the County, they are important to us as a community as a whole. Organizations should work together to implement these changes.
1. The current training for discrimination for government officials is more focused on liability not about training people about people to be supportive of change.

2. There needs to be mental health education in schools from K – 12, especially how to deal with problems at school and at home.

3. It is difficult to implement change if there is no buy-in from the people at the “top” who would implement the change. If the attitude from the chief does not support change, change will not happen. Change has to come from top leadership and filter down.

4. It is important to come back full circle to the community leaders and let them know that something positive is actually coming from the changes that are made.
Subject: Comment
Message: Comment

I think police may escalate small-time incidents by their own behavior. Police demand in a monotone order for you to comply with some order and if you ask why or what is up, they just repeat the order and don’t answer your question. This sets up a power struggle where a trivial incident escalates into something much bigger, maybe even violent, over a simple conversational dynamic.

Citizens have the right to not be abused by unrefined expressions of state authority, period.

I think police need training on how to behave like regular people as part of their arsenal of enforcing the law. There is a whole range of incidents that should never escalate just because a police has a tyrant complex and can’t communicate well. Police are there to serve the public and not become problems in and of themselves.

As for incidents that may turn violent because a citizen is out of bounds, why don’t police use tranquilizer darts or throw nets over people? This is how people catch lions and bears, you’d think the cops could catch a criminal this way too, especially one who does not have a gun. Let Jim Fowler train them for $5000.

Take a look at the New Mexico police video of where the police killed a homeless guy in the desert; this is a perfect example of unnecessary violence. Those police did not even check his vitals after they shot him, and all he had was a pocket knife, with only desert around everybody. A very disturbing image of the police.

Police have a reputation for punitive enforcement based on race and class, this is why in NYC they stop blacks at a much higher rate. Whatever changes in policing, they need to come straight from the top from the officials who create the culture, not a $100,000 simulator. This isn’t war, it’s the liberal North Bay.

Name: Fred Allebach
Email: fallebach@gmail.com
Phone: 707-935-3514
Address: PO Box 351
        Vineburg, CA 95487
Melissa James

From: Taylor Anderson-Stevenson <tandersonstevenson@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 14, 2014 11:55 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: PLEASE READ!! Women’s Justice Center Law Enforcement Reform Petition
Attachments: Daria’s Story.pdf; LERPetition Background pg.pdf; LERPetition Signature Pg.pdf

Hello Task Force,

We have been working as advocates for victims of violence against women and girls for over 16 years. In doing so, we have found that law enforcement systemically denies women and girls equal access to protection. That means, while males are being over policed with excessive force, their female counterparts are ignored and dismissed by police who do not investigate reports, return victims calls or even take sexual assault and domestic violence seriously.

In working alongside victims of violence against women and girls in dealings with law enforcement we have developed four VERY viable implementations that will ensure greater transparency and accountability in law enforcement.

Please read the following attached items:
1. Daria’s Story - one DV/kidnap victims experience with law enforcement.
2. Petition background information
3. Petition Signature Page w/ Demands

Please contact us with any questions as we would be pleased to share our knowledge and experience with the task force.

Thank you,

Taylor Anderson-Stevenson, Advocate
Women’s Justice Center
(707) 575-3150
Email: tandersonstevenson@gmail.com
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Irene Barnard <irene.j.barnard@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 12:52 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Improve Community Outreach & Engagement from Irene Barnard: Very important component

Topic: Improve Community Outreach & Engagement
Subject: Very important component
Message: In general, but especially in the wake of tragedies like the Andy Lopez shooting, steps like further engagement with and understanding of the communities they serve are crucial for the police to implement. Thank you!

Name: Irene Barnard
Email: irene.j.barnard@gmail.com
Topic: Improve Hiring, Training and Cultural Diversity
Subject: Crucial steps
Message: In general and especially in the wake of the tragic Andy Lopez shooting, it's incumbent upon police to immediately implement steps to engage more actively with the communities they serve, as well as implement anti-bias training, and training to de-escalate situations (rather than the opposite). Thank you!

Name: Irene Barnard
Email: irene.j.barnard@gmail.com
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Irene Barnard <irene.j.barnard@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 12:57 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Counseling and Mental Health Services from Irene Barnard: Mental health care a key component!

Topic: Counseling and Mental Health Services
Subject: Mental health care a key component!
Message: As the daughter of a schizophrenic mother, as well as a citizen who too often reads of tragic encounters between severely mentally ill people and police, I applaud this long-overdue recommendation! Thanks!

Name: Irene Barnard
Email: irene.j.barnard@gmail.com
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Irene Barnard <irene.j.barnard@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 12:59 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Restorative Justice from Irene Barnard: Great idea!

Topic: Restorative Justice
Subject: Great idea!
Message: Restorative justice is a proven law-enforcement tool that simultaneously helps the families and loved ones involved to work thru these painful situations and begin to heal (which then also positively affects the communities where they live). Thanks!

Name: Irene Barnard
Email: irene.j.barnard@gmail.com
no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Irene Barnard <irene.j.barnard@gmail.com>

Wednesday, April 01, 2015 1:01 PM

TaskForce

County of Sonoma General Feedback from Irene Barnard: All three recommendations crucial

Topic: General Feedback
Subject: All three recommendations crucial

Message: I strongly support all of your recommendations, re separation of coroner from sheriff’s office, re-examining role of grand jury, and establishment of a review body to oversee and hold police accountable. These steps would go far in helping to create a more fair justice system for all, and reestablish trust in communities whose relations with police have been increasingly strained. Thanks!

Name: Irene Barnard
Email: irene.j.barnard@gmail.com
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org
Sent: Tuesday, January 13, 2015 10:37 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Suggestion from Llinda Behrens: task force ideas

Topic: Suggestion
Subject: task force ideas
Message: After reading the task force ideas, it seems as though there was no accountability for how much it might cost. The education of the public on how to interact with the police should be for parents and children. The avoidable tragedy in the Lopez shooting was due to a family that had not made rules clear to their children. He couldn't legally buy that gun, he had drugs in his system, he didn't follow police orders, he modified his main gun and now it is noted that he was taking part in a Probation department program. We need to educate people to follow the laws and money spent in that direction will SAVE LIVES. A park is a nice idea, but again it might cost over $1 million dollars??? At least you could name it the "All Lives Matter" park and honor all those that die in a preventable manner.

Name: Llinda Behrens
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Steve Birdlebough
<affirm@friendshouse.org>

Sent: Friday, April 10, 2015 6:52 PM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Comment from Steve Birdlebough: How to reach enough people of color

Topic: Comment

Subject: How to reach enough people of color

Message: It takes a critical mass of connections to create a foundation for trust of law enforcement in disadvantaged communities. My concern is that simply addressing the County Sheriff’s jurisdiction is likely to fall far short of the needed connections. What happens if a city police officer is involved in the next suspicious incident? To reach a critical mass of people with some consistency, the cities need to be partners, and buy into the process. I hope you are working toward this result.

Name: Steve Birdlebough
Email: affirm@friendshouse.org
Home Phone: 576-6632
Cell Phone: 322-5692
Mail Address: 684 Benicia Drive #63
Santa Rosa, CA 95409
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Jackie Brittain <mjackieb@sonic.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 25, 2014 8:16 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Comment from Jackie Brittain: Beating in So Co Jail

Topic: Comment
Subject: Beating in So Co Jail
Message: I am asking all of you to watch the 30 min video of the beating posted on the Press Democrat website: "Man Shocked 20 Times During a Sonoma County Jail Booking" I have to comment on this video of the beating and Tasing of a person being arrested. This was the most disgusting and brutal display of law enforcement since the Rodney King beating. There is something very wrong with the Sonoma County Sheriff's Department. I can not believe that the officers were not able to get this person under control. They created an environment where the person had to fight for his life. I'm surprised they didn't kill him. I could tell he was struggling to breath and he did say a few times “I can't breath” and not one officer acknowledged him. I have to tell you that I am a retired Critical Care nurse and I and my co-workers have dealt many times with with very aggressive patients and there was never one that we could not restrain and they were far more aggressive, wild and abusive then this gentleman. We never hit, dislocated limbs or used or needed Tasers, and we never harmed them. We used leather limb restraints and attached them to the bed. Once the arms and legs are restrained, the person can toss and turn and they don’t hurt themselves or any one else. Then of course we had drugs to calm the person. In this situation they could have cuffed his hands behind his back and cuffed his legs then cuffed the cuffs together (hands and legs behind his back.) Leave him on his belly so if he vomits ( which he said he was going to do a few times) he would not aspirate. They would only need to protect his head from banging. They certainly had enough officers there to have one or two to sit with him. But then again if they were able to get him under control that would not have been so much fun. Did you notice how there attitudes calmed down once the fire department and medics arrived? Sorry for the rant but this is completely unacceptable behavior. I hope all of you see the need for a review board. I want to thank all of you for your time and efforts. You have been given the difficult and honorable task of doing what is right for the people of Sonoma County.

Name: Jackie Brittain
Email: mjackieb@sonic.net
Home Phone: 707-528-4018
Cell Phone: 707 327-7272
Mail Address: 2314 Yulupa Ave
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
Thank you Supervisor Zane, we will share this with the Task Force members. Caluha

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 25, 2015, at 9:32 AM, Shirlee Zane <Shirlee.Zane@sonoma-county.org> wrote:

FYI

From: Richard Canini [mailto:babocanini@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 7:05 AM
To: David Rabbitt; Shirlee Zane; Susan Gorin; Efren Carrillo; gore.james@sonoma-county.org
Subject: LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IDENTIFICATION

Greetings,

Law enforcement officers in our area need clearer means of identification. Last time I looked, law enforcement officers in riot gear were only identifiable by a 3/4 inch high red number on a black background on the front of the uniform only. Seems like somebody does not want to identified.

Law enforcement in riot gear should have 2 to 3 inch high, white numbers on black background; on helmet, chest, back and legs.

Public safety is too important to be left to law enforcement.

This photo is from Europe.
Yours for not living in a secret police state, Richard Canini
Subject: Comment

Message: As a forensic pathologist who served Sonoma County as pathologist for the sheriff-coroner for 15 years (1982-1997), I would appreciate discussing with the committee the matter of separating the coroner's division from the sheriff's office. I was previously chief medical examiner for Oklahoma, and I have much interest in the improvement of medicolegal investigative systems and only recently became aware that your task force is concerned with this matter. Dr. Jacqueline Benjamin, forensic pathologist for Mendocino County also would like to share thoughts with your committee.

Name: A Jay Chapman
Email: pigs_fly@comcast.net
Phone: 707-578-1409
Address: 4149 Chanate Road
        Santa Rosa, CA 95404
Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
Community Policing Subcommittee
Draft Recommendation Feedback Form

NAME (optional): Evelyn Cheatham
Email (optional): task force member

Recommendation #: _______________ Letter: ______

Feedback:

#2 E $D
All the programs suggested are pretty much male dominated i.e. Explorer Scouts, Cadets & PAL. Let's be sure to include young girls in the programs as well.
Topic: Comment
Subject: Sonoma County Sheriff "cooperates" ???
Message: Since when does the public need to put up with this arrogant attitude that the Sheriff needs to "cooperate" ??? Supposedly, but not in fact, the Sheriff does what the public orders him to do whether he likes it or not. But we see this issue where the Sheriff (and police labor unions) getting to tell us what THEY want and what THEY like and what THEY feel is "appropriate." We need a citizen watchdog group that has the authority to investigate independently... and not simply be handed some "investigation file" from the Sheriff's Office after those in the Sheriff's Office have had the opportunity to sift facts out that THEY don't want in the file to begin with. It's not an independent investigation if the Sheriff's Office or any police department has 100% control over the investigation and have the ability to ignore facts that are inconvenient to their own staff. The government claims "laws" are involved that protect officer privacy. Really? THEN CHANGE THOSE "LAWS" because we employ the government and we want "laws" that protect us... not "laws" that conceal facts from public view for the sole purpose of protecting cops who shoot and kill without justification. I.e. shooting a boy 8 times to the torso was murder & not justified even if the toy rifle turned out to be real. The bureaucrats and politicians and public employee labor unions can pretend all they want that it is THEY who decide how we are to be treated. Wrong. We decide. And we start by mandating lapel cameras on every street cop without an ability of that cop to delete or disable said camera. Any cop on duty without his camera should be fired regardless of the usual government excuses. We're tired of the usual excuses designed to distract and delay. Perhaps you also saw the amazing video online over the last few days where the Federal Judges in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals actually stated on the record and on video recordings that California is rife with prosecutorial misconduct? No? Then watch it. They were listening to one case in which a prosecutor in Riverside California was clearly caught in lies in court... and yet allowed to retire with benefits and NOT be prosecuted for perjury. That's our "Justice system"... where criminals in government escape being jailed and held accountable. Where politicians refuse to enact "laws" to protect the public from goons with guns who claim to be "fearing for their lives" when they shoot and kill un-armed people.

Name: Jason Christie
Mail Address: Santa Rosa, CA 95401
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patrick Coyle <coylaw@sonic.net>

Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2014 9:38 AM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Improve Hiring, Training and Cultural Diversity from Patrick Coyle:
Police Training

Topic: Improve Hiring, Training and Cultural Diversity
Subject: Police Training

Message: The Community Policing recommendations are nice but miss the point of training to avoid tragic incidents.

It is a common lament by law enforcement that they have to make “split second” decisions. This is in one sense a canard because any “split second” decision will be in favor of killing, which I learned in the military many years ago is easier than a capture. More broadly, a properly trained officer should be trained to not voluntarily put himself in a position where a “split second” decision is necessary, as occurred in the Lopez incident. Assuming Officer Gelhaus did not know if Mr. Lopez was carrying a toy, or carrying a live weapon to shoot up the nearest school, he should have prepared for the worst. This means first, calling for backup. Second, isolating the area as much as possible from a reasonably safe position by, such as, turning on his light bar, sounding the siren, using a loud speaker, or just shouting a warning. Third, using his vehicle as a shield. These are routine precautions that are used when confronting real bad guys with real weapons presenting a real threat. They should apply to kids too.

Name: Patrick Coyle
Email: coylaw@sonic.net
Mail Address: 132 Steiner Court
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patrick Coyle <coylaw@sonic.net>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2014 10:17 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Comment from Patrick Coyle: Police Training

Topic: Comment
Subject: Police Training
Message: I see in today's Press Democrat that Chief Palla repeats the common lament of law enforcement that they have to make "split second" decisions. That is in one sense a canard because any "split second" decision will be in favor of killing, which I learned in the military many years ago is easier than a capture. More broadly, a properly trained officer should be trained to not voluntarily put himself in a position where a "split second" decision is necessary, as occurred in the Lopez incident. Assuming Officer Gelhaus did not know if Mr. Lopez was carrying a toy, or carrying a live weapon to shoot up the nearest school, he should have prepared for the worst. This means first, calling for backup. Second, isolating the area as much as possible from a reasonably safe position by, such as, turning on his light bar, sounding the siren, using a loud speaker, or just shouting a warning. Third, using his vehicle as a shield. All this, and probably more, could have been done safely to protect the community, the officer and Mr. Lopez. Officer Gelhaus was not on a combat infantry patrol in Afghanistan where a perceived threat has to be immediately eliminated. These are routine precautions that are used when confronting real bad guys with real weapons presenting a real threat. We now know that Mr. Lopez was in fact no threat at all. It is tragic, and unnecessary, that he was killed before that was ascertained. Police training has changed markedly in the past 30 years to that of "eliminating the threat" by shooting to kill. Emphasis should be placed on avoiding escalation of the (perceived) threat and threat management. It used to be done that way. Cops should not be trained as combat infantrymen.

Name: Patrick Coyle
Email: coylaw@sonic.net
Mail Address: 132 Steiner Court
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
1) The Task force should schedule a 1 - 2 day retreat for determining the processes they are going to use to address with the very long "work plan" that was presented by staff. The amount of time that was spent on discussing the "Chair" and "Vice-Chair" positions made it clear to me that you need this kind of committed time to get the ball rolling. Anyone who can not commit the time to do that kind of retreat should resign now and open the spot for a member of the public who can give this important work the kind of time and focus it deserves.

2) The Task Force needs to move all Public Comments to the front of the Agendas and give a full 3 minutes per speaker. Last night was an insult to members of the public who "play by the rules" and want to have public input into this process. Telling the public they can send in their comments via the public website is an even bigger insult as the majority of folks on the Task Force will never read or review all the documents submitted to the website (they are "very important people who serve on a number of committees and boards" dontcha' kno'). The only way for a member of the public to be heard is to allow them these measly 3 minutes to speak at the meetings.

3) You need to throw out the “4 Models” mentioned in the charge to the Task Force from our ill-informed Board of Supervisors. That scheme of “4 Models” originated in a publication of the International Association of the Chiefs of Police from 13 years ago. The publication was aimed at Law Enforcement Executives and was an effort to provide them tools to address citizen requests for Law Enforcement Oversight Boards. It is by no means the only scheme available for looking at and classifying these kinds of Boards.
Dear Jennifer,

As for schemes for classifying Oversight Models, a simple google search will provide you with several (I think the IACP document appears toward the top and that is likely how Effron ended up with it).

The National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement at [http://nacole.org/](http://nacole.org/) seems to be a good resource. It is the one mentioned by Robert Edmonds at the meeting last night. They provide this listing of models which is quite extensive: [http://nacole.org/nacole-resources/detailed-oversight-agency-profiles/](http://nacole.org/nacole-resources/detailed-oversight-agency-profiles/)


I think you should also reach out to the Oversight Boards in Bay Area jurisdictions (a listing available at [http://nacole.org/resources/u-s-oversight-agency-websites/](http://nacole.org/resources/u-s-oversight-agency-websites/)) to see what works for them and what does not. I think a "Hearing" up the lines of what Eric Koenigshofer was recommending last night with members and/or staff of these agencies would be a great idea as well, but only after the "worker bees" on the Task Force have had a chance to read and digest the large amount of materials that they will need to get familiar with in order to do a decent job.

Regards,

Jim Duffy
94928jim@gmail.com
707-703-0694
Subject: Question

Message: I believe it was at the first meeting of the Task Force that Eric Koenigshofer suggested that the Task Force Members provide individual email addresses for the Public so that we may communicate directly with individual Task Force Members. I believe the idea was simply tabled at that time. I would very much like to have a way to contact individual Members to the Task Force in between your semi-monthly meetings. I would note that it is possible for the Members to set up individual gmail (or hotmail, or yahoo, etc.) accounts for this purpose if they do not wish to provide their regular personal or business accounts. Thank you for considering this request.

Name: Jim Duffy
Email: 94928jim@gmail.com
Phone: 707-703-0694
Address: Rohnert Park, CA
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Jim Duffy <94928jim@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 07, 2014 5:25 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Enhance Alternative Use of Force Practices from Jim Duffy: Sanctity of Human Life Statement

Topic: Enhance Alternative Use of Force Practices
Subject: Sanctity of Human Life Statement
Message: SCSO should add a Sanctity of Human Life Statement to their Use of Deadly force Policy that reads: "It is the policy of the Sonoma County Sheriffs Office that our deputies hold the highest regard for the sanctity of human life, dignity and liberty of all persons. The application of deadly force is a measure to be employed only in the most extreme circumstances and all lesser means of force have failed or could not be reasonably employed."

Name: Jim Duffy
Email: 94928jim@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 7077030694
Mail Address: CA 94928
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Jim Duffy <94928jim@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 07, 2014 5:26 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Enhance Alternative Use of Force Practices from Jim Duffy: Sanctity of Human Life Statement

Topic: Enhance Alternative Use of Force Practices
Subject: Sanctity of Human Life Statement
Message: SCSO should add a Sanctity of Human Life Statement to their Use of Deadly force Policy that reads: "It is the policy of the Sonoma County Sheriffs Office that our deputies hold the highest regard for the sanctity of human life, dignity and liberty of all persons. The application of deadly force is a measure to be employed only in the most extreme circumstances and all lesser means of force have failed or could not be reasonably employed."

Name: Jim Duffy
Email: 94928jim@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 7077930694
Mail Address: CA 94928
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Jim Duffy <94928jim@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 07, 2014 6:37 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Improve Hiring, Training and Cultural Diversity from Jim Duffy: Mandatory CIT Training

Topic: Improve Hiring, Training and Cultural Diversity
Subject: Mandatory CIT Training
Message: This is you the only Recommendation that deals with Training so I am suggesting the following here since roughly 70% of the LE involved fatalities since the 2000 Advisory Committee Report involved people in either Mental Health Crises or folks on Drugs (Excited Delirium): ALL Sheriffs Office patrol personnel should receive the Nationally Recognized 40 Hour Memphis Model Crisis Intervention Training (CIT).

Name: Jim Duffy
Email: 94928jim@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 7077030694
Mail Address: CA 94928
Sent: Sunday, January 04, 2015 2:56 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Restorative Justice from Jim Duffy: Expansion Beyond Just Schools

Topic: Restorative Justice
Subject: Expansion Beyond Just Schools
Message: Is it possible to expand the use of Restorative Justice Practices beyond the schools (for example, to include some first time offenders whose crimes were committed outside of a school setting). Restorative Justice Practices seem to have a success rate unmatched by our traditional punishment model. Thank you for considering my request.

Name: Jim Duffy
Email: 94928jim@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 7077030694
Mail Address: CA 94928
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org
Sent: Sunday, January 04, 2015 3:14 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma General Feedback from Jim Duffy: This is misaligned!!!

Topic: General Feedback
Subject: This is misaligned!!!
Message: Ummm...the feedback system is misaligned - Trying to give feedback on "Education on Law Enforcement Practices/Policies" and it comes up as "Improve Critical Incident Response"

Name: Jim Duffy
Topic: General Feedback
Subject: Education on Law Enforcement Practices/Policies
Message: The Task Force should encourage the Sonoma County Sheriffs Office to put their Policies and Procedures Manual online immediately! This document determines how we, as a community, instruct those sworn to protect us in the Sheriffs Department to do their jobs as well as how they are supervised in doing those jobs. Putting that document online can be the beginning of a dialogue between the Public and the Sheriffs Office that would not only allow our Law Enforcement officials to benefit from community input, but it would also provide an opportunity for our Law Enforcement Officials to explain to the public why certain tactics and procedures are necessary. Frankly, I am dumbfounded that this was not part of this recommendation from the start. Thank you for considering this request.

Name: Jim Duffy
Email: 94928jim@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 7077030694
Mail Address: CA 94928
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Jim Duffy <94928jim@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 24, 2015 8:37 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma The advisability of separating the Office of the Coroner from the Office of Sheriff from Jim Duffy: Medical Examiner

Topic: The advisability of separating the Office of the Coroner from the Office of Sheriff
Subject: Medical Examiner
Message: My recollection of the Expert Testimony heard by the LEA-SC on this issue was that it was universally and strongly recommended by the experts that we go with a Medical Examiner (not a merely a Coroner). Although the Task Force has seen fit to explore and recommend many things not explicitly delineated in its charge from the Board of Supervisors, certain members of the LEA-SC seem reluctant to take that liberty here and go beyond just recommending the separation of offices, but to recommend a Medical Examiners Office. I believe that is a mistake and that a Medical Examiners office should be recommended. I encourage all members of the Task Force to review the tapes of the Expert Testimony to the LEA-SC on this topic and to decide for themselves before a final vote is taken on this recommendation.

Name: Jim Duffy
Email: 94928jim@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 7077030694
Mail Address: CA 94928
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Jim Duffy <94928jim@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2015 8:25 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma School Resource Officers from Jim Duffy: School to Prison Pipeline

Topic: School Resource Officers
Subject: School to Prison Pipeline
Message: Is this really a good idea? "...The Birmingham suit is the latest in a series of legal challenges to the practices of police based in schools, all alleging excessive use of force and unnecessary interrogations and arrests. In 2008, 21 percent of K-12 public schools reported a police officer working on campus, compared to just 1 percent of schools in 1978. The National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) 40-hour training teaches officers how to counsel troubled kids, lecture in front of a classroom, and work with disabled students. According to Quinn, the program does not cover appropriate use of force. There is little hard evidence showing that school policing has a positive -- or negative -- impact on children's safety. One study found ... and that the presence of police in school did not decrease students' likelihood of being victimized. There is, however, evidence that the presence of police officers in schools leads to more arrests of students for non-serious crimes. Schools with police officers reported 12 percentage points more non-serious violent incidents (such as student fights) to law enforcement, compared to demographically similar schools without police officers on duty. Birmingham police chief A.C. Roper acknowledged last year that the school system was "over-relying" on police officers to provide discipline. "Too many of these kids have been criminalized, and that's not the goal," he said. "The current system is dysfunctional, and that's putting it mildly." [source: https://www.themarshallproject.org/2015/01/26/in-your-face?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter&utm_source=opening-statement&utm_term=newsletter-0150126-99]

Name: Jim Duffy
Email: 94928jim@gmail.com
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Jim Duffy <94928jim@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2015 2:06 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Jim Duffy: Overall a very good job!

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: Overall a very good job!
Message: The LEA-SC has done a very good job of developing a model to recommend for County Law Enforcement transparency. I am sure you are going to hear some public displeasure that more is not being proposed and maybe even a desire to recommend that the County enact a charter to enable a stronger model. I strongly encourage the Task Force: “Don’t let the Perfect be the Enemy of the Good!” If you make no modifications to this model and pass it along to the Board as is, it will be a huge step forward for the County! That being said, I believe there are three functions in the proposed model that you MUST KEEP and three areas that you should consider improving. PLEASE MAKE SURE TO KEEP IN THE PROPOSAL: 1) The Annual Public Report to the Board of Supervisors, Sheriff and community on the work of the OIA and the status of law enforcement oversight, 2) The citizen participation mechanisms (i.e., the Citizens Advisory Committee and the Youth Council), and 3) The 360 Degree Model for the OIA Citizens Advisory Committee to lend support to both law enforcement and local community members in understanding and providing input to current policies and procedures, training and hiring practices. Three areas for potential improvement are: 1) Add specific language in the Annual Public Report section that allows for inclusion of new issues of interest or concern to the OIA/AB/YC and General Public as they arise. For example, at this time Civil Forfeitures and the 1033 Military Surplus programs are “hot topics” in LE Oversight. It may be something else 5 years from now. The information included in the report should always be information that would be available under CPRA and the information should never violate POBAR, 2) The terminology used in the “Independent and Confidential Audit Review of Internal Department Investigations of Critical Incidents” should be brought into conformity with the terminology used in the “LAW ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEE INVOLVED FATAL INCIDENT PROTOCOL”. The recommendation uses the terms “Member Agency” which could be any Agency which has signed on to the Protocol. All references to an “Agency” should indicate “Employer Agency”, “Lead Agency”, or “Venue Agency”. Also all references to “Investigation” should indicate “Criminal Investigation” or “Administrative Investigation”. You will all recall that the Law Enforcement Employee-Involved Fatal Incident Protocol involves two investigations: The Criminal Investigation conducted by the Lead Agency to identify facts that demonstrate whether or not violations of criminal law occurred in the specific incident, and the Administrative Investigation conducted by the Employer Agency to determine whether or not an employee has violated agency rules, regulations or conditions of employment and for determining the adequacy of Employer Agency policies, procedures, training, equipment, personnel and supervision. As the review of policies, procedures, training and hiring practices is critical to the success of the OIA (including it’s Advisory Board), I believe it is essential to be clear in the recommendations that the Auditor will be reviewing both the Criminal Investigation (to be received at the same time the Grand Jury receives it) and the Administrative Investigation. 3) In order to keep the appearance of bias and/or political patronage to a minimum, the OIA Advisory Board should be selected using a model similar to the one used to select the Civil Grand Jury with a cap of 1 or 2 members per Zip Code to ensure diversity on the Board. Many thanks to the CLLE Task Force and especially the LEA-SC for all their hard work!!!

Name: Jim Duffy
Email: 94928jim@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 7077030694
Mail Address: CA 94928
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Jim Duffy <94928jim@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 1:19 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma General Feedback from Jim Duffy: Presidents Task Force on 21st Century Policing

Topic: General Feedback
Subject: Presidents Task Force on 21st Century Policing
Message: Just want to share a few URLs for those who might be interested. Video of the the Panel on Civilian Oversight for the President’s Task Force can be viewed here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cT765YOwkh0Video of the Full Day session in Cincinnati (the Task Force’s second public session including panels on Oversight, Body Cameras, and Use of Force amongst other topics) can be seen here: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLqg0hlZuPrq3hEZeof-h8w/videosVideo of the Task Force’s first public session can be found here: http://www.c-span.org/search/?sponsorid=S8%5D=103595It is quite a bit to listen to but some great information in there.

Name: Jim Duffy
Email: 94928jim@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 7077030694
Mail Address: CA 94928
Subject: Comments for the 2/23/15 Meeting

Message: Jim Duffy. 15 year resident of the county. I live in Rohnert Park. I am unable to make it to the your meeting tonight (2/23), but do want to get two points of public comment submitted. First, I want to point out that the Board of Supervisors authorized the Sheriffs Office to spend $1.2 million for the purchase of Body Worn Cameras and five years of related secure video storage services in early December. THOSE CAMERAS HAVE ARRIVED, ARE NOT IN USE, AND THE CLOCK IS RUNNING ON OUR STORAGE SERVICES!! As the CLE Task Force is the defacto Citizen Oversight Body until the OIA is established, I would like to see the CLE Task Force push to get the Body Cameras implemented ASAP. Paying for services that we are not using is a waste of taxpayer money. Second, I want to encourage the Task Force to include some Youth-Led organizations in your outreach schedule (Item 6 on your agenda). Personally I am very much against an increase in SRO’s in our schools unless a specific school is having a proven issue with violence on campus. Otherwise I just see SRO’s as a negative tool to increase the school to prison pipeline. Before we recommend more SRO’s and spend the large amounts of funds it costs to have them, I think it is wise to hear from several Youth-led groups on the subject. Thank you for your hard work and for considering my comments!

Name: Jim Duffy
mail: 94928jim@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 7077030694
Mail Address: CA 94928
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 3:32 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma General Feedback from Jim Duffy: FYI - President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing Interim Report

Topic: General Feedback
Subject: FYI - President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing Interim Report

Name: Jim Duffy
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Jim Duffy <94928jim@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2015 5:45 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Comment from Jim Duffy: Final Report to Board of Supervisors

Topic: Comment
Subject: Final Report to Board of Supervisors
Message: Since the Final Report to Board of Supervisors is not online, I apologize if the addenda already includes these items. I believe the addenda should include: 1) The Minutes of all the Full Task Force Meetings, and 2) The March 2015 Interim Report of the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing. Many thanks to all for all your hard work over the last 16 months!

Name: Jim Duffy
Email: 94928jim@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 7077030694
Mail Address: CA 94928
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Susanne <susydugan@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 05, 2015 10:22 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Counseling and Mental Health Services from Susanne: mental health and community forums

Topic: Counseling and Mental Health Services
Subject: mental health and community forums
Message: Greetings :)Thank you for all your dedicated hard work. It was a pleasure to attend the meeting tonight. Below is my request for items to be considered for your draft recommendations. In my home town, we participate in a national competition called "We the People". It is a speech writing competition on topics of Citizen and the Constitution. It was a powerfully enriching and educational experience, for me and my peers. I believe that the introduction of something like this into our communities would be effective and very cost efficient. I would be happy to gather material for you for next monday. Secondly, I strongly believe that there must be mention in the draft of the Public’s request that Deputy Gelhaus be removed from patrol. I am afraid, that by not including this information, it cuts at the base of both your Mental Health and Community Forum recommendations. If the subcommittee believes that mental health is an issue, I request that you do not overlook the Fear expressed by the people present. Also, what good does a community forum do, if the government liaison are not speaking for the people present? Isn’t that the whole point? I truly appreciate all your efforts, thank you for reading and I look forward to next monday. Bets wishes, Susanne Dugan

Name: Susanne
Email: susydugan@gmail.com
Mail Address: CA 94928
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of susanne dungan <susydungan@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 5:41 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from susanne dungan: possible solution to concerns voiced by the public

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: possible solution to concerns voiced by the public
Message: Hello :) Thank you for reading. I wanted to speak last monday on the topic, but we were already past 9:00 and I thought to write instead. Many comments were made on the lack of forceful language in your recommendations, in urging the BOS to make some important changes. I believe that by inserting some key language into your recommendations, it will appease the public, as well as support the results of your research and hard work. I thought that something along these lines would do the trick: "We recommend that the BOS support a charter changing the qualifications for an elected sheriff, to create a chance for more people to run for office and establish a more democratic sheriff election process." And "We recommend that the BOS investigate the changes needed that would force the Sheriff to adopt a Review Board." I know my language isn't too precise. But I think its understandable. Thank you again, good luck with everything! Susanne Dungan

Name: susanne dungan
Email: susydungan@gmail.com
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Carolyn Dutrow <cdutrow@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 8:09 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Restorative Justice from Carolyn Dutrow: Draft recommendations

Topic: Restorative Justice
Subject: Draft recommendations
Message: When I witness these youth firsthand I see them connect with the simple format of learning how to address conflict without anger. Because they are treated with respect, they respect the process and become encouraged to face their problems in a differs way. They also earn self respect and values. The short term results are impressive but I think the long term results will confirm the wisdom of funding Restorative Justice programs.

Name: Carolyn Dutrow
Email: cdutrow@hotmail.com
Home Phone: 7078234570
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of bob edwards <r.edwards@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, December 06, 2014 7:14 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma General Feedback from bob edwards: S.O Accountability and Enforcement of Recommendations

Topic: General Feedback
Subject: S.O Accountability and Enforcement of Recommendations
Message: Without follow-up and accountability, the hiring recommendations will be meaningless PR BS. Recommend the following: Establish an ANNUAL job performance review and rating system for "the Sheriff's Office" (not any specific individual) so that the general public could see what, if any progress and achievements have been accomplished on the specific hiring recommendations made by the Committee on achieving the goals and recommendations of the Committee. Issue grades (A to F) The annual rating should be made public so that it can be a subject of public debate when election time rolls around.

Name: bob edwards
Email: r.edwards@comcast.net
Work Phone: 707-933-0351
Mail Address: 19201 Sonoma Hwy #111
Conoma, CA 95476
Topic: Suggestion
Subject: Investigating, Charging and Prosecuting Cases of Officer-Involved Killings

Message: The county should/must establish an Office of Special Prosecutor — either on a permanent or Ad Hoc basis — to investigate and prosecute ALL cases of Officer Involved Killings, with a separate and separately located investigatory staff and budget. The current and unavoidably incestuous relationship between all county Law Enforcement and the DA’s office makes it impossible for the public - including myself as an attorney — to have any confidence in a decision not to charge/prosecute an officer suspected of an unjustified killing. Everyone knows the DA needs LE to gather and provide evidence that enables the DA to get convictions and look good. Everyone knows those aspiring to get elected or re-elected as DA needs LE officers and their union to get elected. Neither should the DA be placed in such a compromised position of conflict of interest, which is tantamount to asking her/him to investigate & prosecute her/his own staff. The appearance of corruption in the current arrangement — justified or not — is unavoidable and only a fool could, should or would have any confidence in a decision not to charge an officer accused of unjustified killing; the Gelhaus/Lopez case is Exhibit A in this regard. All other recommendations made by the Committee will be of NO USE if the process whereby the next "Lopez" case is handled perpetuates the perception that "the fix is in" and that law enforcement is out of control. Equally concerning is that the current arrangement is UNFAIR TO LAW ENFORCEMENT, for it puts the many good officers who may have to legitimately used deadly force under the suspicion of corruption and criminality. At the very worst, given the prevalence of guns in society and truly 'nasty' people, it effectively makes every LE officer a tempting target of revenge by any number of bad actors. At the very least, the lack of any truly independent prosecutorial system of accountability will undermine ALL the work of the Committee, not to mention public confidence in law enforcement. And while LE may not think so, it needs the public in order to do its job, and to watch its back. Of course, the public needs and wants LE it can have confidence in, which is the objective of all the Committee's work.

Name: bob edwards
Email: r.edwards@comcast.net
Work Phone: 707-933-9351
Mail Address: 19201 Sonoma Hwy #111
          sonoma, CA 95476
> Message: The county should/must establish an Office of Special Prosecutor -- either on a permanent or Ad Hoc basis -
to investigate and prosecute ALL cases of Officer Involved Killings, with a separate and separately located investigatory
staff and budget. The current and unavoidably incestuous relationship between all county Law Enforcement and the
DA's office makes it impossible for the public - including myself as an attorney -- to have any confidence in a decision not
to charge/prosecute an officer suspected of an unjustified killing. Everyone knows the DA needs LE to gather and
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re-elected as DA needs LE officers and their union to get elected. Neither should the DA be placed in such a
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course, the public needs and wants LE it can have confidence in, which is the objective of all the Committee's work.
>
> Name: bob edwards
>
>
Killings

Topic: Suggestion

Subject: Investigating, Charging and Prosecuting Cases of Officer-Involved Killings

Message: The county should/must establish an Office of Special Prosecutor — either on a permanent or Ad Hoc basis — to investigate and prosecute ALL cases of Officer Involved Killings, with a separate and separately located investigatory staff and budget. The current and unavoidably inconstant relationship between all county Law Enforcement and the DA's office makes it impossible for the public - including myself as an attorney — to have any confidence in a decision not to charge/prosecute an officer suspected of an unjustified killing. Everyone knows the DA needs LE to gather and provide evidence that enables the DA to get convictions and look good. Everyone knows those aspiring to get elected or re-elected as DA needs LE officers and their union to get elected. Neither should the DA be placed in such a compromised position of conflict of interest, which is tantamount to asking her/him to investigate & prosecute her/his own staff. The appearance of corruption in the current arrangement — justified or not — is unavoidable and only a fool could, should or would have any confidence in a decision not to charge an officer accused of unjustified killing; the Gelhaus/Lopez case is Exhibit A in this regard. All other recommendations made by the Committee will be of NO USE if the process whereby the next "Lopez" case is handled perpetuates the perception that "the fix is in" and that law enforcement is out of control. Equally concerning is that the current arrangement is UNFAIR TO LAW ENFORCEMENT, for it puts the many good officers who may have to legitimately used deadly force under the suspicion of corruption and criminality. At the very worst, given the prevalence of guns in society and truly 'nasty' people, it effectively makes every LE officer a tempting target of revenge by any number of bad actors. At the very least, the lack of any truly independent prosecutorial system of accountability will undermine ALL the work of the Committee, not to mention public confidence in law enforcement. And while LE may not think so, it needs the public in order to do its job, and to watch its back. Of course, the public needs and wants LE it can have confidence in, which is the objective of all the Committee's work.

Name: bob edwards

> <TF 2014-2015 Calendar.docx>
Subject: Comment
Message: This is a message for Todd Mendoza and Sylvia Lemus: Hello! I spoke with you after the community listening circle held at the SR Vets building recently. I have been a teacher with SRCS for the past 16 years and have been an active member of the task force to transition the district to Restorative Practices. I am also a Restorative Justice Facilitator with Restorative Resources both in the SRCS schools and the community at large and a graduate student with The International Institute For Restorative Practices. I told you that I would get back to re: RP and community policing. I just got off the phone with Monica Evans who has been in charge of RP/community policing in Detroit Michigan and also in New York. She is a fabulous contact. She will be emailing me some information including their model for implementation and her contact info, etc. I will be forwarding that to you via Liz Parra at the county office so I'm just giving you a heads up to be on the look-out for it. One of the most interesting things about Monica is that she was a teacher for 10 years as well as being a law enforcement officer for 12 years and so has an understanding of the connection between the schools and community law enforcement. She has worked extensively in that capacity including the training of school security in the use of RP and making the connections between community and school law enforcement. Please contact me as I am happy to facilitate communication between SR and Monica and to be of service in furthering your understanding of the role of Restorative Practices and Law Enforcement.

Shari

Name: Shari Garn
Email: Sharisongs@hotmail.com
Phone: 707 484-3767
Address: 12139 Fiori Lane
Sebastopol, CA 95472
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Miriyam Gevirtz
<gevirtz_m_segel@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 12, 2015 10:33 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Comment from Miriyam Gevirtz: Attack of pit bull

Topic: Comment
Subject: Attack of pit bull

Message: I am unable to attend the meeting tomorrow night. My beloved dog was attacked by a pit bull at 4th and Mendocino. People helped get the dog in position to hit it with my cane. They came to my screams. The police came and Animal Control came and did nothing including not taking witnesses’ information. They’re making me make out a statement to determine whether the dog is dangerous when they weren’t there and no one was questioned. I’ve read 5-1115A and subsequent codes. I want that owner prosecuted. I don’t know if the dog can be retrained or not. My dog survived but only because of the kindness of strangers, certainly not the agencies that are supposed to help. A witness and participant in rescuing my dog paid for the visit to Pet Care and stayed with me. My dog and I were terribly traumatized.

Name: Miriyam Gevirtz
Email: gevirtz_m_segel@yahoo.com
Home Phone: 707-542-6738
Cell Phone: 707-318-5505
Mail Address: 1102 Michigan Dr.
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
Dear Melissa,

Thank you for the kind note. I would like to testify before the Task Force as to the several times I’ve called the police and they have refused to allow me to press charges including an accosting/assault on me in my driveway, witnessed by the woman’s son; a brutal car accident in which there have to have been thirty or more witnesses including later a man in an adjoining bed in the ER at Kaiser who said, “That policeman was giving you a really hard time!”; and the many attempts I made to get an arrest of the man next door who was clearly (veterinarian agreed) producing meth that is and was killing my cats and one dog. The latter I appeared in front of the police wages meeting and the general meeting, presented evidence and no way. Nothing. Even meeting with the city attorney.

Furthermore, a policeman assaulted my friend Karen Farnsworth on her property at Cleveland and Francis because she complained they weren’t picking up Leah Trew who we had a warrant out for. Karen died five months later, I believe of her injuries. The policeman erased the event from the record. This was in mid-October 2008.

The reason I’m hurrying now is because of a car accident 9/8/2009 supposedly by Rachael Coddling. They have refused settlement, presented fraudulent testimony, lied about the driver who was not Rachael Coddling and more. I have no idea the true identity of the driver and have said so in court. The policeman clearly had to have let the driver go without saying anything about her not being the person on the license. It is not known if the woman paid the policeman off or not, but what is known is that my injuries worsen with every passing day. I am going in ex parte to try to get a continuance in a hearing for a new trial.

No one will represent me. I’m having to do it all myself. If anyone there were willing to fill out proofs of service for me and fax them and/or mail them, I would very much appreciate your giving that person my phone number. I have like $5 per as I’m very poor and have only my Social Security, but I am considered a master teacher of English and ESL when I can find work; have taught customer service to hundreds of assistants in large libraries and offices; and an experienced librarian. I am very hard of hearing but would be happy to help your group in any way I can. I type and use a computer.

Sincerely and warmly,
Miriya

On Monday, April 13, 2015 1:14 PM, TaskForce <taskforce@sonoma-county.org> wrote:

Good Afternoon:

I have referred this matter over to the Department of Health Services for further review. Thank you for contacting the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force. Should you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Warmly,
Melissa

Melissa Musso James
Clerk of the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
PLEASE NOTE MY NEW CONTACT INFORMATION:

Sonoma County Administrator’s Office
575 Administration Drive, Room 104A
Subject: Suggestion
Message: Hello,

I am a teacher in the Bellevue School District. The Andy Lopez shooting occurred right down the road from our school and I had Andy Lopez’s little brother in my class when the shooting occurred. I also have a brother in the police force in Cotati-Rohnert Park. I cannot attend the meeting, however I have one suggestion. The Police need to make a grand effort to come into our classrooms, throughout all age groups, including highschool. Students need positive experiences with police officers. Community outreach at a young age will help these children see police officers as protectors, heroes, positive role models, and amazing members of our community. Teach our students acceptable behavior when confronted by a police officer as well as acceptable behavior around weapons (real or fake)! This population, primarily low socioeconomic and Hispanic, they do not receive these messages at home. We are the only ones who can teach them! Please help by becoming my partner in educating our youth!

Oh and I make sure to have my brother come into my classroom every year so my students see that police officers are the family of many community members, including our teachers.

Name: Sarah Goodin
Email: srgoodin1@pacbell.net
Phone: (707)228-8002
Address: 405 Occidental Cir
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Jerry Green <jerry@greenermediations.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2014 10:15 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force Contact Us: Suggestion from Jerry Green

Page: Taskforce Member Carolyn Lopez
http://sonoma-county.org/communitylocallawtaskforce/content.aspx?sid=1071&id=3184

Subject: Suggestion
Message: I have interest and experience with conducting dialogues among Jewish and Palestinian participants, and specialize in teaching and supervising dialogue that ensures individual truth-speaking, listening, and opportunities for empathy and creative healing of loss and emotional trauma.

I would be pleased to offer my services to relatives of those who have been victims of law enforcement tragedies, and you may enquire of their interest on my behalf and enable them to contact me directly. I am willing to consider conducting such a program as a public service.

Jerry Green
(707) 824-4344
Greener Mediations
www.GreenerMediations.net

Name: Jerry Green
Email: jerry@greenermediations.net
Phone: 824-4344
Address: POB 72
Graton, CA 95444
Melissa James

Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2015 9:08 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Comment from Sharon Helmer: Regarding Task force proposals listed in PD:

Topic: Comment
Subject: Regarding Task force proposals listed in PD:
Message: I highly recommend the proposal for hiring counselors for Jr Highs and High Schools. These folks have years and years of education and training and can can help teens and families make positive life changes which will benefit the family and our community. continuing community forums is an excellent idea.Adding school resource officers is a TERRIBLE idea.KEEP the officers away from our kids until they are properly trained. What does it take to properly train an officer?? That is a good question and should be addressed. Changes need to be made as to who gets hired and what their training is. It takes approximately 6 years of intensive college study to become a counselor. How long and how are these officers who we are giving guns to trained? Do they have masters degrees? PHD's? ...maybe they should.

Name: Sharon Helmer
Email: shrwin@sonic.net
Home Phone: 707 975-2418
Cell Phone: same
Work Phone: same
Mail Address: 5715 Crystal Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Stephanie Hiller
<hiller.stephanie@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2015 8:00 PM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Suggestion from Stephanie Hiller: Thich nhat Hanh talk to cops

Topic: Suggestion
Subject: Thich nhat Hanh talk to cops
Message: I think this interview may be useful to you; includes the reflections of a cop who studied with Thil and now teaches cops! With Krista Tippett:** Thich Nhat Hanh — Mindfulness, Suffering, and Engaged Buddhism
(http://onbeing.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c4ce343e5cb838b16daff008&id=dba411f2fa&e=97e2622470)

Name: Stephanie Hiller
Email: hiller.stephanie@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079398272
Cell Phone: 5055777175
Mail Address: 516 Seventh St W
Sonoma, CA 95476
Hi, Melissa,

Because there is so much anti-police sentiment in our community, and a small but vociferous number who believe law enforcement is over-armed, I wanted to share this article that came to my attention today.

**It's hard to keep caring**
American Police Beat Magazine, October 13, 2014

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Melissa Kaplan
Subject: Suggestion
Message: I attended last Monday’s Task Force meeting. It quickly became apparent that the members of the public who spoke to the Task Force know nothing about California Police Officer Standards & Training, nor the California penal code and other state laws that law enforcement agencies must know and use in the course of doing their job. It was painfully obvious that few if any of them have ever shot a weapon, let alone have any knowledge of force options and how they are employed by law enforcement officers involved in an incident, critical or otherwise.

One such statement highlights the ignorance, that being the assertion that Dep. Mark Essick could shoot and kill fellow Task Force member Judy Rice for no reason whatsoever with no repercussions, but if someone who was not a cop killed someone, they will go to jail.

In 2006, I took the Santa Rosa Police Department’s Citizen Police Academy class. There we learned some of what law enforcement officers (LEOs) must take into consideration in the performance of their duties.

Most enlightening was being able to use the Fire Arms Training simulator, and learn about force options and defensive tactics. The Saturday we spent learning about these two facets of law enforcement changed our views of what LEOs face and have to take into consideration when doing their job. Some of us “killed” several innocents, and some were “killed” by bad guys who did not look like bad guys.

The Santa Rosa Junior College Public Safety Training Center that you will be visiting next month has a Fire Arms Training simulator and staff qualified to teach defensive tactics and force options. I ask the Task Force to arrange a day or half a day at the PSTC where all of the task force members will be able to take advantage of the experiential learning offered by the Fire Arms Training simulator and an instructor-led defensive tactics discussion in addition to the time you are already planning to spend touring the facility and discussing some of the key Learning Domains.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Name: Melissa Kaplan
Email: MelissK@gmail.com
Phone: 707-575-4170
Address: Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Hi, Melissa,

I realized after I hit the 'send' button that I really wanted to thank the Task Force members and support staff for the work they are trying to do for the community.

I have spoken before Boards of Supervisors, City Councils, and various commissions through the years, mostly in Los Angeles where I lived before moving here 21 years ago. I recognize that this Task Force is going to great lengths to enable anyone who wants to speak to do so, even if it is several times during the same meeting. Remarkable. Frustrating (to me, at least, and I'm guessing for many of the Task Force members, too) and remarkable.

I am so glad to know that you are doing the CPA yourself. I hope some of the others are, too, or will at some time in the future. I know that much of your collective 'free' time is already consumed with task force and subcommittee meetings and tasks.

Through having done the Citizen Police Academy, I ended up becoming a role player at the PSTC. We are essentially actors, working the scenarios under the guidance of the evaluators (all active or retired law enforcement, some of whom are instructors at the PSTC or function as Recruit Training Officers for the students there). The scenarios with role players gives the students the opportunity to put together what they have been learning by interacting with someone whose responses are not predictable as they become when they are role playing with their fellow students. Some scenarios are critiqued but ungraded training exercises that take place during some of the Learning Domains. At the end, as part of their final tests, they all must pass the final graded scenarios.

Through working the scenarios and listening to the evaluators critique and debrief the students (called 'recruits' there), I have learned and continue to learn so much about the laws and constraints under which LEOs must operate. I find it endlessly interesting.

I am going to try to make some of the subcommittee meetings as well as the main Task Force meetings.

Thank you, Melissa,

--

Melissa Kaplan
melissk@gmail.com
707-575-4170

-----Original Message-----
From: TaskForce [mailto:taskforce@sonoma-county.org]
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2014 2:45 PM
To: 'Melissa Kaplan'
Subject: RE: Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force Contact Us: Suggestion from Melissa Kaplan

Hi Melissa,
Thank you so much for your email. I will forward it to all of the Task Force Members. I look forward to seeing you at future meetings.

On a personal note, I am currently enrolled in the Citizen’s Police Academy and it is eye-opening to say the least!

Thank you again for your interest in the work of the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force.

Warmly,

Melissa

Melissa Musso James
County Administrator’s Office
Clerk of the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
490 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 101
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
(707) 565-5368
(707) 565-6619
Melissa.James@sonoma-county.org

-----Original Message-----
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org [mailto:no-reply@sonoma-county.org] On Behalf Of Melissa Kaplan
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2014 1:01 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force Contact Us: Suggestion from Melissa Kaplan

Subject: Suggestion
Message: I attended last Monday’s Task Force meeting. It quickly became apparent that the members of the public who spoke to the Task Force know nothing about California Police Officer Standards & Training, nor the California penal code and other state laws that law enforcement agencies must know and use in the course of doing their job. It was painfully obvious that few if any of them have ever shot a weapon, let alone have any knowledge of force options and how they are employed by law enforcement officers involved in an incident, critical or otherwise.

One such statement highlights the ignorance, that being the assertion that Dep. Mark Essick could shoot and kill fellow Task Force member Judy Rice for no reason whatsoever with no repercussions, but if someone who was not a cop killed someone, they will go to jail.

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The Santa Rosa Junior College Public Safety Training Center that you will be visiting next month has a Fire Arms Training simulator and staff qualified to teach defensive tactics and force options. I ask the Task Force to arrange a day or half a
day at the PSTC where all of the task force members will be able to take advantage of the experiential learning offered by the Fire Arms Training simulator and an instructor-led defensive tactics discussion in addition to the time you are already planning to spend touring the facility and discussing some of the key Learning Domains.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Name: Melissa Kaplan
Email: MelissK@gmail.com
Phone: 707-575-4170
Address: Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Ryan Klein <rklein83@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 5:56 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Comment from Ryan Klein: Corruption

Topic: Comment
Subject: Corruption
Message: I was at Santa Rosa uniform and heard an off duty police officer admitting to corruption. While flirting with the girls behind the counter he admitted that he will not stop another police officer from committing a crime or breaking a law in his presence. He then went on to recall an incident where he did try to stop the offending police officer and the offending officer was so surprised and upset that he verbally attacked the citing officer. If the second officer was so surprised that laws effect him also, then this is an endemic problem in Santa Rosa police. They are hired to enforce laws, not break them. If a police officer is breaking the laws then ALL the other officers should be citing or even jailing them, instead according to the officer in SR uniform, police instead look the other way and allow the laws to be broken and allow the corruption to continue. THIS IS NOT RIGHT! The laws being broken in this case were speeding violations. The officer at SR uniform said he runs the plates of speeding cars and will not pull them over if they are off duty police... but if the police do not enforce a law, then regardless of the law, that is corruption and a gateway to worse activities. This is corruption of the SR police plain and simple.

Name: Ryan Klein
Email: Rklein83@aol.com
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Ryan Klein <rklein83@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 5:57 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Comment from Ryan Klein: Corruption

Topic: Comment
Subject: Corruption
Message: I was at santa rosa uniform and heard an off duty police officer admitting to corruption. While flirting with the girls behind the counter he admitted that he will not stop another police officer from committing a crime or breaking a law in his presence. He then went on to recall an incident where he did try to stop the offending police officer and the offending officer was so surprised and upset that he verbally attacked the citing officer. If the second officer was so surprised that laws effect him also, then this is a endemic problem in santa rosa police. They are hired to enforce laws, not break them. If a police officer is breaking the laws then ALL the other officers should be citing or even jailing them, instead according to the officer in SR uniform, police instead look the other way and allow the laws to be broken and allow the corruption to continue. THIS IS NOT RIGHT! The laws being broken in this case were speeding violations. The officer at sr uniform said he runs the plates of speeding cars and will not pull them over if they are off duty police... but if the police do not enforce a law, then regardless of the law, that is corruption and a gateway to worse activities. This is corruption of the SR police plain and simple.

Name: Ryan Klein
Email: Rklein83@aol.com
'ome Phone: 707-228-5067
Cell Phone: 707-228-5067
Mail Address: prefer not to have cops attacking my house...
    as you can see from the NY police, officer are very petty and will take revenge over small slights.
santa rosa, CA 95401
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Margaret Koren <maggik3@sonic.net>

Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 3:14 PM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Restorative Justice from Margaret Koren: Restorative Justice

Topic: Restorative Justice

Subject: Restorative Justice

Message: Clearly "zero tolerance" in schools does not work. Root causes of gang violence have been inadequately addressed. People with addictive personalities and psychiatric challenges have been increasingly incarcerated when appropriate treatment is now available. Violence prevention works. There is proof in places all over the country and the world. Instituting and funding restorative practices and restorative justice saves lives and money. Stop the school to prison pipeline. Everyone has value and people who have been rescued from this archaic punitive system become worthy productive citizens. I have been a witness to this outcome at home and abroad.

Name: Margaret Koren
Email: maggik3@sonic.net
Home Phone: 7078388647
Mail Address: 923 Foothill Drive
               Windsor, CA 95492
Subject: Question
Message: The Santa Rosa Junior College provides most of the basic training for police and security guards in this area. But even the security guards at hospital emergency rooms appear to lack "Crisis Intervention Training" for interaction with the mentally ill.

How can "Crisis Intervention" {2, 3} be added to the curriculum of the SRJC?

It isn't just the police that need this training and I fail to see why the training should be limited to just the police departments Crisis Intervention Team. Hospital security, school security and many other areas of law enforcement need this {2, 3} as well.

In reference:

1
Sonoma County gets $3 million for mental health efforts Press Democrat - 3/23/2014 March 22

The state has approved $3 million for mental health crisis intervention services in Sonoma County. The grant will be used to hire mental health workers who provide crisis triage services at shelters, jails and clinics. The goal is to link people in crisis with appropriate services to keep them out of jails, hospital emergency rooms and inpatient psychiatric beds.
http://armstrong.pa.networkofcare.org/mh/news-article-detail.aspx?id=50806

2 is from the
International Association of Chiefs of Police

2
Building Safer Communities: Improving Police Response to Persons with Mental Illness By the International Association of Chiefs of Police http://www.theiACP.org/Building-Safer-Communities-Improving-Police-Response-to-Persons-with-Mental-Illness

For further information please contact:
John Firman, Director
1-800-THE-IACP, ext. 207
Email: firmanj@theiACP.org

3
Police Approaches That Improve the Response to People with Mental Illnesses:
A Focus on Victims
http://www.policechiefmagazine.org/magazine/index.cfm?fuseaction=display_arch&article_id=145&issue_id=112003

4
Police perspectives on responding to mentally ill people in crisis:
Perceptions of programeffectiveness
Cited by 168
By Randy Borum January 1998
University of South Florida, wborum@usf.edu

Name: Tom Krohmer
Email: toxic.adventures@gmail.com
Phone: 7075262770
Address: 2524 West Steele Lane
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Subject: Suggestion

Message: One of the problems that the law enforcement Crisis Intervention Team has been having are with the mentally ill that refuse to take their prescription medication.

Frankly, I refuse to take that, too. But I am back to taking the Lithium Orotate as recommended by Dr. John Gray. Of whom wrote "Men are from Mars Women are from Venus". His practice is based in Mill Valley, California. Lithium Orotate is a natural salt that can be bought over the counter. It is not the same prescription Lithium that is prescribed, toxic and has bad "side effects", too.

Dr John Gray share@marsvenus.com
"Men are from Mars Women are from Venus"
http://www.marsvenus.com

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stigma busting
Toxic Victims or Mentally Ill?
https://plus.google.com/111485701979929741583/posts/iEqiw7HZMB

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Book titled "Seven Weeks to Emotional Recovery" using nutritional supplements by Joan Mathews Larson Health Recovery Center
http://www.healthrecovery.com/

This above book is complicated and obscured by the fact that over one third of the vitamins and supplements on the market today are bogus" (5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e).

But as a report from 1999 shows (5 pdf page 60 ) this has been known for over a decade and I doubt that it is about to change any time soon.

In reference:

5: “Not All Nutraceuticals Are Created Equal”
Interview with Jack Kleid, MD
More information can be found at Beyond Health http://beyondhealth.com/

5a: Vitamins often do not contain the nutrients they claim eMaxHealth - Dominika Osmolska Jun 17, 2011 Nevertheless, it is advisable for the consumer to be prudent and not rely significantly on packaged vitamins, minerals and supplements for health. In some instances, in fact, the vitamins might better be left on the store shelf. http://www.emaxhealth.com/6705/vitamins-often-do-not-contain-nutrients-they-claim

5b: Many multivitamins don’t have nutrients claimed in label msnbc.com - Linda Carroll - Jun 17, 2011 The good news: some of the best vitamins were also the cheapest. "We found a wide range in the quality of multivitamins," said Dr. Tod Cooperman, president of the company. "Interestingly, the more expensive products didn’t fare any better than those http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/43429680/ns/health-diet_and_nutrition/

5c: Multivitamin Labels Not Always Accurate, Study Finds Huffington Post - Jun 17, 2011 Some of the multivitamins also contained levels of vitamins that exceed daily recommended intake levels. Interestingly, researchers also found that price had little bearing on the quality of the multivitamin. Many of the inexpensive multivitamins, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/06/17/multivitamin-labels-not-a_n_879164.html

5d : Tests Show Multivitamin Labeling Found Inaccurate in 1/3 of Cases HULIQ - Michael Santo - Jun 17, 2011 Many people believe that the FDA tests vitamins and supplements as well as drugs. The agency does not. This sort of issue has shown up before, when supplements caused dangerous side effects. A good example was the ephedra recall that took place a few ago http://www.huliq.com/3257/test-show-multivitamin-labeling-found-inaccurate-13-cases

5e : 1 in 3 multivitamins don’t have nutrients claimed in label!
Once Daily Men’s Ultra Potency Trader Joe's Vitamin Crusade contained only 2941 IU of vitamin A per day, 58.8 percent of the 5000 IU listed. Juice Plus+ Garden Blend contained only 76.4 http://www.nbcnews.com/id/43429680/ns/health-diet_and_nutrition/t/many-multivitamins-dont-have-nutrients-claimed-label/

Name: Tom Krohmer
Email: toxic.adventures@gmail.com
Phone: 707-5262770
Address: 2524 West Steele Lane
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Pat Kuta <pkuta@sonic.net>
Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2015 10:37 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Suggestion from Pat Kuta: Citizen oversight board

Topic: Suggestion
Subject: Citizen oversight board
Message: We need to establish accountability of law enforcement to the community with a citizen review board.

Name: Pat Kuta
Email: pkuta@sonic.net
Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
Community Policing Subcommittee
Draft Recommendation Feedback Form

NAME (optional): Dubii Lechuga
Email (optional): shabba2323@gmail.com
Recommendation #: 1 Letter: 707-484-8708

Feedback:

SO needs more training and everyday interaction with other marginalized communities for example blind, deaf and other wise disabled.

I have unsatisfactory personal experience with critical incidents at transit mall and on bus lines.

for Dubii
There needs accessible for kids and adults with hidden barriers and various levels of abilities. More attention multi-cultural competes linguistic and otherwise.
Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
Community Policing Subcommittee
Draft Recommendation Feedback Form

NAME (optional): Dubi Lechuga
Email (optional): 

Recommendation #: #3 Letter: 

Feedback:

For community policing to be most effective it requires that major communities be given access and resources to resolve conflict and alleviate stress at the lowest level possible.
NAME (optional): Dubuj Lechenga
Email (optional): Shabba 2323@gmail.com
Recommendation #: 41 Letter: 484-8708
Feedback: Moorland Neighborhood Pilot Project.

Law enforcement should get to know neighborhood youth. Police (50) should have rapport with community. Pay attention to cultural and linguistic diversity.
Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
Community Policing Subcommittee
Draft Recommendation Feedback Form

NAME (optional): DUBIS #6
Email (optional): shabbaz223@gmail.com
Recommendation #: #6 Letter: ___

Feedback:
Attention should to resolve social issues before they escalate into a police enforcement issue.
There should also be attention to larger issues of ability and barriers to communication, i.e. blind, deaf, anxious, depressed, or differently challenged.
Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
Community Policing Subcommittee
Draft Recommendation Feedback Form

NAME (optional): Dubi Lechuga
Email (optional): Shabba2323@gmail.com

Recommendation #: #6 Letter: 484-8708

Feedback: Alternative use of force

Involves people from various
"target populations" to assist and
participate in training police
officers in cultural competence.
Special training to deescalate
conflict and potentially volatile
situations.
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Rick Massell <rickm@sonic.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 10:44 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Question from Rick Massell: Public Comments

Topic: Question
Subject: Public Comments
Message: Are the public comments available for the public to read? Some members of the task force assume that since they can read them, any member of the public can? If they are available, please let me know. Thank you. Rick Massell rickm@sonic.net

Name: Rick Massell
Email: rickm@sonic.net
Home Phone: 7078389411
Cell Phone: 7076969364
Work Phone: na
Mail Address: 1264 Shiloh Rd
Windsor, CA 95492
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Rick Massell <rickm@sonic.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 1:41 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Counseling and Mental Health Services from Rick Massell: Criticisms & Suggestions

Topic: Counseling and Mental Health Services
Subject: Criticisms & Suggestions
Message: 1. Sonoma County has 40 school districts and 182 public schools. http://www.scoe.org/pub/htdocs/aboutschools.html Can we afford 182 full-time counselors @$60-80,000 each? 2. Little attention is paid in the recommendation to work in the community or with families. How will this take place? 3. The typical counselor in a school is what could be called an academic counselor. They help to plan the education program for students in their school years and as they move on to college and career. They also work with special needs students to provide for their education plans in much more detail, as required by federal law. Are we asking for a completely different type of counselor (such as a “behavioral health counselor”) to serve mental health needs? How many of them are already in place in schools? 4. What would be the role of the school psychologist in the recommended system? 5. How does the full-time counselor proposed here fit in with current models of contracted services for drug abuse counselors and other private services? 6. Some thought must be given to how community members react to interventions by school officials, teachers and counselors. They may not wish to have their children’s psychological needs assessed by outsiders. 7. Training for teachers and staff is not covered in this recommendation. Such training requires professional approaches and would need a budget. Also, if we train teachers to assess symptoms of mental illness at earlier stages in a child’s development, are we risking stigmatization in the minds of the teachers, parents, fellow students and the children themselves?

Name: Rick Massell
Email: rickm@sonic.net
Topic: Continue County-wide Community Engagement Forums
Subject: Criticism & Suggestions
Message: 1. The committee did not hold forums in the northern or southern parts of the county. 2. There is no explanation of how feedback from the forums would be processed by the county. 3. There is no analysis of how county forums would interact with cities and law enforcement agencies. 4. The Resources Needed section, which speaks of the funding and personnel needed, is still "pending." FURTHER DEVELOPMENT NEEDED: 1. Connect the forums mentioned here with the forums mentioned in other recommendations, such as the forums recommended after critical incidents. 2. Compare this effort with that of Santa Rosa and other cities to engage their communities, to determine the pros and cons.

Name: Rick Massell
Email: rickm@sonic.net
Subject: County of Sonoma Pilot Mural Program in Roseland from Rick Massell: Criticism & Suggestions

Topic: Pilot Mural Program in Roseland
Subject: Criticism & Suggestions
Message: 1. It is always a tough sell to commit public funds to artistic expression when there are many material needs that are unmet. 2. The specific culture identified for Roseland is Latino but there are many other cultural heritages represented by the people living there. Will they be encouraged or even allowed to participate? 3. Similarly, how will the target population be identified in other “underserved” areas of the county?

Name: Rick Massell
Email: rickm@sonic.net
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Rick Massell <rickm@sonic.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 1:45 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Sonoma County Social Action Music Center from Rick Massell: Criticism & Suggestions

Topic: Sonoma County Social Action Music Center
Subject: Criticism & Suggestions
Message: 1. Criticisms have been leveled against El Sistema which should be considered and evaluated when instituting any similar program. FURTHER DEVELOPMENT NEEDED:1. Who will decide where programs will be located and how?2. What do after-school programs currently in existence feel about this proposal (boys and girls clubs, school districts, etc.)

Name: Rick Massell
Email: rickm@sonic.net
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Rick Massell <rickm@sonic.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 1:48 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Student Congress from Rick Massell: Criticisms & Suggestions

Topic: Student Congress
Subject: Criticisms & Suggestions
Message: 1. Not specified is how students would be selected. 2. Not specified is how clubs will be established in each of the schools. 3. It is not clear if the current student governments at each of the schools would have a connection to the student congress. FURTHER DEVELOPMENT NEEDED: 1. How does the student congress impact the relationship of law enforcement and community directly or indirectly? 2. What evidence exists of the impact of the previous student congress? 3. Are there similar organizations found in other counties? 4. How do student governments feel about this proposal?

Name: Rick Massell
Email: rickm@sonic.net
Name: Rick Massell
Email: rickm@sonic.net

Topic: School Resource Officers
Subject: Criticisms & Suggestions
Message: 1. The recommendation does not detail where SROs are needed in Sonoma County. 2. It does not specify which areas of the county would be assigned to be covered by the sheriff's department, the county or the local cities. 3. The cost of one school resource officer with associated salary, benefits and expenses comes close to equaling the cost of 4 teachers. 4. Some community members have indicated that bringing law enforcement into the schools increases the anxiety of students, that some SROs have proved inadequate or negative in their impact and it only serves to smooth the path of the "school to prison pipeline." FURTHER DEVELOPMENT NEEDED: This recommendation does not detail the areas and numbers where school resource officers would be needed. Currently, the sheriff's department contracts out its services to two cities, Windsor and Sonoma. These cities have decided to provide school resource officers to the local schools as provided by the sheriff's department and as part of the contract. How many SROs are provided by other cities through the police departments? How do they interface with the unincorporated areas served by the sheriff's department lying in school district boundaries but outside of cities? Should the school districts be expected to provide some of the costs of the SROs?
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Rick Massell <rickm@sonic.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 1:50 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Community Services Officers from Rick Massell: Criticisms & Suggestions

Topic: Community Services Officers
Subject: Criticisms & Suggestions
Message: 1. Is this position necessary if the Sheriff’s Office assigns two deputies to Roseland through the community policing recommendation? 2. The duties of the Community Service Officer need to be spelled out in more detail. Otherwise, it may seem like a position to be filled by a clerk who files paperwork and answers the phone. 3. Would county resources be more responsibly allocated to providing other services, such as additional sworn officers or health workers?

Name: Rick Massell
Email: rickm@sonic.net
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Rick Massell <rickm@sonic.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 1:52 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Restorative Justice from Rick Massell: Criticisms & Suggestions

Topic: Restorative Justice
Subject: Criticisms & Suggestions
Message: PROS:1. Reduces recidivism2. Cuts down on school to prison pipeline3. Provides healing to victims and to the community4. Allows offenders to rehabilitate through accountability5. Extends to other areas of school discipline, especially in the classroom, so that conflicts between students and teachers, other students, administrators and staff can be resolved productively
CONS:1. Lack of information provided to teachers and others in the school communities leads to fears that “bad” students are simply sent back to the classroom instead of isolated and dealt with in a safe (for others) environment or suspended or expelled from school.2. Not specified in detail how the financing of restorative practices relates to increased ADA $ received by the schools because suspensions and expulsions are reduced.3. Once these savings have been achieved, what keeps the programs in place?4. Resistance from teachers and staff, expressed through their unions, because they feel funding should be restored to counselors, reducing class size, librarians, nurses, etc. before new programs such as restorative justice are funded.5. Generally, the funding stream and assumed savings should be made clearer.
AREAS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT:1. More detail is needed about the funding of restorative discipline and savings that result especially with respect to “build-out” into other school systems.2. Are there plans to expand restorative justice in the criminal justice system as well as in schools?3. Does the state’s emphasis on reducing school expulsions and suspensions by criticizing disciplinary categories such as “willful defiance” achieve the same purposes without the use of restorative justice programs?4. What are the details about restorative discipline other than accountability circles for offenders of school rules?5. Have up-to-date statistics been assembled with respect to the satisfaction of all parties involved in the Santa Rosa school restorative justice programs?

Name: Rick Massell
Email: rickm@sonic.net
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Rick Massell <rickm@sonic.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 1:54 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Cultural Awareness from Rick Massell: Criticism & Suggestions

Topic: Cultural Awareness
Subject: Criticism & Suggestions
Message: 1. The draft recommendation is garbled and confusing. 2. The development of cultural awareness is never described. How will it be developed? 3. Who has to develop cultural awareness? Law enforcement? Community members? Subgroups? How will this take place? 4. Has the concept of cultural awareness replaced diversity training? What's the difference? 5. Is the investment in a program like CYO supposed to be limited to Roseland? Which other areas should be included? 6. The costs are only specified for one of the recommendations. FURTHER DEVELOPMENT NEEDED: Please rewrite this recommendation!

Name: Rick Massell
Email: rickm@sonic.net
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Rick Massell <rickm@sonic.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 1:55 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Education on Law Enforcement Practices, Policies from Rick Massell: Criticism & Suggestions

Topic: Education on Law Enforcement Practices, Policies
Subject: Criticism & Suggestions
Message: 1. The need for public education in the practices of law enforcement is clear. 2. Putting the information in brochures and pamphlets will help. 3. Publicizing how individuals should respond safely to law enforcement along with explanation of their rights would also be a positive step. CONS: 1. The website referred to does not have the information that is supposed to be on there. 2. The details of the costs of producing the information are not clear. 3. Other possible educational initiatives are not detailed. 4. Why aren’t schools included in this recommendation?

Name: Rick Massell
Email: rickm@sonic.net
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Brian Masterson <bmasterson@rpcity.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 2:59 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Restorative Justice from Brian Masterson: Restorative Resources

Topic: Restorative Justice
Subject: Restorative Resources
Message: Any program that helps our young people stay in school and provides them with the framework to grow into law abiding citizens is worth the investment. Too many times, young people head down the wrong path and they need a safety net to catch them before they are too far gone. Restorative Resources has a successful track record in the Santa Rosa School District in giving young people a second chance at what can be a life changing event. Education and support are building blocks to keep our youth out of the criminal justice system and becoming law abiding citizens.

Name: Brian Masterson
Email: bmasterson@rpcity.org
Mailing Address: 500 City Center Drive
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
Subject: Improve Hiring Practices
Subject: Psychological testing and transfer of the perp
Message: Since profiling is such an integral part of police work, how about we use psychological profiling to weed out those who want to become policemen for all the wrong reasons. Also, it would help a lot of people to heal if we got the officer who did the killing off the street.

Name: Rufus Moris
Email: rufusmoris@live.com
Mail Address: CA 95457
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 09, 2015 3:03 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Question from Patricia Mount: Duration of Task Force

Topic: Question
Subject: Duration of Task Force
Message: While it is mentioned that the Task Force will disperse in March of 2015, it is not mentioned if that date is the First of March or the End of March 2015? Those of us reviewing the recommendations would like to know just how much time we have to do so. Thank you.

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO box 883
   Apt/Suite
   Glen Ellen, CA 95442
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2015 6:25 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Suggestion from Patricia Mount: Accountability Subcommittee

Topic: Suggestion
Subject: Accountability Subcommittee
Message: There are 2 issues I wish to address to your subcommittee. The first is voting is a form of accountability. Could you please recommend that there are no less than 2, preferably 3 people to run for the office of Sheriff. There is no accountability in only one person up for vote as has been the practice for nearly 20 years. The second is I can see no reason for the Law Enforcement Chiefs Association to meet in private. I would like to see these policy and procedures meetings opened to the public. This is after all a Democracy.

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO box 883
Apt/Suite
Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Sonoma County’s Best Kept Secret

Can’t make it out to go to a public meeting on a work night? Do you have something you would like to say about police policy or the Andy Lopez death, but you can’t stand crowds, or do not know where to turn? Well, now is the time and we know the place for you to speak out.

The county has provided us with a wonderful and easy to navigate website which has had little press coverage. The purpose is to both keep us informed and allow for our input, views, and comments on any of the Sonoma County Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force recommendations made by each of the three subcommittees. Sadly the address for this website, regardless of all the articles in the papers, has been rarely published. It is: http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Community-and-Local-Law-Enforcement-Task-Force

The subcommittees have spent months drafting these recommendations and now is the time for us to put the “Community” into the Task Force title by voicing our concerns. You need not respond to all the recommendations but there must be a few about which you feel strongly enough to respond.

Two of the subcommittees have finished their drafts and await your comments. The third will finish theirs on Feb. 2, 2015.

Sonoma Valley Peace and Justice would like to take a moment and add a few comments that we doubt will ever be discussed by the Task Force. First we express our agreement with one that is up for recommendation. We believe that the Coroner’s Office and the Sheriffs’ Office should be separated for reasons of accountability.

Here are three more recommendations we would like to propose to the Task Force.

We have studied several models now used. We prefer the model of Eugene, Oregon. It is a rare two step model that could be reviewed once the public trust has been restored. Perhaps in twenty years? After all there have been close to sixty (60) police related deaths since 2/98 in this county alone. The average for the whole US is six hundred (600) a year, which we find shocking. The two step model in Eugene has an Office of Police Auditor to watch over the police. Then they have a Citizen’s Review Board, to oversee the Office of Police Auditor. Tough but maybe necessary. After all Sonoma County has paid out around 2.5 million dollars in officer involved Civil Suits these past few years.

Our other two issues lay within the Sheriffs’ Department itself. We believe that the act of voting is in itself a form of accountability. Yet how can there be any accountability when for virtually the last 20 years the candidate for Sheriff has run unopposed. Yes, unopposed for 20 years! We want choice, we want accountability, and we want true democracy in this process. Otherwise who is there to “elect”?

For our third suggestion we wonder if there is any reason that the meeting of the Sonoma County Law Enforcement Chief’s Association should not be open to the public? After all this is where police policy and procedure is decided. One of our members, a veteran, was told by the Sheriff that the policy in Sonoma County is “shoot to kill”. We believe there is fodder for a great debate on this issue. Let us have that debate, like any community should be able to do, at anytime about any police or other policy or procedure. Open debate will go a long way towards restoring community trust.

Sixteen years ago (1999) the United States Civil Rights Commission Advisory Committee met here in Sonoma County. They recommended that the County establish a Civilian Review Board. The police strongly objected so the recommendation fell on deaf ears. There is still a strong objection to this recommendation today. Therefore we hope that this time there will be change and action on the part of the county. We hope that all the time that the Task Force has invested in this project will not be in vain.

We would like to thank the Task Force for all their hard work and dedication. We thank all the journalists that have chosen to spend their time informing us, the community, about these events. Most of all we thank the County of Sonoma for the hard work that went into this all too often not mentioned web site. Again the web site address is: http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Community-and-Local-Law-Enforcement-Task-Force

Sonoma Valley Peace and Justice

Patricia Mount - member
PO Box 683
Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Subject: CSO duties

Message: I find this very confusing. How can a CSO be both non sworn nor "at deputy" yet be expected to cite offenders or enforce animal and parking violations??? I think that if a CSO serves as a mediator between community and police that is enough to expect from them. No "double duty" with enforcement expected. It would also enrich public trust from the start.

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box883
         Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 2:16 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Counseling and Mental Health Services from Patricia Mount: funding and reality

Topic: Counseling and Mental Health Services
Subject: funding and reality
Message: Most of the current monies for mental health counseling for youth are starting to dry up and so are the State supported programs. Several programs that were started after the civil lawsuit of the J. Chase family and SO. Co. are also drying up. These programs are very much needed for the youth. So are programs concerning mental health for the police and police staff. We know police have substance abuse issues, domestic violence issues, etc. like all of society. Yet I see no programs addressing their needs nor their families needs in this proposal. How do you propose to remedy the issue of long term funding needed here in Sonoma Co.?

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box883
            Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Subject: General Feedback
Subject: funding suggestions
Message: I have long believed the wine industry has gotten off lightly concerning the issue of alcohol rehab etc. How about a per bottle sales tax to help these funds? Perhaps 1% to mental health and 1% to rehab programs here in the county... also include the micro-brewers.

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box883
Glen Ellen, CA 95442
no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sunday, February 22, 2015 3:04 PM
TaskForce
County of Sonoma General Feedback from Patricia Mount: plus

Topic: General Feedback
Subject: plus
Message: Please add the most silent of all the M.H. issues, PTSD be it on the job or military related, to the list for police who need assistance.

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
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Work Phone: 7079391362
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   Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 28, 2015 2:54 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Continue County-wide Community Engagement Forums from Patricia Mount: forums

Topic: Continue County-wide Community Engagement Forums
Subject: forums
Message: I have discussed this with several people. They seem to prefer a more Town Hall concept. This could however be followed by such a small groups discussion. We do not see the point in paying so many law enforcement officers to attend these "break down" meetings before we have a Town Hall Style discussion. They are needed in the field.

Name: Patricia Mount
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Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO box 883
Apt/Suite
Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 28, 2015 3:56 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Pilot Mural Program in Roseland from Patricia Mount: Art

Topic: Pilot Mural Program in Roseland
Subject: Art
Message: I love the idea of humanities and sports for children. We were all disappointed in "The Springs" when the Children's tile art project was never completed and the tiles never mounted onto the arch by McDonald's. If art is started, it should be for and by the children, not the adults, and carried through to exhibition.

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box883
Glen Ellen, CA 95442
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 28, 2015 4:11 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma School Resource Officers from Patricia Mount: SRO'S

Topic: School Resource Officers
Subject: SRO'S
Message: We never had SRO's when I was in school and I am actively engaged in the community. It was a SRO type narcotics officer that sexually assaulted a student at Sonoma High in the 1980's. How can you guarantee that the children will be "safe" from the SRO? Where is the Children's Bill of Rights concerning this, first?

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box883
Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Topic: Restorative Justice
Subject: RJ
Message: Restorative Justice is a great thing when properly done. It should be a County wide program. Perhaps one could apply for grants to local business and clubs to help cover costs?

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box883
Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 28, 2015 4:27 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Roseland Development from Patricia Mount: Roseland

Topic: Roseland Development
Subject: Roseland
Message: I can see it now. Having lived and worked in Roseland in the 1980's. About the time the Board of Supes decides to do all this, the City of Santa Rosa will come along and annex Roseland. Nothing will be gained and all will be forgotten. Same in "The Springs". We have waited 20 years to finish the sidewalks, etc. Although "redlining" was banned in the 1960's, it seems to still work in some areas.

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Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
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Mail Address: PO Box883
              Glen Ellen, CA 95442
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 28, 2015 4:37 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Education on Law Enforcement Practices, Policies from Patricia Mount: same

Topic: Education on Law Enforcement Practices, Policies
Subject: same
Message: All this is held only in Santa Rosa, none in the County where the Sheriff has jurisdiction or we can actually get to meetings. One way to start is to introduce all of us to the current California Policeman's Bill of Rights. How about opening the Law Enforcement Chiefs meetings to the public? This is where police policy is made after all. This subject should continue to be discussed for a long time by the community and law enforcement. Let's also start with a choice for Sheriff, and no more unopposed "elections". We are past the Citizen's Academy mentality, as the only solution.

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box883
Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 5:44 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Enhance Law Enforcement Programs and Activities from Patricia Mount: Grievances

Topic: Enhance Law Enforcement Programs and Activities
Subject: Grievances
Message: It is vital to address grievances as well in this area of concern. A person may understand an officer's "point of view" and still disagree with the chosen method of resolution. These suggestions appear to put all the work on the civilian (Citizen's Academy) and none to the department. Dialog is a two way street.

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box 883
            Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 6:08 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Improve Community Outreach & Engagement from Patricia Mount: Outreach

Topic: Improve Community Outreach & Engagement
Subject: Outreach
Message: Proposal 'B' is excellent! But why not also consider a day when police simply throw a party for the community? Discussions, meet and greets, games for the kids, food and beverages, etc.. Community is always showing appreciation for the police, let's have police show appreciation for community. Like an old fashioned pancake breakfast type set up, or a BBQ.

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box883
Glen Ellen, CA 95442
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 7:05 PM
To:
Subject: County of Sonoma Improve Community Outreach &amp; Engagement from Patricia Mount: Outreach

Topic: Improve Community Outreach &amp; Engagement
Subject: Outreach
Message: Proposal 'B' is excellent! But why not also consider a day when police simply throw a party for the community? Discussions, meet and greets, games for the kids, food and beverages, etc.. Community is always showing appreciation for the police, let's have police show appreciation for community. Like an old fashioned pancake breakfast type set up, or a BBQ. Also what great PR it would be to have police and fire do a Feed the Homeless Night once a month. We could leave barrels to collect food donations plus donations from restaurants and stores, non-profits and citizens.

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box883
Glen Ellen, CA 95442
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 5:28 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Improve Critical Incident Response from Patricia Mount: Audio/video

Topic: Improve Critical Incident Response
Subject: Audio/video
Message: The major complaint I hear from civilians is, "They (police) said the camera was not turned on" or "not working". What will you do to insure that this problem will not occur? I think that it is prudent that individual police not be able to access the power supply nor the on/off switch. The equipment should be "signed off" as being in working order by a technician before the police leave the station to go on duty. This should be done with all cameras or video equipment, be they dashboard mounted or on the body/uniform of the officer. This is assumed that these tools are approved for use and not used to violate civil rights of the citizens.

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Mail Address: PO Box883
            Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 2:31 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Enhance Law Enforcement Programs and Activities from Patricia Mount Item "j"

Topic: Enhance Law Enforcement Programs and Activities
Subject: Item "j"
Message: The Police Academy has been around for years. If it had worked at all in helping community and police relations then why do we have over 60 police related death incidents during the past ten to fifteen years? This is a tried and failed idea. Plus the only academy is in Santa Rosa.

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Home Phone: 7079391362
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Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box883
   Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 5:22 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Patricia Mount: Elections

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: Elections
Message: A Review body is only one form of accountability. Another is the Election of the Office of the Sheriff. For the past 20 (twenty) years whomever is running for the Office of Sheriff has run unopposed. It is as if the Sheriff's Union has chosen a new Sheriff for us rather than holding an actual election. This issue should have been included in the discussion!!! It is totally unfair that We the People have been unable to Elect a Sheriff at all this past 20 years. What is the point of any accountability, if there is NONE at the POLLS?? Please add this to the list of issues to be discussed further. We want to be able to VOTE on this office.

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   Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 5:26 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Considering what role if any the Grand Jury might play from Patricia Mount: Grand Jury

Topic: Considering what role if any the Grand Jury might play
Subject: Grand Jury
Message: It is a waste of time to even consider that the Grand Jury have any oversight to the Sheriff's Office. For this an actual Oversight committee is needed, be it like San Jose or like Eugene, Oregon's.

Name: Patricia Mount
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Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box883
            Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Patricia Mount <mountpatty@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 5:34 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma The advisability of separating the Office of the Coroner from the Office of Sheriff from Patricia Mount: Coroner/Sheriff separation of offices.

Topic: The advisability of separating the Office of the Coroner from the Office of Sheriff
Subject: Coroner/Sheriff separation of offices.
Message: This is a must. Yet it is unclear as to whom the Coroner would be having as it's "boss". The Sheriff, the D.A., or another office of the County? Please separate the Sheriff, the D.A. and the Coroner from each other.

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box883
            Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Topic: General Feedback
Subject: Accountability
Message: I find most of the suggestions to be very weak, except the separation of the Sheriff and the Coroner. We have got to do better than this, if we are to move forward with the trust of the public.

Name: Patricia Mount
Email: mountpatty@gmail.com
Home Phone: 7079391362
Cell Phone: 7079391362
Work Phone: 7079391362
Mail Address: PO Box883
       Glen Ellen, CA 95442
Subject: Question
Message: When will the letter of concern/recommendation by the Community Engagement and Healing Subcommittee, to remove Deputy Gelhaus from Sonoma County street patrol, be posted on the Task Force site and given to the BOS and the Sheriff?

Name: Attila Nagy
Email: zenekar@comcast.net
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Kandis Nelson <ourlosthistory@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, December 09, 2014 7:28 PM  
To: TaskForce  
Subject: County of Sonoma Improve Critical Incident Response from Kandis Nelson: General thoughts on this subject

Topic: Improve Critical Incident Response  
Subject: General thoughts on this subject
Message: Parts A-C I completely agree with, some more than others. Section G makes me want to ask why do this and how would it be approached. It could really be even more offensive to have to listen to someone from LE apologize for something and at the same time we know they are not admitting fault due to legal obligation. H seems very fair. K is very good. I would also ask after reading this draft 1. How would incidents be deemed as "critical" as it seems funds would be limited. 2. What department would have the liaison be working for, who would be their direct supervisor?

Name: Kandis Nelson  
Email: Ourlosthistory@yahoo.com  
Mail Address: CA 95401
Topic: Improve Hiring, Training and Cultural Diversity
Subject: General thoughts on this subject
Message: Section A no thoughts. B is great. Expand on "input into the curriculum". Who oversees toys process and ensures its careful cultivation? D good! E term "recommend", why should THIS subject only be a recommendation? Training on this subject should be an annual/bi-annual training course for all LE. It has been proven that all Americans suffer from some sort of unconscious bias. People who ate in "higher" position of authority should be required to address this issue on an ongoing basis. F more definition is needed on this point. G excellent. Timeline, seems rather quick. Would like to make sure extra care is being taken to get the positive effect from the efforts and guidelines being created.

Name: Kandis Nelson
Email: Ourlosthistory@yahoo.com
Mail Address: CA 95401
From: Melissa James
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 3:18 PM
To: Melissa James
Cc: Oscar Chavez; Liz Parra; Brian Vaughn; Caluha Barnes
Subject: FW: Follow up to the Los Cien Luncheon presentation last Friday - Comments from Rick Nowlin, Executive Director of Wells Fargo Center for the Arts

Good Afternoon,

Attached and below, please see the comments from Rick Nowlin, Executive Director of Wells Fargo Center for the Arts, regarding the presentation at Los Cien and in particular the Music For Schools program’s availability as a resource for the Task Force Community Healing draft recommendations.

Warmly,

Melissa

Melissa Musso James
Sonoma County Administrator’s Office
Clerk of the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
490 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 101
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
(707) 565-5368
(707) 565-6619 (fax)
Melissa.James@sonoma-county.org

From: Rick Nowlin [mailto:RNowlin@wellsfargocenterarts.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 1:50 PM
To: Melissa James
Cc: J.C. Rice@sbcglobal.net; francisco.vazquez@sonoma.edu; Anita Wiglesworth; Tracy Sawyer; Robin Seltzer; Kyle Clausen; Rick Nowlin
Subject: Follow up to the Los Cien Luncheon presentation last Friday

Dear Ms. James,

I wanted to write and say thank you to the members of the Community & Local Law Enforcement Task Force for their presentation last Friday at the Los Cien luncheon, and to say thank you too for their incredible work
putting together recommendations for the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors. Clearly, each recommendation is so vital; and, as you might appreciate, we are particularly interested in the Community Engagement & Healing recommendations. They intersect with our mission to enrich, educate and entertain our community and echo our program goals here at Wells Fargo Center for the Arts.

In particular, we would like to make you and the task force members aware—if you are not already—of the Center’s Music For Schools program, which encompasses a lending library of over 450 instruments. Truly a countywide program, Music For Schools puts instruments into the hands of students wishing to participate in their schools’ music programs who wouldn’t otherwise have an opportunity to do so because of financial limitations. Students are able to use instruments free of charge for the entire school year. This year alone, we have instruments in four counties, 12 cities, and 34 schools impacting over 365 students.

I’m writing to let you and the committee know that we are available to be a resource for the task force and eager to get involved in the conversations as we all work together to improve the quality of life in Sonoma County.

I’m copying several colleagues here at the Center who are integral to our education and outreach work, including Anita Wiglesworth, our Director of Programming; Tracy Sawyer, our Education and Outreach Programs Manager; Robin Seltzer, our Director of Development; and Kyle Clausen, our Director of Marketing. I’ve also copied Judy Rice and Francisco Vazquez, with whom we spoke briefly following the luncheon at the Flamingo.

Thank you again to you and the task force for all of your important work on behalf of our community; we look forward to joining the dialog.

Sincerely,

Rick Nowlin
Executive Director
Wells Fargo Center for the Arts

P.S. I’ve also attached a flyer that contains three success stories from our Music For Schools program that we shared with our supporters last summer. Also, if you’d like to read more about all of our education and outreach programs, information can be found on our web-site at the following link: http://wellsfargocenterarts.org/education/ Also, we have a short video that talks about a variety of the Education Through the Arts programs that the Center provides to our community, which can be viewed here: http://wellsfargocenterarts.org/about-the-center/ (click on the “Learn More About the Center” box on the right of the screen to play)

51 Mark West Springs Road
Santa Rosa, CA. 95403
Main: 707.527.7006, ext. 7524
direct: 707.800.7524
tax: 707.545.0518
e-mail: rnowlin@wellsfargocenterarts.org
web: wellsfargocenterarts.org

Enrich. Educate. Entertain.
The arts uplift and transform us!
Become a Member to support and share this experience
Music For Schools Program

Lending instruments free of charge!

“Thanks to you, music is my life”

Elsie Allen High School Senior Eduardo Baraza will be the first in his family to go to college. Even though he was born into poverty, his mentor and music teacher predicts he will be “a great success in life.”

A trumpet – one you may have helped lend him – paved the way for Eduardo’s unlikely success.

How? Eduardo got his trumpet in 7th grade from Music For Schools, one of the many educational programs funded by our member/donors. The only public instrument lending library in the North Bay, Music For Schools refurbishes and lends out over 400 donated instruments to aspiring student musicians like him.

Music For Schools let Eduardo realize his dream of playing the trumpet. Without the program, he and many students like him from low-income families would not be able to participate in their school music program.

“I don’t know what we’d do without Music For Schools,” says Kyle Thompson, Elsie Allen music director. He estimates 85% of his kids are using Music For Schools instruments.

Music For Schools has the power to transform lives.

The program is not just about music. It’s about what music helps young people become. Music strengthens the brain, builds character, creates opportunity and opens doors.

Eduardo’s trumpet gave him a passionate love of music, but it also gave him the chance to grow into the leader he is today.

Music has not only given him leadership skills, Eduardo says, it’s helped him become a confident public speaker – a skill he’ll bring with him to Sonoma State University this fall where he will major in Business and minor in Jazz Studies.

All this from the loan of a trumpet our donors made possible.

Music For Schools, is a 400+ instrument lending library that makes it possible for in-need students to participate in their school’s band or orchestra program.

This program, which is the only public instrument lending library in the North Bay, is made possible through the generous support of our members, donors, and sponsors.
"Music has made me a better person"

Watching Luis Lopez lead the talented Elsie Allen High School Jazz Band from behind his drum set is inspiring. Luis enjoys helping the younger musicians in the band become better players and relishes his role as a mentor and leader.

Music has made a huge difference in Luis’s life.

“In the past, there were times I wasn’t on the right path,” he says, “but music has taught me how to be better at everything – from public speaking to leadership.” He will be going to the Santa Rosa Junior College to study engineering and minor in music this fall.

Luis is loaded with heart and musical talent – originally a sax player, he taught himself how to play drums last year simply by watching the previous drummer.

However, without the loan of instruments from Music For Schools, one of our Education Through the Arts programs made possible by our members, donors, and sponsors, he could have missed out on the chance to participate in his school’s music program and realize his remarkable potential.

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"Music helped me find what I want to do with my life"

Brandon Cowen is a creative, high-energy high school junior with multiple music talents and interests. In addition to playing trombone in the Elsie Allen High School Jazz, Concert and Marching bands, he also plays guitar, piano and clarinet and records and engineers his own music.

"Having an instrument to yourself – the instrument you actually want to play in good working order – makes everything possible," Brandon says.

With a trombone loaned by Music for Schools, one of the Education Through the Arts programs made possible by our members, donors, and sponsors, Brandon was able to transform himself from “the weakest link in the Jazz Band to an excellent trombone player in a month.”

Inspired by the current Elsie Allen band leaders, Brandon is considering stepping up to a leadership role in his senior year. After that, he looks forward to majoring in business and minor in music at Santa Rosa Junior College.
Comments / Recommendations: - Joe Palla

To: Members of the Community Policing Subcommittee

Please know how much I appreciate all your hard work. You have really done a great job in outlining recommendations. I have some comments and suggestions for your consideration. Thank you!

1. Improve Critical Incident Response

- The term “Critical Incident Response” should be defined. Clearly an officer involved shooting would fit. However, if it is intended to include other types of incidents, they should be clearly identified.

- You mention the subcommittee conducted several interviews with local law enforcement. It would be helpful to know which agencies, the rank of those interviewed, and whether they supported or oppose the recommendation.

- Section A:

  i. I like the idea of having a representative respond, but I don’t believe it can be “just go down the list and hope you locate someone.” To make this work, I believe the agency will have to have a pool of employees in the program who receive appropriate training. Out of the pool, one employee would always be “on-call” and ready to respond. That means that employee would be available and in the area and would have had any alcoholic beverages. Without a structured call-out program, it would set-up an agency to fail if they could not locate anyone available to respond.

- Section C:

  i. Based on current State Law (California Government Code, Sections 3300 – 3313) this may not be possible. It is my belief to accomplish this a change of state law would be required. I would suggest the Subcommittee ask County Council to review this recommendation and provide feedback prior to finalizing.

- Section D:

  i. Meeting with the various groups is good. However, providing the type of information prematurely may be problematic as mentioned above.
• Section E:
  i. I would suggest that you have County Council provide you with a detailed list of the type of information that can legally be released within the first 4-days and what information cannot be released. They can also provide the reasons this information cannot be released, i.e., violation of state law (outline sections), etc.

• Section F:
  i. Same as Section E above. I think if were going to make this type of recommendation, we need to have a list the circumstances based on current law why the information may not be provided as recommended.

2. Enhance Law Enforcement Programs and Activities:

• Section D:
  i. Add “Adopt-a-Class program” where an officer adopts an elementary school class and attends class once or twice per month for about an hour to talk and work with kids. Normally, the officer will take 3 or 4 children to lunch after the session.

3. Improve Community Outreach and Engagement:

• Section B:
  i. I would suggest that you consider having these two community services officers civilian (non-sworn) employees working for the SO in each area. It would be cheaper and would offer stability. This would be the full time job of these employees who would not be subject to rotation into other assignments. A trained civilian working closely with the SO can do the duties.

• Section F:
  i. I would suggest the County bring back the “Resident Deputy Program” in various parts of the County, including Sonoma Valley, Roseland, Sea Ranch, etc. The program should be set-up where those assigned would not rotate out together. Those assigned should be responsible for interacting with the community and dealing aggressively with identify concerns and issues. It would be great if they had an incentive plan to encourage those assigned to live in that area. The incentive topically is County subsidize rent.
4. Develop a Moorland Neighborhood Pilot Project:

   i. I would suggest that this plan be changed to include the five priority areas outlined in the disparities report (2014 A Portrait of Sonoma County). It would make sense to address the problems within all those areas in an effort to prevent another tragedy.

Section C:

   i. See comments in Recommendation 3 above, Section B and Section F.

5. Improve Hiring, Training and Cultural Diversity:

   • Section A:

   i. The California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) mission is to continually enhance the professionalism of California law enforcement in serving its communities. The current Basic Police Academy is a full-time, 888-hour (minimum) intensive course of training that satisfies the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) minimum training requirements for California entry-level peace officers. The course typically meets Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. is approximately six months in duration. The curriculum is divided into 41 individual topics, called Learning Domains. The Learning Domains contain the minimum required foundational information for given subjects, which are detailed in the Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses. The training and testing specifications for a particular domain may also include information on required instructional activities and testing requirements.

   In July 1993, the Commission adopted training specifications as its method of specifying the minimum, mandated curriculum for the Regular Basic Course. Listed below are the individual learning domains that make up the course curriculum.

   Regular Basic Course Minimum Hourly Requirements
   LD 01 Leadership, Professionalism and Ethics
   LD 02 Criminal Justice System
   LD 03 Policing in the Community
   LD 04 Victimology/Crisis Intervention
   LD 05 Introduction to Criminal Law
   LD 06 Property Crimes
LD 07 Crimes Against Persons
LD 08 General Criminal Statutes
LD 09 Crimes Against Children
LD 10 Sex Crimes
LD 11 Juvenile Law and Procedure
LD 12 Controlled Substances
LD 13 ABC Law
LD 15 Laws of Arrest
LD 16 Search and Seizure
LD 17 Presentation of Evidence
LD 18 Investigative Report Writing
LD 19 Vehicle Operations
LD 20 Use of Force
LD 21 Patrol Techniques
LD 22 Vehicle Pullovers
LD 23 Crimes in Progress
LD 24 Handling Disputes/Crowd Control
LD 25 Domestic Violence
LD 26 Unusual Occurrences
LD 27 Missing Persons
LD 28 Traffic Enforcement
LD 29 Traffic Accident Investigation
LD 30 Crime Scenes, Evidence, and Forensics
LD 31 Custody
LD 32 Lifetime Fitness
LD 33 Arrest and Control
LD 34 First Aid and CPR
LD 35 Firearms/Chemical Agents
LD 36 Information Systems
LD 37 People with Disabilities
LD 38 Gang Awareness
LD 39 Crimes Against the Justice System
LD 40 Weapons Violations
LD 41 Hazardous Materials Awareness
LD 42 Cultural Diversity/Discrimination
LD 43 Emergency Management

Once the officer successfully completes the above training program, they enter into a POST Approved Field Training Programs must minimally be 10 weeks long. Most California programs are 12 to 16 weeks long.

This program is designed to assist the new officers in making the transition from what they learned in the academy to performing general law enforcement uniformed patrol duties competently in the field.
With all the above training, between 10-months and 12-months of training before the officer is allowed to work alone. If the subcommittee feels additional training is needed, it would be important to review what training is actually already being provided and outline what is missing so a meaningful dialog and plan can be put in place to address the training that is lacking.

Section E:

i. The trainers currently used in P.O.S.T. Approved Police Academy’s are considered experts in the area they teach. Again, it would be important for the subcommittee to review training currently being provided along with the qualifications of those providing the training with an eye to outline deficiencies if they are found so those deficiencies can be addressed appropriately.

6. Enhance Alternative Use of Force Practices:

- Section A:
  
  i. Have any local law enforcement agencies reviewed this recommendation and if so could you please include comments. If not, could you ask them to review and outline concerns (if any).

- Section B & C:
  
  i. As mentioned above, If the subcommittee feels additional training is needed, it would be important to review what training is actually already being provided and outline what is missing so a meaningful dialog and plan can be put in place to address the training that is lacking.

- Section F & J:
  
  i. As above, If the subcommittee feels additional training is needed, it would be important to review what training is actually already being provided and outline what is missing so a meaningful dialog and plan can be put in place to address the training that is lacking.

I would suggest some type of recommendation that addresses educating the community on inherent dangers and how law enforcement responds. The one important component is Officers do face violent individuals and must make split second decisions. That will not change no matter how much training we put in place. The other important factor is officers are murdered in the line of duty and that fact cannot be ignored. In 2013, 105 Officers were killed, 30 by gunfire and 2 by stabbing.
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 10:28 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Question from Alfredo Perez: Response to Draft of Community Engagement and Healing Task Force Report

Topic: Question
Subject: Response to Draft of Community Engagement and Healing Task Force Report
Message: The First 5 Commission was asked to provide a response to the draft report. What is the best way to do this?

Name: Alfredo Perez
Email: alfredo.perez@sonoma-county.org
Home Phone: 707-565-6627
Mail Address: 490 Mendocino Ave, Suite 203
Santa Rosa, CA 95441
Subject: Comment

Message: For Sonoma County Sheriff Steve Freitas to re-assign his Deputy Sheriff Erick Gelhaus patrol duty armed with his automatic rifle is utter madness and for you to stand by and say nothing is the epitome of cowardliness.

Name: Sheridan Peterson
Email: freedomlover@sonic.net
Address: 2055 Range Avenue, #355
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
Environ Mental Health

At this point I want to thank you for the definition of

Community Oriented Policing.

My name is Linda R (Ant Buddy) Picton
I was in attendance at last nights (Dec 8, 2014) meeting.
I spoke about 'Public Safety' and the ongoing 'housing crisis' that frequently involves negatory interactions with law enforcers... I also spoke on the those invisible biases and barriers faced by marginalized populations ... including those who are economically disadvantaged.
At the LEA Task Force meeting on Dec 15 Jose Cateneda commented that African-American males were perceived to be on average of 3 years older than their actual age. At the same time we know that girls are experiencing the physical changes of puberty at an earlier and earlier age.  

I have a very traumatic memory of a statement made by a participant at LWV Juvie Justice Forum several years back...the question was about trying children as adults... “We all know right from wrong!” the participant said emphatically. “Of course a 10 year old child should be held accountable (and punished) for any crimes committed”.

I also attended the Forum On Human Trafficking. It was put on by the Commission On Human Rights in fall of 2013. A member of the public asked about law enforcement and the impact of the not yet open Graton Casino that is in our back yard. The comment was made that they were taking a wait and see attitude.

Post Traumatic Stress is a human reaction to adverse conditions who determine rights/wrongs? He Said/ She Said
Greetings Councilmem Swinth,
Re: BAD >> W.U.R.S.T.

October 22
Blind Pigs, 2015

For a number of years I attended SRCity Council meetings faithfully. I used Public Comments near the beginning of the meetings to overcome my fear (terror) of public exposure. I have since become estranged from several of the agencies and organizations that were dear to me. While my address is Santa Rosa, I live in one of those weird county islands that has its benefits as well as liabilities. I am sorry that I will miss your meeting today. I have decided to put my energy into what has been called “New Court House Square” and go on to address the commissioners at the CHR meeting at the county-wide facility.

I recently read your bio from a doc that was printed out for me. I can see there is a digital gap between US. I want to remain as low-tech as possible. It is difficult for me to accept that over these past years we have all (my experience) witnessed the face of widespread poverty, irresponsible growth and development and inequitable and unsustainable economic practices. It was clear to me in the '80's that we needed a maintenance economy to 'care' for our infrastructure. Growth is the problem NOT the solution.

I am enclosing some old documentation along with some updates of my whereabouts. I recently road my bike to Elsie Allen to check in for the 2014 Season of Non-Violence. I came upon the rock dedicated to Patrick Jerome Scott who was struck and killed on Dec. 1, 1998 while walking to school. I have the cancellation of NOPCAB meeting. As I remember, NOPCAB was disbanded in the fall of 2003 when Chief Dunbaugh (sp) announced his retirement. We the people were set adrift in a state of limbo until the next chief could have his way with US. This was in direct conflict with the recommendation of the DOJ to have a citizen police oversight board. I am grateful to have served on a committee with Adrienne Swenson to review the recruitment, hiring and training of law enforcers. We got Ed Flint. I remember the meeting where many of US objected to the implementation of the Chaplaincy Program. On Aug 15, 2011 I met with Ellen Baily at Parks and Rec regarding Measure “O” and the Gang Task Force. I was concerned that the Norteno's and Sereno's were getting more than their fair share of gang resources. What about those 'angry white guys'? What happened to the KKK? And why don't we remember Diane Whipple who was visciously killed inside her own 'home'. The dog was bred and trained by a white supremacist gang banger who was adopted by his attorney and her husband. Now there's an alternative family value to ponder.

Thanks for listening...
Ant, Yo Buddy Picton MAD PRIDE
Radical Feminist Green Tea Party
Low Teckie VIPS

Ant
At the LEA Task Force meeting on Dec 15 Jose Cateneda commented that African-American males were perceived to be on average of 3 years older than their actual age. At the same time we know that girls are experiencing the physical changes of puberty at an earlier and earlier age. My words.

I have a very traumatic memory of a statement made by a participant at LWV Juvie Justice Forum several years back...the question was about trying children as adults... "We all know right from wrong!" the participant said emphatically. "Of course a 10 year old child should be held accountable (and punished) for any crimes committed".

I also attended the Forum On Human Trafficking. It was put on by the Commission On Human Rights in fall of 2013. A member of the public asked about law enforcement and the impact of the not yet open Graton Casino that is in our back yard. The comment was made that they were taking a wait and see attitude.

Post Traumatic Stress is a human reaction to adverse conditions. Who determines rights/wrongs?

He Said/She Said
RECEIVED
DEC 18 2014

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SONOMA

Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
Community Policing Subcommittee
Draft Recommendation Feedback Form

NAME (optional): Linda R. (Ant Buddy) Pickin
Email (optional): roespvd@yahoo.com

Recommendation #: 5-8 Letter: See attached
Feedback: Hello Again —
I have attached a letter that I hand delivered to SR City Council member Smith, late morning 2 Tues Oct 22, 2013.

I think this letter reflects the need for Recommendation #8 as suggested by Task Force member Joe Palla. Public Safety demands grass roots attention to Environmental Health needs for all of our residents. Andy Lopez did NOT have a safe route to school. Ant
Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force
Community Policing Subcommittee
Draft Recommendation Feedback Form

Linda R. (Ant Buddy) Pickett
443 Ruby Lane
Santa Rosa, CA

Law Enforcement Accountability Task Force:

Danger! Danger!

Please remember that I have been skeptical of this process since its inception following the tragic shooting of Andy Lopez who was carrying a realistic replica of an assault weapon.

I was at the CHR meeting on October 22, 2013 to raise awareness about October 22, the organization that monitors incidents of police brutality. The meeting was held up to wait for the traffic jam caused by the police action near Todd Rd. While it is divided by the freeway and the evermore congested Santa Rosa Ave, that neighborhood of unincorporated South Santa Rosa is IMBY.

I was in the Council Chambers at SR City Hall the day rowdy protesters expressed their grief and outrage surrounding the tragic shooting; albeit by a Sheriff’s Deputy not SRPD. While I have attended many meetings, I have never felt like my concerns have been taken into account.

We know who pulled a trigger. That is beyond any shadow of a doubt. That question of accountability vs responsibility that haunted me during the LWV Juvenile Justice Interest Group is glaring to this day. In my opinion, over time, what started as a 'study' morphed into a public relations piece for the Juvie System in Sonoma County. I have been asking for continued evaluation of those outcomes.

It is clear to me that the LEA Task Force has been co-opted into just such a public relations front for 'Law Enforcement'; specifically addressing accountability and risk management at the Sheriff's Office. The truth is that under the badge, 'cops' are human and bleed red blood just like the rest of us. It would be in our BEST interest to integrate them into our common humanity rather than cater to their attitude of entitlements of uber-authoritarian expectation.

I am more interested in addressing (and minimizing) the role of PO's in the whole scheme of Public Safety and solving problems at the lowest levels. I am grateful that your (DOJ-2014) definition of Community Policing. It reflects my understanding from AJ classes at SRJC. Maybe even Perens Patraei from the English can remind US that the King/Father has an obligation to protect and serve the well-being of those indigent peoples who cannot compete in the rat-race to the top.

I am still (since 1947) trying to understand my own experience of school failure in spite of the BEST intentions of those around ME. Since those early roots of my adolescent development were interrupted, I have never experienced a cultural or linguistically satisfactory rite of passage into adulthood. I continue my grievance against CMH and State wide MHSA that has been complicit with systemic failures. I have asked why we continue to be divided into target populations to get necessary 'social services'. In my opinion, that division (brand or profiling) is the driver of political wedge issues and increased stigma.

Anto
Trust & Collusion

What's the difference between a cop and a firefighter?
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Randi <randir2012@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2015 3:13 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Suggestion from Randi: Positive Youth Development Resource Manual

Topic: Suggestion
Message: I was watching the meeting of April 6 in the City of Petaluma. May I recommend an excellent program which I happened to stumble upon. I found the above listed manual through the President Clinton Foundation website. Excellent "stuff" for youth development. I was a troubled teen and I am grateful to all the individuals who mentored me in my development.

Name: Randi
Email: randir2012@icloud.com
Home Phone: 7079817528
Cell Phone: 7079748718
Mail Address: 123 Magnolia Ave
Petaluma, CA 94952
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org
Sent: Tuesday, January 06, 2015 8:48 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Suggestion from Leif Rhodes: Body cameras for Police/Sheriff

Topic: Suggestion
Subject: Body cameras for Police/Sheriff
Message: Greetings, As I understand it, the topic of requiring both the Santa Rosa Police and the Sonoma County Sheriff wear personal cameras at different times. I don’t need to use this forum to share my experience with you. But suffice it to say I moved across the continent to get away from them as my very life was in danger. I was previously a high profile, lifelong resident of Sonoma County/Santa Rosa. I was a law abiding citizen without a record as an adult. I fled the state of California with only the clothes on my back. I used to be a successful business owner with a net worth of nearly one million dollars. My entire life was destroyed by their duplicity and actions. I almost died while incarcerated while awaiting my trial. Which I walked out of. I even had a heart attack in there but was denied medical treatment which I had to get after I got out. Requiring both of these agencies to wear cameras is an excellent idea and it is my belief it will prevent many of the illegal and immoral activities a small group of the officers already do. However, simply putting on a camera will not solve the problem. Two things will be required for this system to work. 1). The camera MUST be on every time a contact is made or officers are out in the field. 2). The requirement must have teeth. For instance, if someone is arrested and the camera is conveniently off, then there can be no conviction. If a person is harmed and there are no cameras on at the time of contact, punitive measures, pre-defined, should take place towards the officers. I am a low voltage contractor. I deal with cameras every day. One of the things LEOs do is have a very fast frame rate and a very high resolution. This means that they eat up storage space. There is no reason to have 30 or 60 frames per second. The frame rate could be 3 or 4 frames per second and cover every situation which would increase the storage time dramatically. As I understand it, one of the devices being considered does not store archived data for more than two hours prior to a data dump in the master server. Furthermore, Gelhuis was operating within his defined rules of engagement. That is why he was not held responsible for the shooting of the 13 year old Andy Lopez. This tells us in no uncertain terms that the rules of engagement need to be changed. The hysteria surrounding so called ‘assault weapons’ which are really just rifles with magazines plays into this. It is time to change the rules of engagement. It is time to change the mindset. Gelhuis revealed in the concept of shooting a perp. (as he would call it). That is obvious by the supporting body of material with him in private media and training courses. His comments and his teachings are about killing. Surely this is inappropriate in the context of his job position?

Name: Leif Rhodes
COMMUNITY AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE

LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE

Draft Recommendation Feedback Form

NAME (optional): Frank Saiz

E-MAIL (optional): saizjamil@sbcglobal.net

RECOMMENDATION TOPIC:

○ Grand Jury
○ Separation of Offices of Sheriff and Coroner
○ Law Enforcement Accountability Model

COMMENTS:

To Be Considered: Law Enforcement Reforms

1) The monthly meetings of the Sonoma County Law Enforcement Chief’s Association be open to the public and be conducted on the record under Brown Act type rules.

2) Resolve that all police and sheriff sex crimes reports and domestic violence crime reports be sent to the district attorney's office for review.

3) Resolve that to form a representative citizen group with veto power to work with officials on recruiting, hiring, training and promotion of law enforcement officers in our community.

4) The district attorney’s office, as well as police and sheriff’s department, be included in any law enforcement Civilian Review/Oversight Boards formed in Sonoma County.

5) Board of Supervisors should have independent performance review of the sheriff’s department yearly.
Subject: Suggestion

Message: Dear Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force,

All of us have beliefs about how sheriffs and police departments work: what they do, what their training consists of, and how laws are used to inform their decision-making. Those of us who watch movies and television shows have an additional layer of superimposed beliefs—vivid images transferred from the screen to our brains that provide illusions about police work.

For those of us who have ever been stopped by a law enforcement officer, those memories, also, color how we think about police and policing agencies.

It wasn’t until I attended Santa Rosa Police Department’s Citizens Police Academy classes that I gained better understanding of how a typical law enforcement agency works, and how officers go about doing their job. The most enlightening part of those eight weeks was the Saturday spent covering Firearms Safety & Training and Defensive Tactics.

A big part of the Firearms Safety & Training is being able to interact in a scenario with the citizen playing the role of the responding officer. Using a gun synced to the computer simulation, citizens have to make the shoot/don’t shoot decisions that officers make in those situations. Some of us found ourselves shooting innocents instead of the bad guys. Others of us got killed because we failed to respond quickly enough or appropriately to the simulated bad guys who don’t always look like bad guys.

In Defensive Tactics, we learned about force options, from non/less-lethal to lethal, and what considerations and decisions have to be made when deploying any of them.

Everyone I have spoken to who has completed the Citizen Police Academy classes deemed them enlightening. The most instructive of all the lectures and demonstrations was the Firearms Safety & Training and Defensive Tactics. It gave us a first-hand experience of what it is like to make life and death decisions.

The Santa Rosa Junior College Public Safety Training Center has a firearms training simulator and defensive tactics instructors. We urge the Community & Law Enforcement Task Force members and the County Board of Supervisors to take the opportunity to use the simulator and participate in an instructional defensive tactics overview and discussion before the Task Force makes their final recommendations and the Supervisors decide upon implementation.

Respectfully yours,

F.G. Shirley
Santa Rosa

Name: Frances G. Shirley
Email: fshirley22@yahoo.com
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Will Shonbrun <willshonbrun@vom.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 06, 2014 9:12 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Comment from Will Shonbrun: Task Force meetings and upcoming recommendations

Topic: Comment
Subject: Task Force meetings and upcoming recommendations
Message: Requesting to be notified by email of all future Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force meetings, including press releases and recommendations issued by the Task Force. I serve on the Editorial Board of The Sun newspaper published in the Sonoma Valley and City of Sonoma. I have written two commentaries on the Andy Lopez shooting and one on the need for a Civilian Review Board in the county, published in The Sun and the Sonoma County Gazette. My contact information is listed below.

Name: Will Shonbrun
Email: willshonbrun@vom.com
Home Phone: 707 996-9678
Cell Phone: 707 320-8069
Mail Address: 17535 Highlands Blvd.
Sonoma, CA 95476
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 1:24 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma General Feedback from Shy J.: General Feedback

Topic: General Feedback
Subject: General Feedback
Message: I am totally on board with the proposal of the board. I agree that there should be more public engagement when it comes to law enforcement. I think with the public having the opportunity of getting involved with the justice system they will have a better understanding on what is going on. More outside people should definitely take advantage of this great opportunity that it is being offered and encouraged by the board.

Name: Shy J.
Subject: Comment
Message: Have you heard about the SWAT team practice on Windsor school grounds over the weekend? No notice. Frightening for residents. I don't know how to forward the email I got about it.

Name: Gail Simons
Email: gailsimons@aol.com
Address: 4257 Leafwood Cir.
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Gail Simons <gailsimons@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 7:03 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Suggestion from Gail Simons: Community Engagement forums in future

Topic: Suggestion
Subject: Community Engagement forums in future
Message: The format of small circles is isolating—counter to 'community' sharing. I suggest that future forums have the large circle format, even if it has to be two rows thick, so that each person can hear all (underline 'all') ideas, and evaluate for him/herself the concerns of the community. Forums should be recorded, for best, exact recall of the event.

Name: Gail Simons
Email: gailsimons@aol.com
Home Phone: 707 526-3526
Mail Address: 4257 Leafwood Circle East
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Gail Simons <gailsimons@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 7:15 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Suggestion from Gail Simons: Body cameras

Topic: Suggestion
Subject: Body cameras
Message: Please recommend that the Sheriffs on patrol begin wearing body cameras IMMEDIATELY and turn them on with EVERY incident or contact. We are wasting tax payers' money by delaying the use of this most valuable tool.

Name: Gail Simons
Email: gailsimons@aol.com
Home Phone: 707 526-3526
Mail Address: 4257 Leafwood Circle East
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Gail Simons <gailsimons@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 7:09 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Suggestion from Gail Simons: Composition of Sheriff's Department

Topic: Suggestion
Subject: Composition of Sheriff's Department
Message: Please recommend exact dates by which the various branches of the Sheriff's Dept. should reflect the ethnic and language and minority demographics of Sonoma County.

Name: Gail Simons
Email: gailsimons@AOL.com
Home Phone: 707 526-3526
Mail Address: 4257 Leafwood Circle East
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of James J Slaby <slaby@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 4:18 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Restorative Justice from James J Slaby: Support for Restorative Resources programs

Topic: Restorative Justice
Subject: Support for Restorative Resources programs
Message: I have been a volunteer for Restorative Resources programs during the past year. I have participated in approximately 20 conferences during the year. The program is, based on my experience, a very effective way to positively affect the behavior of young people who are introduced to the program. I have been impressed with the attitudes of young adults and students who have participated in conferences that I have attended. I truly believe that the program is helping to keep these young people from reengaging in improper behavior. Any funding of the Restorative Resources program will be taxpayer money well spent in benefiting the community as a whole, as well as these young people.

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From: sonoma-county.org on behalf of Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson <bleysrose@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:01 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Counseling and Mental Health Services from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Counseling and Mental Health Services
Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015
Message: SCDC COMMENTS on CEH 1:SUMMARY: This recommendation asks for counselors in schools. It extends the job of the school counselor beyond students to families and staff. It asks for full-time counselors for all schools. These counselors would provide trauma and on-going counseling. *SCDCC recommends that resources instead be found to increase behavioral health counseling through clinics and other agencies, with outreach to families and communities as well as schools. Potentially, many of the services can be reimbursed because of new medical insurance requirements.PROS: The early identification of emotional and mental health issues can serve to prevent or ameliorate problems in children before they reach adulthood. Services can be marshaled for traumatic events in the lives of children, in schools and in the community. CONS: 1. Sonoma County has 40 school districts and 182 public schools. http://www.scoe.org/pub/htdocs/aboutschools.htmlCan we afford 182 full-time counselors @$60,000 each? 2. Little attention is paid in the recommendation to work in the community or with families. How will this take place? 3. The typical counselor in a school is what could be called an academic counselor. They help to plan the education program for students in their school years and as they move on to college and career. They also work with special needs students to provide for their education plans in much more detail, as required by federal law. Are we asking for a completely different type of counselor (such as a “behavioral health counselor”) to serve mental health needs? How many of them are already in place in schools? 4. What would be the role of the school psychologist in the recommended system? 5. How does the full-time counselor proposed here fit in with current models of contracted services for drug abuse counselors and other private services? 6. Some thought must be given to how community members react to interventions by school officials, teachers and counselors. They may not wish to have their children’s psychological needs assessed by outsiders. 7. Training for teachers and staff is not covered in this recommendation. Such training requires professional approaches and would need a budget. Also, if we train teachers to assess symptoms of mental illness at earlier stages in a child’s development, are we risking stigmatization in the minds of the teachers, parents, fellow students and the children themselves?

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Subject: Continue County-wide Community Engagement Forums

Message: SCDCC COMMENTS on CEH 2: SUMMARY: The Community Engagement and Healing subcommittee met several times in different areas of the county. They met in southwest Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Sonoma Valley and at the Vets Building in Santa Rosa. Each time they gathered input from the community and then extracted recommendations for action from the audience. These meetings also provided a forum for residents and law enforcement to interact, question and develop better relationships. This recommendation proposes to continue the forums on an ongoing basis.* SCDCC recommends that the proposed forums between law enforcement and the community be integrated with community engagement meetings taking place in cities and unincorporated areas to gather input from residents about their concerns. Some of these meetings could use the same principles that the healing subcommittee used in their forums to foster positive interaction between law enforcement and the community. It is essential that there be a procedure in place to follow through on the questions, criticisms, suggestions and other feedback that arise from these meetings. 

PROS: 1. If the community, the county and law enforcement create forums which better serve the needs of citizens than current means of communication, then that would be useful. 2. Gathering ideas from citizens is beneficial. 3. Humanizing law enforcement is beneficial. 4. This provides some means (other than an oversight board) of holding law enforcement accountable in that residents can question law enforcement about their policies and actions. 5. If the board of supervisors were to establish neighborhood grants based on this proposal that might serve the county well. 

CONS: 1. The committee did not hold forums in the northern or southern parts of the county. 2. There is no explanation of how feedback from the forums would be processed by the county. 3. There is no analysis of how county forums would interact with cities and law enforcement agencies. 4. The Resources Needed section, which speaks of the funding and personnel needed, is still "pending." FURTHER DEVELOPMENT NEEDED: 1. Connect the forums mentioned here with other recommendations, such as the forums recommended after critical incidents. 2. Compare this effort with that of Santa Rosa and other cities to engage their communities, to determine the pros and cons.

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:07 PM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Pilot Mural Program in Roseland from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Pilot Mural Program in Roseland

Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Message: SCDCC COMMENTS on CEH 3:SUMMARY: The Pilot Mural Program recommendation is to establish a process to create 12 outdoor murals in the Roseland area over a two-year period. The second part of the recommendation is to replicate this process in other “underserved” areas of Sonoma County as identified by Portrait of Sonoma County.* SCDCC recommends that the mural program be established as a positive step forward for the county and the community. It should serve as a model program for other areas of the county. PROS:1. Involving young people in the creation of outdoor art in their community develops artistic and leadership skills.2. Provides outdoor art that beautifies and enhances neighborhoods.3. The community will take pride in the artistic expression of their cultural heritage.4. The background references, details and costs of this recommendation are very clearly stated. CONS: 1. It is always a tough sell to commit public funds to artistic expression when there are many material needs that are unmet. 2. The specific culture identified for Roseland is Latino but there are many other cultural heritages represented by the people living there. Will they be encouraged or even allowed to participate? 3. Similarly, how will the target population be identified in other “underserved” areas of the county?

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:10 PM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Sonoma County Social Action Music Center from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Sonoma County Social Action Music Center

Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Message: SCDCC COMMENTS on CEH 4:SUMMARY: This recommendation would lead to the establishment of a center to promote youth orchestral training as after-school programs throughout Sonoma County. It would advise, train and provide instruments to enable programs to start and continue, especially in areas of high need as identified in Portrait of Sonoma County.* SCDCC recommends the establishment of such a center to engage youth throughout the county in this proven beneficial program.PROS: 1. Evidence is cited that El Sistema and other programs have a positive impact on young children in several ways. 2. Arts education would be assisted at a time when school offerings have been reduced or eliminated. CONS: 1. Criticisms have been leveled against El Sistema which should be considered and evaluated when instituting any similar program. FURTHER DEVELOPMENT NEEDED: 1. Who will decide where programs will be located and how? 2. What do after-school programs currently in existence feel about this proposal (boys and girls clubs, school districts, etc.)

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:13 PM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Student Congress from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Student Congress

Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Message: SCDCC COMMENTS on CEH 5:SUMMARY: This recommendation is to establish a county-wide student congress consisting of 2 representatives (1 male, 1 female) from each middle school and high school. They would meet monthly to bring issues of concern from their schools to discuss and problem solve. They would also take back initiatives to work on at their schools.*SCDCC recommends that such a student congress be established to promote civic and political engagement at middle schools and high schools throughout the county. PROS: 1. Engagement of young people in their schools and in their community is of prime importance. 2. Development of leaders at any early age with the opportunity to empower their knowledge and decisions is also of great importance. 3. A county-wide program will allow coordination between students in different areas of the county and allow various agencies to draw from their experiences in making decisions affecting young people and, especially, their schools. 4. This program has existed in the past and was successful. CONS: 1. Not specified is how students would be selected. 2. Not specified is how clubs will be established in each of the schools. 3. It is not clear if the current student governments at each of the schools would have a connection to the student congress. FURTHER DEVELOPMENT NEEDED: 1. How does the student congress impact the relationship of law enforcement and community directly or indirectly? 2. What evidence exists of the impact of the previous student congress? 3. Are there similar organizations found in other counties? 4. How do student governments feel about this proposal?

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Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Message: SCDCC COMMENTS on CEH 6:

SUMMARY: School resource officers operate in the school environment to provide law enforcement, support students, the school community and to provide education in public safety and the law. This recommendation is that Sonoma County should expand the number of school resource officers. SCDCC recommends that the expansion of school resource officers be explored in detail to determine which schools would benefit most and to determine the further training in community policing they receive, with respect to law enforcement needs, educational environment and overall benefits to the student community. The funding sources from schools, cities and county should be clarified.

PROS: 1. There are many reports of SROs serving the schools very well. 2. SROs provide information to other local law enforcement authorities which helps to reduce crime and restrain gang activities. 3. SROs often serve as youth counselors and role models for students. 4. SROs can reduce the anxiety level that young students may have toward police and sheriffs. 5. SROs can inspire and advise students interested in pursuing careers in law enforcement.

CONS: 1. The recommendation does not detail where SROs are needed in Sonoma County. 2. It does not specify which areas of the county would be assigned to be covered by the sheriff’s department, the county or the local cities. 3. The cost of one school resource officer with associated salary, benefits and expenses comes close to equaling the cost of 4 teachers. 4. Some community members have indicated that bringing law enforcement into the schools increases the anxiety of students, that some SROs have proved inadequate or negative in their impact and it only serves to smooth the path of the “school to prison pipeline.”

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT NEEDED: This recommendation does not detail the areas and numbers where school resource officers would be needed. Currently, the sheriff’s department contracts out its services to two cities, Windsor and Sonoma. These cities have decided to provide school resource officers to the local schools as provided by the sheriff’s department and as part of the contract. How many SROs are provided by other cities through the police departments? How do they interface with the unincorporated areas served by the sheriff’s department lying in school district boundaries but outside of cities? Should the school districts be expected to provide some of the costs of the SROs?

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Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015
Message: SCDCC COMMENTS on CEH 7: SUMMARY: A Community Service Officer would serve to represent the Sheriff’s office in a less intimidating role. The CSO would serve the public in a number of ways that would demonstrate the importance that law enforcement places in its efforts to assist the community. The end result is that the public would get material assistance from the Sheriff’s Office and would also develop better relationships with them. More residents would feel comfortable seeking assistance and aiding law enforcement in their efforts to prevent and solve crimes.* SCDCC recommends that this position needs more complete descriptions and rationales to justify it in comparison to other needs of the county in law enforcement, mental health, other health services, recreational programs and other areas. PROS: 1. The experience of the Community Service Officer in Sonoma Valley has been very positive. 2. Other areas of the county would benefit from this position. CONS: 1. Is this position necessary if the Sheriff’s Office assigns two deputies to Roseland through the community policing recommendation? 2. The duties of the Community Service Officer need to be spelled out in more detail. Otherwise, it may seem like a position to be filled by a clerk who files paperwork and answers the phone. 3. Would county resources be more responsibly allocated to providing other services, such as additional sworn officers or health workers?

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Subject: Restorative Justice

Message: SCDCC COMMENTS on CEH 8:SUMMARY: The restorative justice program currently in Santa Rosa City Schools has contributed to a reduction in student expulsions over the last three years. The recommendation is that restorative justice programs be expanded to other school systems throughout Sonoma County. The goal is to reduce the amount of recidivism and provide workable alternatives to the school to prison pipeline. SCDCS recommends that restorative discipline be established in schools throughout the county. Accurate data should be accumulated to show where the priorities should be. Data should also be used to show how effective the programs are and whether the programs actually save funding and improve the lives of the affected students and the school community as a whole. Efforts should be made to extend restorative justice to more areas of the criminal justice system. Restorative justice should, in each case, be explained and introduced only with the full cooperation of the district, the schools, the staff and parents and students. PROS: 1. Reduces recidivism 2. Cuts down on school to prison pipeline 3. Provides healing to victims and to the community 4. Allows offenders to rehabilitate through accountability 5. Extends to other areas of school discipline, especially in the classroom, so that conflicts between students and teachers, other students, administrators and staff can be resolved productively. CONS: 1. Lack of information provided to teachers and others in the school communities leads to fears that “bad” students are simply sent back to the classroom instead of isolated and dealt with in a safe (for others) environment or suspended or expelled from school 2. Not specified in detail how the financing of restorative practices relates to increased ADA $ received by the schools because suspensions and expulsions are reduced 3. Once these savings have been achieved, what keeps the programs in place? 4. Resistance from teachers and staff, expressed through their unions, because they feel funding should be restored to counselors, reducing class size, librarians, nurses, etc. before new programs such as restorative justice are funded 5. Generally, the funding stream and assumed savings should be made clearer. AREAS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT: 1. More detail is needed about the funding of restorative discipline and savings that result especially with respect to “build-out” into other school systems 2. Are there plans to expand restorative justice in the criminal justice system as well as in schools? 3. Does the state’s emphasis on reducing school expulsions and suspensions by criticizing disciplinary categories such as “willful defiance” achieve the same purposes without the use of restorative justice programs? 4. What are the details about restorative discipline other than accountability circles for offenders of school rules? 5. Have up-to-date statistics been assembled with respect to the satisfaction of all parties involved in the Santa Rosa school restorative justice programs?

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Subject: Roseland Development

Message: SCDCC COMMENTS on CEH 9:SUMMARY: This recommendation has several parts to it:a) increase in cultural awareness in general b) lowering barriers to use of county resources due to linguistic and cultural factorsc) increase cultural awareness of law enforcementd) invest in a program like CYO which works with youth in Roseland areae) create new parks in Roseland areaf) create a new library in Roseland areaSCDCC recommends that the county invest in programs, parks and libraries in the Roseland area and other underserved areas of the county. However, it is not clear how cultural awareness is addressed in this process. This should be clarified.PROS:1. All of the above goals are worthwhileCONS:1. The draft recommendation is garbled and confusing2. The development of cultural awareness is never described. How will it be developed?3. Who has to develop cultural awareness? Law enforcement? Community members? Subgroups? How will this take place?4. Has the concept of cultural awareness replaced diversity training? What’s the difference?5. Is the investment in a program like CYO supposed to be limited to Roseland? Which other areas should be included? 6. The costs are only specified for one of the recommendations.FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

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Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Message: SCDCC COMMENTS on CEH 10:SUMMARY: This recommendation attempts to expand efforts to make the community aware of the responsibilities and practices of law enforcement. It expands Citizen’s Academies and proposes to print and publicize the content of the academy.* SCDCC recommends that we support this effort to educate the community about how the sheriff’s department operates and how to deal with officers when involved in a situation. This should be integrated with efforts of the Community Policing subcommittee. Schools should also be involved in presenting this material.

PROS: 1. The need for public education in the practices of law enforcement is clear.
2. Putting the information in brochures and pamphlets will help.
3. Publicizing how individuals should respond safely to law enforcement along with explanation of their rights would also be a positive step.

CONS: 1. The website referred to does not have the information that is supposed to be on there.
2. The details of the costs of producing the information are not clear.
3. Other possible educational initiatives are not detailed.
4. Why aren’t schools included in this recommendation?
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson <bleysrose@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:28 PM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Improve Critical Incident Response from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Improve Critical Incident Response

Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Message: Democratic Party Comments, COPS Recommendation 1: Improve Critical Incident Response

This recommendation intends to transform the experiences of community members during a critical incident. In subcommittee interviews about critical incident police practices at a critical incident site, many Moorland community members reported feeling cut off from any useful information, and many reported feeling ignored, disrespected and/or treated suspiciously by police officers at the scene. The result of this treatment seems to be emotional suffering and distrust toward police by community members. We regard this recommendation favorably. At the site of a critical incident, the presence of an ununiformed officer, trained in interpersonal relations and communications can serve community members by responsibly informing them of what is occurring, calm them with respectful & informative communications, and can actually enlist the helpful engagement and cooperation of community members in resolving the situation. We regard very favorably the sustained efforts with community communication & engagement in parts 1.b, c, d, e & f above (remaining on the critical incident scene until community mood has settled, publically announcing and then conducting a community forum (within 5-7 days with thoughtful planning of this forum taking place within 48 hrs), as well as clearly posting press releases and audio and video of the incident. All of these practices prove effective in the academic literature and statistics on Community oriented Policing Practices. All the practices outlined in 1.g, h, i, & j serve to respect and provide for the needs of a victim’s family, during and after a critical incident. We regard very favorably practice g., the statement of condoleance, apology or regret to the family of the victim of a police shooting. We applaud the nuanced position that this human kindness does not constitute being at fault. We also favor the humane practice of providing professional counseling for such a grieving family. Item h above spells out law enforcement’s specific practices that respect a victim’s family by providing timely and direct communications as well as replacements for confiscated phones and automobiles. The Community Oriented Policing committee’s Interviews with the families of victims uncovered heartbreaking accounts of families learning information second hand from newspaper or radio reports. Also, for families in poverty, the loss of their car and/or phone can be an extreme survival hardship for carrying on with work and family responsibilities. We applaud the recommendation j, above, requiring, when at all possible, a meeting between the officer involved in a shooting and the victim’s family. While difficult and uncomfortable, this meeting, with a mediator present, can serve to heal all parties involved, as well as humanize all parties with each other as well as with the community. Finally, we support the final recommendation, i.k. above, for the LEA to conduct a community satisfaction survey. This practice respects community members as intelligent & thoughtful. We would add a recommendation that the results of the survey be shared and discussed in a community forum, or perhaps an on-line forum.

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:29 PM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Enhance Law Enforcement Programs and Activities from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Enhance Law Enforcement Programs and Activities
Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015
Message: Democratic Party Comments, COPS Recommendation 2: Enhance Law Enforcement Programs and Activities

We support the Community Oriented Policing philosophy that law enforcement’s primary job is to solve problems in the community. Community members should feel safe and welcomed in community meetings with law enforcement. These meetings should be oriented toward identifying potential problems and solutions to those problems. Items a, b, c above are all police/community practices which can accomplish these goals. We recommend that some of the proven community oriented policing formats with specific venues for these kinds of meetings be described and encouraged. For example, events can include street corner “coffee with a cop” at a regular time and on a regular day, pot luck barbecues at a community members home or in the community park, community members feeling comfortable inviting community police to school carnivals, science fairs, dramatic and musical productions. Some of these venues (coffee events, pot lucks) can include informal discussions of community problems. Items 2. d, e, f, g, and h all serve to engage youth in law enforcement, to see law enforcement officers as helpful human beings, to see law enforcement as a viable career pathway, and to ultimately develop community oriented policing as the norm in our communities. We are in agreement with all these recommendations. We would suggest that providing funding for affordable sports, after school activities, opportunities for artistic, musical, and dramatic activities needs to be seriously addressed by the greater community and not just the police. We would also suggest that the greater community needs to address housing affordability. Children from families experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness will not successfully engage in academics, career pathways, or other after school sports and arts activities. We support the items 2. i, and j which further develop the youth opportunity for law enforcement pathway.

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Page | F-150
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Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:32 PM

TaskForce

County of Sonoma Improve Community Outreach & Engagement from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Improve Community Outreach & Engagement
Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015
Message: Democratic Party Comments, COPS Recommendation 3: Improve Community Outreach & Engagement The ad hoc committee agrees with the plan in 3.a, to partner established community oriented organizations with law enforcement to better identify and understand community needs and to problem solve together. Alliances like this soften the lines between community resource organizations and law enforcement and impact everyone involved positively. The proposal 3.b, bilingual education and outreach modeled on the established and proven El Protector programs, is enthusiastically supported by our ad hoc committee. Proposal 3 c, keeping statistics on police contacts (with breakthroughs for race, gender, age etc.) is considered (in Community Policing scholarship) fundamental to implementing a community oriented policing model. We support this practice and we encourage vigorous engagement in the debrief process with the statistics...proactive self examination by all law enforcement personnel through the examination of this data...as well as public and transparent sharing of this data with the communities. Proposals 3 d, and e are valuable because they communicate the community efforts as well as identify and frame community efforts that serve and protect children well. Communicating these good practices to the whole community tends to create more community well being. The 3 f, g, h, and i portions of this recommendation are absolutely essential for a sustainable community oriented policing plan. Having officers assigned to one community for a longer period of time, having long and thorough transitions from departing officers to incoming officers, as well as increasing officer foot and bicycle patrols are all aimed at LEOs developing deeper, more meaningful and more productive relationships with the community members on their beat. It almost goes without saying that increasing bilingual officers will support better communication and understanding between LEOs and community members. These practices are lauded in the literature on community oriented policing, essential and central to effective and sustainable community oriented policing.

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:34 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Develop a Moorland Neighborhood Pilot Project from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Develop a Moorland Neighborhood Pilot Project
Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015
Message: Democratic Party Comments, COPS Recommendation 4: Develop a Moorland Neighborhood Pilot Project
The SCDCC committee believes that the Moorland area has been poorly served by law enforcement in recent years. Our committee is in full support of all aspects of this recommendation. The assignment of 2 deputies who serve for a minimum of 5 years each in the Moorland area will provide trust & strong community relationships with law enforcement. We feel this is greatly superior to various Sonoma County Sheriff’s deputies patrolling the neighborhood. The proposed community safety survey stems from the fact that Moorland residents have been requesting additional police services. Methods like the survey which intervenes early enough to identify & solve community problems can help avoid the problem of festering problems which culminate in critical incidents. Face to face monthly meetings to discuss the survey findings help to develop working relationships between community members and law enforcement. This resourceful relationship is essential to effective community policing practices which solve problems and reduce crime rates in the process. We also support the youth “ride along” program as it functions as a pathway for neighborhood youth to enter law enforcement. Recruiting and training police from the communities they serve is an important pillar of effective and sustainable community policing practices. We also support the creation of an “el protector” advisory board modeled after the program in Nashville, TN. “El protector” has a proven track record as an essential, sustainable practice in community policing efforts.

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Topic: Improve Hiring, Training and Cultural Diversity
Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015
Message: Democratic Party Comments, COPS Recommendation 5: Improve Hiring, Training and Cultural Diversity

We strongly support recommendation 5 A., establishing a community policing training program. We recommend this should happen in every law enforcement department in Sonoma County. We would add that the sheriff and all the chiefs draft public statements outlining the philosophy of community oriented policing as well as the proactive adoption of community policing training and practices. Chiefs should address their officers and the general public (via press releases) with these public statements of the community policing values and practices which will govern policing in their departments, going forward. We also strongly support recommendation 5 B, which establishes new criteria for hiring police. Community oriented policing works by solving problems in the community before they develop into critical incidents. The skills required for a practitioner of this approach are different than the skills that are valued when law enforcement considers policing to be a matter of being in control in all contacts with the public. In a community policing context, for example, gun skills and take down skills are not necessarily the skills needed. We urge that the ability and motivation of the community police officer would include engaging community members and negotiating difficult situations with an emphasis on verbal skills and “talking down” rather than “taking down”. To develop community oriented policing departments, newly hired officers must prove strength in group problem solving, communication skills & interpersonal skills. New officers must be skillful and actually enjoy engaging in community problem solving meetings and follow through. We support having community members participating in this hiring process as they have a unique capacity to gauge a candidate’s interpersonal and problem solving skills. Recommendation 5 C seems to be linked closely to A as both address the establishment of training programs in community oriented policing. “5 C” distinguishes the need for training to address officers’ strategies to be engaged with the community. We agree that this needs to be taught and reinforced in training and cannot be left up to chance. Recommendation 5 D addresses the needed development and growth of Spanish speaking officers. We support the recommended method of working with County Human Resources as well as exploration of Spanish Language emersion. We applaud efforts to provide low cost Spanish Language acquisition for non-native speakers. We do take the position that in addition to “incentivizing Spanish language learning for non-native speakers”, we support incentivizing bilingualism for native speakers as well and for community languages other than Spanish. We support 5 E, the training of law enforcement officers and personnel about unconscious bias. Unconscious bias is the “elephant in the room” until it is identified. Officers will prove to be much more effective and fair in their treatment of community members when they learn to identify their unconscious bias and are then empowered to behave and communicate in ways that are consistent with solving problems and calming tense situations instead of contributing to the escalation of critical incidents. Recommendation 5 F is closely related to 5 E. We support the development of training for officers to develop their appreciation for cultural diversity, their responsiveness to culturally diverse people, especially in relation to local issues and multiculturalism. We emphasize that this training needs to be interactive and interpersonal. Lecture style training, the simple delivery of information, will not produce the personal reflective learning necessary to impact officers’ thought processes and behavior. We support recommendation 5 G, that the “Community Policing Model shall be structured to withstand udgetary fluctuations”. Sustainability is key t
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Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:42 PM

TaskForce

County of Sonoma Improve Hiring, Training and Cultural Diversity from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: Sonoma County Democratic Party continuation of previous comments

Topic: Improve Hiring, Training and Cultural Diversity
Subject: Sonoma County Democratic Party continuation of previous comments
Message: We support recommendation 5 G, that the “Community Policing Model shall be structured to withstand budgetary fluctuations”. Sustainability is key to better policing and better community policing over time. We would note that the Roseland community, at one time, had its own police substation that was closed during an economic downturn.

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From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson <bleysrose@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:52 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Enhance Alternative Use of Force Practices from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: Further comments from the Sonoma County Democratic Party

Topic: Enhance Alternative Use of Force Practices
Subject: Further comments from the Sonoma County Democratic Party
Message: Sub recommendation “6-F” articulates that “county staff” will research, review and implement cost effective methods to improve the quality of deadly force training. We would encourage the use of “de-escalation training” in this recommendation. This recommendation primarily defines who is to accomplish this, “county staff”. We strongly urge that the county staff involved be from outside the sheriff’s dept. Also, we would advise the formation of a citizen’s advisory council to review training programs available and to make recommendations of such training programs. We strongly support recommendation “6-G”, that the SO and other Son. Co. LEA’s partner in the development of community policing policies and practices. We also support the position that the Community Policing model be structured to withstand budgetary fluctuations. We suggest an inquiry into cost savings as well as partnering goals which could be achieved when SO and other LEAs select and employ the same training and development programs (in concert with each other). We support “6-H”, independent community-wide assessment of policing attitudes, policy, preparedness and response to encounters. We recommend that a uniform process be developed in all Son. Co. LEAs. This uniformity could be of great value when conducting the analysis of the assessment as well as in making recommended changes to policy, training, or best practices. Sub-recommendation “6-I” calls for review of Field Training Officer (FTO) program to ensure that all parts of the program align with community policing best practices. We would add that all LEAs review all existing programs and guidelines to remove, revise, and/or align them with the best practices of community policing. We are strongly in support of “6-J”, implementing supervisor training on managing deadly force encounters and investigations. We would further advise that coordinating this training among all Son. Co. LEAs could realize cost savings and provide strength through uniformity of these standards among all LEAs. We support “6-K” and “6-L” as the LEO training in community fears and perceptions as well as the move from a “command and control” model to a “police service” model is essential to establishing and sustaining a community policing program. We support the development of “6-M”, a Community Affairs Division with sworn and civilian staff to implement neighborhood outreach, partnerships and engagement.

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Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:55 PM

TaskForce

County of Sonoma Improve Hiring Practices from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Improve Hiring Practices
Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015
Message: Democratic Party Comments, COPS Recommendation 7: Improve Hiring PracticesRecommendations 7 A, B, C, D and E all present viable strategies to recruit Latino and women candidates for law enforcement positions. We are in support of exploring and utilizing all these strategies. We also support 7 F, incorporating community partners input and participation in the hiring process. The recommendations 7 G, H, I, J, K, L all address reviewing and refining the hiring tools, and processes so that candidates can be fairly assessed regarding their aptitude for community policing, predispositions and practices in unbiased ways that do not discriminate against Latinos, women, or any other minority group. We suggest that these hiring processes and practices also develop a way of identifying candidates who may have social disabilities, PTSD, or any other condition that render them prone to rash or violent responses, and/or incapable of compassion for other human beings.

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:05 PM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: Overall comment of the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, approved Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body

Subject: Overall comment of the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, approved Feb. 10, 2015

Message: Introduction and overall SCDCC recommendation. The Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee (SCDCC) overwhelmingly passed a resolution in April of 2014 calling for the creation of a robust, independent review body to oversee the operations of law enforcement in the county. That resolution was shortly thereafter disseminated to the members of the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force (CALLE). The resolution included the following: “The Board should have the power to conduct independent investigations with subpoena power, the right to interview witnesses, and access to all investigative materials, including, but not limited to, reports of the coroner and reports by officers on the scenes.” Because CALLE was constituted by the Board of Supervisors (BOS) and charged with reporting to that body, the Law Enforcement Accountability subcommittee (LEA) of CALLE eventually decided to work specifically on a model of law enforcement oversight that could be implemented by the BOS without the need for municipalities to be enlisted. Thus, the LEA worked to develop a law enforcement oversight model for the Sheriff’s Office (SO). Subsequently, in its research, the LEA concluded that the BOS of a general law county, such as Sonoma, has the power to order the Sheriff’s Office (SO) to answer to an oversight body, including no power to subpoena and conduct independent investigations of the SO. Consequently, the Office of Independent Auditor (OIA) model that the LEA is recommending does not include the power to independently investigate the SO in the way that the SCDCC originally called for. Nevertheless, the OIA can still review internal investigations, with the cooperation of the SO, and can fulfill most of the other functions of an oversight body that the SCDCC considered important. It also must report its findings to the BOS and the public, which can result in public pressure. For example, it can report whether the SO is or is not cooperating or implementing a recommendation. Its monitoring function is very important. Part of the Auditor model being proposed by LEA is the establishment of a Citizen’s Advisory Committee. In our SCDCC resolution we called for such a committee, so that oversight would not just be in the hands of professionals, but in the hands of community members, as well. The reporting out requirements for the auditor and the regular public meetings required of the auditor and the advisory committee are key for institutionalizing a public space where issues regarding policing by the SO are discussed on an ongoing basis and allow for adjustments and improvements. Setting up an OIA would be the first time that any outside body has scrutinized the administrative proceedings of the SO. It is a beginning. Thus, on balance, the SCDCC recommends that the OIA recommendation be adopted by CALLE, with improvements, as set forth in our specific comments that follow. There are a number of similar offices that have been established in California. Without going into detail, the one in San Jose has had a record of success and the web site deserves a visit: http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx The annual reports are particularly enlightening and convey the pressure that the Auditor is able to bring to bear on the police. Finally, it must be kept in mind that any municipality in our county could adopt the model of an oversight body that can independently investigate and mandate changes to policies and procedures in its police department. The powers of the city councils are not limited in the way that the power of the BOS is limited over the SO.

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Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: Specific Comments on paragraphs 1 and 2; SCDCC; approved Feb 15, 2015
Message: The SCDCC strongly supports this portion of the recommendation, including review of the conduct of the entire SO employees, including the employees in the Detention Division and jail. In fact, the language of our SCDCC resolution fell short in this respect, as it called for the review of “all deaths in custody.” However, all misconduct by employees of the Detention Division should be reviewed, period, not just when there is a death. In a detailed review of Sonoma County Grand Jury reports by Marian Killian she finds 13 deaths in custody, (detention, in jail, etc) from 2001 to 20013 (thus recent deaths in 2014 are not included) discussed, some in great detail with recommendations. Deaths in detention facilities are cause for concern in this county. The grand jury reports would be a great starting point for the OIA. The operations, policies, and procedures of detention facilities badly need investigation. With regard to including the conduct of employees of the Probation Department under the purview of the OIA, the ad hoc committee agrees, as the duties and functions match those of the SO.

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From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson <bleysrose@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:12 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: comments paragraph 3; SCDC; approved Feb. 15, 2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comments paragraph 3; SCDC; approved Feb. 15, 2015
Message: This may or may not be the case. Reports and studies we have looked at, which are many, tend not to arrive at conclusions. Primarily, this seems to us to be due to the lack of record keeping and concomitantly, keeping records closed to the public. (In this county, parties have, for example, tried to obtain information about civil settlements, but with little success.

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:15 PM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: comments paragraphs 4,5, and 6; SCDCC; approved Feb. 15,2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body

Message: LEA needs to flesh out the outreach function. What exactly is the content of the education? Details on how to file complaints? Details on how the complaint process works? Inquiries into how the SO or the OIA can better serve communities? Who educates who? It would help greatly, if some of the “successful strategies to engage the public” mentioned above were listed out for us.

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:16 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: comments paragraph 7; SCDCC; approved Feb. 15, 2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comments paragraph 7; SCDCC; approved Feb. 15, 2015
Message: Is this part of the outreach function? Further development of this topic is needed

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Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comments paragraph 8; SCDCC; Approved Feb. 10, 2015
Message: Perhaps the title of this function should not be “facilitate public discourse.” Instead it should be “hold public hearings where the OIA will report on a regular basis.” These hearing would present findings and recommendations of the OIA and whether the SO adopted an OIA recommendation or not, and why. Further development of this topic is needed.

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:21 PM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: comments paragraph 9; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comments paragraph 9; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015

Message: This seems to be going over some of the same ground as the previous recommendation, dealing with public meetings or hearings. The SCDCC does not consider “time to time” to be sufficient. The hearings should be held quarterly. This point also begins to address how the OIA will be organized. The organization of the OIA should be addressed separately in its own bullet point. Questions arise as to the number of employees and their job descriptions, as well as a budget, how it reports to the county (directly to the BOS, or an agency). It is mentioned elsewhere in this document that the OIA is not part of, nor does it report to, the SO, which is also a bottom line, and should be clarified in a topic addressing organization. Auditor offices that we have looked at can range from a staff of one person to many. How many does the LEA have in mind? It is elsewhere mentioned in this document that there would be a Chief Auditor and investigative auditors, but does not state how many investigators. What about support staff and a data base manager? We regard both as important to the running of an office that is organized and tracking data and issuing reports. Also, elsewhere in the document it is stated that the Auditor and investigators will be attorneys. While we have no particular objection to hiring attorneys, we see many instances where investigators have other, but related expertise. For example, the investigator at the Orange County Auditor’s office is a former police investigator with years of experience. If the Auditor is an attorney, would that not supply the necessary test of attorney/client privilege that the LEA is seeking without requiring all the investigators to also be attorneys?

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:22 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: comment paragraph 10; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comment paragraph 10; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015
Message: The material in this bullet point is addressed in greater detail by further recommendations below, so we will comment then.

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Subject: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comment paragraph 11; SCDCC; approved Feb.10, 2015
Message: Like bullet point above, there are extensive recommendations regarding complaints later in the document, and we will address our comments about complaints there.

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From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson <bleysrose@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:26 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: comment paragraph 12; SCDCC; approved FeB. 10, 2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comment paragraph 12; SCDCC; approved FeB. 10, 2015
Message: Absolutely the OIA should report annually regarding its activities.

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:28 PM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: comments paragraph 13; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comments paragraph 13; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015
Message: This is a key function of the OIA, a bottom line. The criteria cited —“complete, objective, thorough and fair” —are the terms of art used in the field and we appreciate that the LEA is using them. We would add, however, that the audit should also scrutinize how complaints are screened, how they are classified and recorded, and whether the dispositions were timely. (See, Walker, S. Police Accountability, Wadsworth, 2001, pp 104-109) In the same vein, the San Jose Auditor applies these criteria: timeliness; classification; presence/absence of supporting documentation; presence/absence of interviews; presence/absence of logical objective application of policy to facts; presence/absence of objective weighing of the evidence. http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=2272

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Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comments paragraphs 14,15,16,17,18; SCDCC; approved Feb 10 2015
Message: The SCDCC agrees that the current complaint process needs reform. While investing the OIA with the ability to receive complaints is a big first step, there are further steps needed. The form itself needs to be improved and translated into other languages. (COPS at one time was working on this, though revision of the complaint form does not appear to be in its recommendations.) Then the form should be disseminated throughout the county in much the same way as voter registration forms. And we agree that the filing of the forms should be allowed by fax, phone, letter, or email. The very fact that a complaint can be filed against a deputy is a message itself that must get out to the public. This should be part of the outreach effort, mentioned above. We see in San Jose that the Auditor does everything from securing ads on buses, to visiting a long list of groups throughout the year as ways to get the message out. The Sonoma County OIA should likewise be charged with such an aggressive campaign. This would refer back to the education and outreach function mentioned in this document above.

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:35 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: comment paragraph 19; SCDCC; Feb 10, 2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comment paragraph 19; SCDCC; Feb 10, 2015
Message: The SCDCC agrees that mediation should be a tool available to complainants and officers. However, it should be regarded as an option, not a requirement, no matter how “low level” the complaint is considered. Criteria should be established for what types of complaints would be suitable for mediation. Criteria that make a complaint suitable for mediation are not necessarily the same as “low level” complaints.

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:38 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: comment paragraph 20;SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comment paragraph 20;SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015
Message: Whether a complaint is filed with the SO or the OIR, after internal affairs makes a disposition, the OIR should review according to the criteria listed in comments for Paragraph 13 above.

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From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson <bleysrose@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:41 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: comments paragraphs 21 and 22; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comments paragraphs 21 and 22; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015
Message: The SCDCC strongly agrees that the OIA should review the investigation of the member agency charged with reviewing the work of the agency involved in the critical incident. As it is now, the review by the member agency is considered not to be arms length, because agencies in the county work closely with each other in numerous ways; because officers from the various agencies often know each other; and because the same agencies end up reviewing each other frequently, because of size and resources. The OIA would be able to critique the investigation from a far more independent standpoint.

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:43 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: comments paragraph 23; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comments paragraph 23; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015
Message: The SCDCC strongly agrees that the OIA should review the investigation of the member agency charged with reviewing the work of the agency involved in the critical incident. As it is now, the review by the member agency is considered not to be arms length, because agencies in the county work closely with each other in numerous ways; because officers from the various agencies often know each other; and because the same agencies end up reviewing each other frequently, because of size and resources. The OIA would be able to critique the investigation from a far more independent standpoint.

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Subject: Comments OIA Citizens' Advisory Committee paragraphs 1 and 2; SCDC; approved Feb. 15, 2015

Message: This is a very positive recommendation. The SCDC strongly supports citizen involvement in the oversight process, and this is a creative and appropriate way to institutionalize it. It is much like the BART oversight arrangement, where the Office of the Independent Police Auditor reports to and works with the Citizen Review Board. At BART the board evaluates the performance of Auditor’s office and participates in the process of selecting successors to the first auditor and it participates in the programs of community outreach. We think that these functions should be incorporated into the job description of the advisory committee. Unfortunately, the recommendation does not address how the Committee would be constituted. In our SCDC resolution we called for a “Board of volunteers, [who] should be appointed by elected officials with the makeup of the board reflecting the racial and ethnic diversity of Sonoma County.” Does the LEA envision that the BOS would appoint the members? Would we run the risk that appointments by elected officials will simply reward their supporters? Should there be an application process similar to the Grand Jury with screening by judges, removing the process from our politicians? This is significant issue and should be addressed. Also, we’ve said that “board volunteers should be properly trained with instruction, including a minimum three hour ride along with an officer, diversity training, and attendance at a training created by county law enforcement to familiarize board members with law enforcement procedures.” We further recommend that the OIA provide training of the advisory committee on a regular basis, much in the way that the BART auditor does.

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Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:50 PM

County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: comment paragraphs 3 and 4 of Citizens' Advisory Committee; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comment paragraphs 3 and 4 of Citizens' Advisory Committee; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015
Message: The SCDCC is looking forward to the posting of the above-mentioned documents on the SO website, as it has been a long time coming.

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Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:53 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: comments paragraphs 5 and 6 or OIA Citizens’ Advisory Committee; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: comments paragraphs 5 and 6 or OIA Citizens’ Advisory Committee; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015
Message: The SCDCC supports all of the above, when it comes to the ways that the advisory board can work with the OIA. Basically, this is a method by which the community can assert itself as a partner with law enforcement to frame policing issues. The community needs to be able to state how it wants to be policed, and not feel that policing is the province of experts who tell the community how policing is supposed to be carried out.

Name: Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson
Email: bleysrose@gmail.com
Home Phone: 823-7224
Work Phone: SCDCC-575-3029
Mail Address: P.O. Box 3727
Santa Rosa, CA 95402
Topic: Investigating the basic issue of establishing a review body
Subject: Comments OIA Youth council; SCDCC; approved Feb. 10, 2015
Message: The SCDCC strongly supports this recommendation. Involving youth in the process of law enforcement oversight should have the same good results as the advisory committee. Once again we are faced with the thorny issue of how to select the members of the body. However, why leave the process to the Auditor?

Name: Sonoma County Democratic Central Committe, Bleys Rose, spokesperson
Email: bleysrose@gmail.com
Home Phone: 823-7224
Work Phone: SCDCC-575-3029
Mail Address: P.O. Box 3727
Santa Rosa, CA 95402
Melissa James

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson <bleysrose@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:56 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Considering what role if any the Grand Jury might play from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015

Topic: Considering what role if any the Grand Jury might play
Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015
Message: The LEA makes a strong case that the Grand Jury is not the right body to review law enforcement. The SCDC has been of this opinion for at least 15 years since the U.S Commission on Civil Rights held hearings in the county, so we appreciate that the LEA is advocating this position.

Name: Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson
Email: bleysrose@gmail.com
Home Phone: 823-7224
Work Phone: SCDC-575-3029
Mail Address: P.O. Box 3727
Santa Rosa, CA 95402
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson <bleysrose@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:58 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma The advisability of separating the Office of the Coroner from the Office of Sheriff from Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson. Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, ...

Topic: The advisability of separating the Office of the Coroner from the Office of Sheriff
Subject: Comments approved by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee Feb. 10, 2015
Message: The LEA is correct that there is a built in conflict of interest when the sheriff is also the coroner. The SCDC agrees that the offices should be separated.

Name: Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, Bleys Rose, spokesperson
Email: bleysrose@gmail.com
Home Phone: 823-7224
Work Phone: SCDC-575-3029
Mail Address: P.O. Box 3727
          Santa Rosa, CA 95402
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Cynthia Strecker <cystrecker@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 29, 2015 1:52 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Suggestion from Cynthia Strecker: community policing and law enforcement accountability

Topic: Suggestion
Subject: community policing and law enforcement accountability
Message: I am pleased by the idea of on-going forums. It's important that everyone in the community have an opportunity to ask questions, express concerns, etc. Just choosing "community leaders" would mean that many of those most directly impacted would be unlikely to have a direct line of communication. Also, I would strongly suggest that Use of Force policies also include guidelines for when deployment of a SWAT team is appropriate. It is my understanding that while SWAT teams are funded and understood by the general public to be largely anti-terrorist tools, they are most often used for enforcement of drug laws.

Name: Cynthia Strecker
Email: cystrecker@yahoo.com
Home Phone: 707-865-2742
Work Phone: retired
Mail Address: P.O. Box 238
Monte Rio, CA 95462
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Dee Swanhuysen <pdswan@comcast.net>

Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 9:15 AM

To: TaskForce

Subject: County of Sonoma Question from Dee Swanhuysen: Law enforcement and serving each Sonoma County Community

Topic: Question

Subject: Law enforcement and serving each Sonoma County Community

Message: Reading through the professional quality draft documents, questions emerge: 1. Providing only this one style of conveying very vital information, for the vast majority of Sonoma County residents, makes it difficult to comprehend the meaning and message and intent. Summary paragraphs are one way to convey intent and recommendations. Current draft summaries are truncated and unhelpful in this regard. 2. Where are translations into languages reflecting our extensively diverse communities? We need to bring everyone into the decision making process ASAP - the essence of your mission. 3. There needs to be a preamble or thorough explanation of what brought us to this point of needing to make changes. Why are we doing this work? What brought us to this point? Without this acknowledgement - beyond the one horrific incident that is the current catalyst - the document will not reflect the reality of our times or problems we must solve together.

Name: Dee Swanhuysen
Email: pdswan@comcast.net
Cell Phone: 707-823-3236
Mail Address: 1800 Jonive Rd
Sebastopol, CA 95472
Subject: Question
Message: Dear Mrs. Rice,

I apologize for the haphazard nature of our presentation tonight. My intention was to present the idea to the group, hand out the proposal that we provided to law enforcement, and receive your committee's feedback.

I understand that this must be explained more and in greater detail. I would like to take you out to coffee sometime in the near future if possible to explain this in greater detail and answer your questions. More importantly, I would like to receive your insights about how we can make this successful for all stakeholders - especially the members of the community.

We do have a relatively short timeline, but not so short that we have to rush this effort. I would like to approach this carefully and thoughtfully to ensure the best outcome.

Your time in person or over the phone would be greatly appreciated. My hope is that we can earn your support - not just for the idea, but for the event itself.

Best Regards,

Jack Tibbetts

Name: Jack
Email: Jack.Tibbetts@sonoma-county.org
Phone: (707) 495-7438
Address: 1882 Knolls Dr
        Santa Rosa, CA 95405
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Marsha Vas Dupre, Ph.D.
<marshad@sonic.net>
Sent: Tuesday, December 09, 2014 1:37 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Comment from Marsha Vas Dupre, Ph.D.: Civility - 12/8/14 mtg. - Community Policing Rept.

Topic: Comment
Subject: Civility - 12/8/14 mtg. - Community Policing Rept.
Message: I went home after the 12/8/14 mtg., prepared dinner, Jack and I talked about the mtg., purposely watched light-hearted movies, and I still cannot stomach what I observed tonight. I applaud you for your fine report and for maintaining proper public discourse. I had hoped that the schoolyard playbook of intimidating behavior was in the past. I was wrong. It was clear to me that the callous behavior I witnessed was highly orchestrated. I am sad for myself that I had to witness it yet again, but I am even more sad that you had to bear the unabashed unkindness. You did not deserve that — especially with the heavy responsibilities with which you have been charged — and by your own colleagues on the Task Force. This is truly inexcusable. The video needs to be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors in Open Session and evaluated immediately. Sincerely, Marsha Vas Dupre, Ph.D. Former Santa Rosa City Council Vice Mayor, SRJC Trustee 3515 Ridgeview Drive Santa Rosa, CA 95404-707-528-7146

Name: Marsha Vas Dupre, Ph.D.
Email: marshad@sonic.net
Home Phone: 528-7146
Mail Address: 3515 Ridgeview Dr. 
Santa Rosa, CA 95404-2633
Subject: Agenda Item: Failures to Perform CALLE’s 4th Charge, and Sheriff Letter Suppression

Dear Chair Banuelos and Vice-Chair Edmonds,

I hereby request a fifteen minute allocation for an agenda item at the CALLE Task Force meeting on February 23, 2015 to allow for free and open discussion among members about three related aspects of the Task Force's fourth charge:

What, if anything, is an appropriate response to the suppression of CALLE’s letter to the sheriff by the BoS?

- What, if anything, is an appropriate response to the sheriff’s letter to the CEH subcommittee, in which he asserted that non-punitive reassignment was inappropriate because the Lopez killing was completely legal and the deputy is popular.

- No evidence of interim or final reports on community healing “related to the Andy Lopez tragedy”, in disregard of the plain language of CALLE's fourth charge, nor interim or final reporting on "whether a sense of [Sheriff's Office] accountability to the community has been enhanced", also in clear violation of the fourth charge.

I do not desire to present anything to the Task force, other than the public record of my statements and my previous correspondences to the Task Force and the CEH subcommittee; my intent is to foster what I expect from you as the lead community representative, that is, a full and fair evaluation of the moral and regulatory dictates that circumscribe Task Force action. I have
attached an updated version of a previous correspondence to you as optional background material for the two Sheriff letter items, including an Executive Summary.

Setting aside the two sheriff letter items above, the fourth charge of the Task Force established a clear mandate for feedback to the Board of Supervisors "related to the Andy Lopez tragedy over the course of the year and [to] bring to the Board of Supervisors such feedback that merits County attention periodically and at a minimum at the end of the Task Force’s tenure...Specifically this feedback should look at whether a sense of accountability to the community has been enhanced." This charge is echoed in the official Definition of the CEH subcommittee, where they in turn are tasked with developing "reports for full Task Force consideration regarding community feedback..." Periodic reports have not occurred as mandated, from either the CEH subcommittee or the full Task Force, and no final report appears on the horizon. Instead, great emphasis is spent on the first three charges, which many feel have much lower priority.

Madam Chair, I have sent you numerous letters on a variety of subjects in your official capacity, and have not yet had the courtesy of a reply. I am thus providing a copy of this request to your Vice Chair; the other members of the Task Force, including the subcommittee Chairs; the Sonoma County Civil Rights Commission members; and a group of 70 citizens who are deeply desirous that you fulfill the Task Force’s charter sole charge concerned with community healing, and who overwhelmingly support this request for the Task Force to discuss these items before the public you represent. I urge you to respond promptly in good faith to this request, in the spirit of courtesy, order, efficiency, and in the spirit of the promotion of true community healing. We are all aware of the dearth of upcoming Task Force meetings planned in the medium-term, which lends an urgency to my request: that is why I informed you in person, eight days ago, during our conversation on this subject, that a formal agenda item request would be forthcoming. Please place this item on the agenda without prejudice, undue delay or inappropriate political considerations, that you properly fulfill the letter and spirit of what many citizens perceive as the most important of the four Task Force charges.

Respectfully,

J. Scott Wagner

P.O. Box 839

Cotati, CA 94931
On Sonoma County Government Responsiveness and Transparency, After the Killing of Andy Lopez

Submitted to the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force 2/2/2015
Executive Summary

Sonoma County government has a heightened obligation for responsiveness and transparency in the event of potential police brutality. Our criminal system is formally (and arguably properly) designed to protect peace officers from undue risk of prosecution, especially in cases when split-second judgments were required. This wide latitude makes victim’s rights problematic to defend through criminal court, typically through quick failures to indict the peace officer, leaving victims little moral redress for: wrong-doing that might have been attendant or contributory; partial culpability for causes such as negligence or recklessness; training or procedural fault; or any non-criminal actions of the peace officer that were pertinent. Absent citizen oversight, and the massive expense of lawsuits, the only way this systemic problem can be addressed is through a largely informal, sympathetic governmental responsiveness and transparency.

Sheriff Freitas’ response to the Task Force’s request to reconsider reassigning Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus implied to some that force of law and perceived popularity prohibited him from reassignment. In fact, court precedent supports reassigning anyone for a wide variety of reasons, including the request of a small portion of the community, or due to a grievance, or in case of a perception of potential harm. I propose that the Task Force respond to the Sheriff with the more detailed concerns that drove the Task Force to
express their general concern, so the Sheriff can address those concerns directly for the public. The Task Force should also ask for insight into the factors (besides the tangential legality and popularity concerns) that were of more weight to the Sheriff.

The Sheriff’s response to the Task Force’s letter (via an indirect letter to a subcommittee) and the action of the Board of Supervisors upon receipt of the letter meant for the Sheriff are examples of lack of responsiveness and transparency under reasonable citizen inquiry. Other examples are: the lack of public discussion by elected officials of Andy Lopez’s death and related brutality, using torts, legal exoneration, and potential Task Force results as a rationale for silence, despite the clear mandate of the Task Force to report on the status of healing after the killing: the refusal to answer questions during public comment sections of the Supervisor and Task Force meetings, in violation of both the letter and spirit of the Brown Act: no procedural changes that might provide the public a confidence that another similar killing will not happen; any clarification of the confusion about what went right and what went wrong in the killing of Andy Lopez, given that procedure was followed. I propose that these points and recommendations for remedy be communicated via report or separate letter to the Board of Supervisors, in keeping with the Task Force’s charter. A pattern of non-communication is somewhat understandable due to the difficulty inherent in working with emotional, frustrated citizens, but it is an unhealthy and risky response. It has led to radicalization of people who ask for reasonable clarity and incident response, and is likely to result in more radicalization. Many fear a risk of violence and activist travel to Sonoma County through continued poor communication, or through yet another killing by law enforcement.

On Sonoma County Government Responsiveness and Transparency, After the Killing of Andy Lopez
Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus was cleared of legal wrongdoing by the district attorney in the killing of Andy Lopez, a 13-year-old in Santa Rosa, CA on October 22, 2013. This action follows precedents that have been set in both the United States and California Supreme Courts, where officers are given a wide berth to use lethal violence, in a job where split-second decisions are needed. The courts have recognized that it's not always clear what officers know, or could know, before responding speedily in the interest of personal or public safety. In case after case, law enforcement officials are given the benefit of the doubt. This happens even in situations where it is distinctly possible that the officers have been grossly negligent or committed manslaughter, because the high courts have not considered it appropriate to peer into the situation from the safety of our homes or courtrooms, far from the circumstances, and assign culpability.

There is a great deal at stake when we charge peace officers with crime—arguably, issues of even more import than justice for a specific victim. This is partially why, over and over, Grand Juries refuse to indict police officers, even for lesser crimes like negligent homicide or manslaughter. Part of the way we depend on peace officers, then, is that we are forced to trust them to act in such situations in a way that best protects the public safety, even when what the law cares about is officer safety. As a nation, we have chosen to consider it inappropriate to make easy judgments about officer motive, intent, and actions.

If a peace officer can be reasonably believed when he answers "yes" to the question "Did you fear for your personal safety?", and there is no sign of a conspiracy of some kind, a peace officer is almost always protected from prosecution if he kills on duty. There are several tensions hidden behind that
sweeping truth. One is that a peace officer might have been in fear of his life, and cleared of prosecution, and yet have done something very, very wrong in their response. Another is that the actions of the peace officer before they were fearful for their life often determine the appropriateness of the killing, but those actions are often ignored in court. In both practice and theory, the law only sets a very minimum threshold for legality in the event of violence, almost the minimum that can be imagined.

To many of us, that leeway seems horrible. I see it as a somewhat reasonable tradeoff between competing, legitimate needs for justice on the one hand, and establishing and maintaining order on the other. Protecting officers from prosecution due to uncertainty means that the criminal courts cannot reasonably be looked to for justice for most victims of police brutality. By saying that we give peace officers broad latitude, we mean lots of unindicted officers\textsuperscript{ii}, which means axiomatically that we give the citizen narrow latitude in seeking justice. At the risk of redundancy: this is not a loophole; it's structured into the explicit language of Supreme Court decisions. These cases became a mature, essentially complete body of work between 1969 and the 1990's. Since that time, the disparity between criminal proceedings, where peace officers are very rarely indicted, and civil courts, where large payments to victims of police brutality are common, has become acute. In the criminal courts, we have to make a choice between protecting officer effectiveness and officer culpability. Criminal courts don't address many questions about officer behavior in these cases. Did the officer escalate the incident significantly, or do everything possible to reduce the risk of violence in advance? The criminal court rarely treats such considerations with care, because they are usually tangential to the judgment, while a tort lives and dies by such moral considerations, and others besides. Was the violence administered carelessly, or with malice? What medical aid was given afterwards? How was the family ministered to?
None of those questions are commonly dealt with in detail in officer
indictments, where they tend to be overshadowed by respect for the agency
of the peace officer and their personal safety.

How, then, do we square the natural desire to protect peace officers with
obtaining justice for the victims?

We can depend on the expense to taxpayers of civil suits to sort things out,
which addresses a problem of justice using a payoff (one which, incidentally,
is not typically paid out of police budgets, therefore removing management
from a vital sense of direct fiscal culpability). Civil suits can provide comfort
and payback for the victim of police brutality and their family, but research
shows that suits don’t provide an effective feedback loop for improvements,
nor a sense among the public that they have an influence in government.

The second solution is civilian oversight of law enforcement; this isn’t available
to us now, though a modest version is being proposed by the Task Force. A
key part of the civilian oversight we seek in Sonoma Country has to do with
explicitly and conscientiously controlling the speed and clarity of responses to
alleged police brutality, so that the public perceives government
responsive.

The only reasonable solution held out to us now depends on the maturity
and attention of elected officials: peace officer management must exercise
both formal care (procedural) and informal care (communication) to be
responsive and transparent. Voluntary responsiveness, in good faith, by
involved government is the only hope for a citizenry that is effectively shut
out from much of the power of the criminal courts when a peace officer kills.
To ignore that requirement for responsiveness, to be quick to declare “case
closed” and pretend that criminal courts are reflective of true justice in the
case of peace officer killings, is to invite the great gulf between the citizenry
and their government we are experiencing in Sonoma County, and to risk a
great deal of civil obedience and other problems.

And it is transparently cynical to do so. We know from generations of legal
scholars, for instance, that the Grand Jury has many healthy legitimate uses,
but it is an extremely problematic vehicle for district attorneys to prevent
indictments on peace officers; it’s accepted knowledge in the legal field, as
well as for almost everyone who has sat on a Grand Jury, for straightforward
reasons such as budget, expertise level, investigative authority, and the
influence of the district attorney. This is, after all, an institution where lawyers
and a judge are not allowed, where proceedings are almost always secret and
unrecorded, and where the District Attorney has very strong control over
evidence, with a legal right to withhold from the Grand Jury any evidence
s/he pleases. These are drastic limitations, yet many, including the Board of
Supervisors and Sheriff Freitas, have publicly placed repeated, great emphasis
on the fairness of Grand Juries in administering justice, and on the importance
and finality of their findings.

We are also aware of the “code of silence” that mutes a great deal of
testimony by the partner officers best placed to testify to wrongs in police
brutality cases. A national survey showed that over 60% of peace officers
stated that their fellow officers don’t report even “major criminal violations” of
other officers, and about 80% testified to active, toxic shunning if such
reporting is done. In addition to that muting of evidence, police management
has a powerful natural motivation for unconscious bias toward finding their
staff’s actions proper, and to skew evidence and publicity to favor that
assessment.

We are a nation of laws, but that is not enough to have made America what
it is today. Criminal justice theory holds that it is morality, not an abundance
of ever-ready laws for all conditions, that makes a society whole. We are a
nation that aspires to achieve the spirit of the law, and to achieve justice when the law does not offer redress. Citizens expect to discuss the case of Andy Lopez from a moral perspective. In tort law, or civil court, issues of morality are more balanced between the peace officer and a potential victim of police brutality. In a wrongful death suit, Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus will almost surely be culpable, for several reasons, but particularly in the lack of care with which he proceeded. You are welcome to disagree, but I believe that one fact suffices in incident analysis to prove he was at fault when he killed: about 10 seconds passed between the moment Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus spotted the child, and when he had finished putting 8 bullets into him. He had complete control of the timing of the confrontation, until he shouted to put the weapon down. He did not take sufficient time and care to evaluate the true level of risk before engaging verbally, with his handgun trained on the child. We have a moral obligation to set aside the minimally pertinent notion of legality to determine appropriateness of behavior. Was roughly 6 seconds of evaluation, during which Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus slowed down, stopped, got out of his vehicle, unholstered, readied his weapon, and trained his weapon on the victim- was that an appropriate amount of time and attention, given the reasonable risk of killing in error? I would submit that the answer to that question doesn’t require ‘a thorough investigation’.

The torts that we habitually look to for justice in police brutality cases costs Americans well over a billion dollars a year in payouts and expenses nationally. Knowing that torts are our sole typical recourse leaves a hollow feeling in activists, but it reflects a great truth: what’s important in torts is the more complete picture of morality. In this case, the people of Sonoma Country will be giving a large payment to Andy’s family because Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus was unreasonable, negligent, reckless, or criminally liable in some way that has nothing to do with his fear for officer safety.
I believe Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus' behavior was all of those things, but I'm not an expert; I could be wrong. Sheriff Freitas and others may argue otherwise; after all, they know the field. Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus is well-regarded by many, and he doesn't have a record of being unduly violent. But regardless of our opinions, it is concern about this killing that prompted the community, via the Task Force, to send the letter to Sheriff Freitas expressing reasonable reservations. They are concerned that Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus is still serving the exact same way. In a brief sentence, they mentioned concern, anger, and fear, but otherwise chose to not detail the reason for the Sheriff to consider reassignment. The Task Force's concern may be wrong as well, but it is a concern that was carefully discussed, and one that was resoundingly voted in. The law, and even internal procedural matters, are quite secondary to their thinking.

Despite these glaring moral issues, and the many questions outside of legality about how and why the killing happened, both the Board of Supervisors and Sheriff Freitas have seemed to maintain themselves as the very models of how to avoid responsiveness and transparency. To my knowledge, the Board hasn't addressed the killing of Andy Lopez in many months. There seems to be an effort to imply they're waiting for the Law Enforcement report to do so, when the report has almost nothing to do with the killing (at any rate, only the board charges addressed by the Community Engagement and Healing subcommittee apply to the killing, and there have been no reports on the status of their four charges). This delaying tactic is an unfortunate and counterproductive stand-in for reasonable communication. Even when a letter was given to the BoS by the Task Force to send to the Sheriff expressing concerns about his decision to not reassign Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus, the head of the board refused pointedly to read the short letter into the record, for no clear reason, despite impassioned requests by citizens. There is a distinctly willful encouragement of an us-versus-them mentality in government, when
there's already plenty of that to go around, and when they are in the best place to ameliorate such excesses.

There's even a supposed by-the-letter application of the Brown Act in meetings and during public comment, in which Supervisors don't respond to direct questions by the public, presumably because it's not on the agenda (the Brown Act was instituted to allow the public transparency and access to meetings; one of primary goals was to prevent a rogue subject being acted on in meetings, by mandating early agendas). This is an ironic violation of both the spirit and the letter of the Act, which states

"...in response to questions posed by the public, a member of a legislative body or its staff may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, or make a brief report on his or her own activities."

Instead of such give-and-take, neither questions nor answers are broached with the public. While it seems a little thing to not respond to citizens in public meetings, to sit in stony silence while citizens wait, it is both telling and quite frustrating, especially when there are a further cavalcade of other, more nuanced ways the public feels distanced from power. Making this one change would provide a very significant benefit to the atmosphere at meetings, reducing the improvident distancing significantly. While witnessing the ire that is unnecessarily generated by these silences in the face of (typically) practical questions, one wonders what the official is thinking, and what form of distorted logic could possibly be at play to justify withholding courtesy, clarity, and public information that way. The practice has spread elsewhere as well, apparently through example, with Task Force members being stubbornly silent for no known reason during public questioning, despite urgent entreaty.

There are many other things an elected official can do to address valid citizen concerns that do not open the county up to civil liability- in fact, there are
helpful steps they can take that will reduce that potential future liability, perhaps greatly. I leave the pertinent advice to counsel, which I urge government to leverage.

The supervisors seemed surprised, and even hurt when a group of citizens spontaneously interrupted proceedings during the Public Comment period on January 27, 2015 in the name of Andy Lopez, prompting an hour-long recess and a forced lockout of the room during the break. I didn’t get the impression that it was a planned activity; it seemed more that the anger from not getting responses, as if the Supervisors were an alien, distant power, caused citizens to spill over the normal barriers of courtesy and tact. Having seen it occur, and the pent-up emotional barrage during and after, it is difficult to imagine that it won’t happen again. I believe it likely that more and more people will attend these meetings, and that they will likely engage in civil disobedience of this kind. Is this inappropriate; imprudent; counter-productive?

We have decided as a society, at least somewhat reasonably, to protect the agency of our peace officers by making both prosecution and the evaluation of partial liability structurally unlikely in criminal court; we must accept the very real risk and cost of that jurisprudence decision, and not cynically deny all forms of victim due process, formal and informal, at the same time. This is what is effectively being attempted by the Board of Supervisors. It’s also being done by the Sheriff, who has also been unresponsive, just at the time when a citizenry with little opportunity for redress needs to feel heard. The wide berth we accord our peace officers to prohibit prosecution in performance of duties has nothing to do with whether Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus is frightening to Sonoma Country citizens now, or if he was unreasonable, negligent, or reckless. The Sheriff is occluding that difference in his response to the Task Force’s letter. He implied in his response that reassigning Gelhaus is out of the question because of considerations related to law and procedure:
"...it is my constitutional responsibility to follow policies and laws. Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus was cleared of any criminal wrongdoing by our District Attorney. Additionally, an internal investigation evaluated Sheriff's Office policies and determined that Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus did not violate any policy."

This is a straw man argument. He is implying that he has an obligation to do nothing, when it is the sheriff's duty to evaluate whether his staff is both competent and appropriate for the work, using a blizzard of dimensions that have nothing to do with law or procedure. The sheriff is not done with his duty simply by stating that Gelhaus broke no laws and violated no procedures. Legal wrongdoing is not the same as incompetency, or cruelty, or poor judgment. A finding for each may be argued. In addition, Sheriff Freitas has a heightened responsibility with a killing to be both responsive and transparent as he does that evaluation.

Officers are rightly fired for many reasons that have nothing to do with whether they have performed illegal actions or violated specific procedures. Incompetency, cruelty, and poor judgment are often manifested in ways that don't violate the law, and they quite rightly result in thousands of firings of officers annually anyway. The courts have only said that the firing must be for just cause, which, as precedent shows, is a very wide field in police departments, where even minor personality weaknesses, poor communication skills, or a particular incident not reflective of their normal behavior sometimes warrant an officer being deemed incompetent to serve. It is a field with grave responsibilities, where management should be free to fire largely as they see fit.

Yet the committee isn't even asking for a firing, though they might have. That surprised me. Job loss may be the more common route of citizen redress in
similar incidents in America. In contrast, the Task Force’s tentatively-worded request that reassignment be reconsidered was remarkably tame. Sheriff Freitas’ tangential reference to laws and the deputy’s popularity in his reply are used as justifications for a lack of responsiveness and clarity. The Sheriff seems unaware that the complete lack of any consequence for Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus is very unusual in a killing of this type. The Task Force should thus make clear to Sheriff Freitas that citizens well understand that the court has made clear that reassignment is not a loss of a “property interest”; the officer still has their job, and is not considered to have lost anything as a result of reassignment. It is not a demotion; it is not a punishment. It is a reflection of any of a wide variety of interests of the department and citizenry.

Reassignment doesn’t require criminal activity, or a fault of any kind. According to a Sheriff’s counsel writing in the magazine The Police Chief, reassignment is considered entirely appropriate as a response to a single grievance, with no legal component or other rationale being necessary to the action. Another common and proper reason for reassignment, that of responding to community needs, can also be strongly argued in the case of Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus, whom many citizens now fear.

The BoS never delivered the Task Force’s letter to the Sheriff, officially; instead, the Sheriff took the political expedient of submitting a response to a similar letter sent by the CEH subcommittee directly, in an apparent attempt to avoid the need for an public response to the entire Task Force. It isn’t appropriate for the Task Force to receive a letter from the Sheriff, by way of a subcommittee or not, that tries to imply a lack of agency in the case on his part. The Sheriff hasn’t reassigned Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus or taken any other known step toward improvements as a result of the Andy Lopez case because he doesn’t want to, for reasons he hasn’t divulged. There is nothing inherently wrong with this decision, per se; but there is something greatly wrong in not talking about his reasons publicly when taking such an unusual position, a long 16 months after the killing.
One final point enters in.

What often gets deliberately hidden in these cases is the fact that it is the killing officer's very job description to evaluate citizen risk properly, to read the terrain properly and respond judiciously. This gets papered over in the official discussions about the incident, typically with inferences about necessary speed, as if it's reasonable to believe that these incidents can be fully circumscribed as unavoidable tragedies. I'm reminded of the recent killing of John Crawford in Ohio, based solely on the strength of a 911 call, exacerbated by embellishment and unreasonable interpretation by the 911 operator and the officer (another common source of citizen death). Mr. Crawford was killed while shopping, as he casually held an air gun in Wal-Mart. A few seconds before he was shot, a family walked by him in the aisle, with no more concern than I have at the moment about being attacked by my neighbor, toiling here in his garden. No fault was assigned in Crawford's death, either, though the killer was reassigned: no violation of procedure was found.

Logically, this means that Crawford died due to a procedure being enacted properly. What does this say about the quality or applicability of that procedure?

Similarly, if 'no procedural violations' occurred during the killing of Andy Lopez, then either significant procedural changes need to be implemented immediately, without waiting for task forces of any kind, or existing procedures are being misapplied, or the procedures are incomplete. There is no logic that can be used to make this conclusion go away. This is the part of the history of this odyssey that concerns me the most: the allocation of this child's death to the realm of the purely accidental "tragedy", as if we're speaking about a mud slide, or a sink hole. Accidental tragedy is a far too
common talisman for peace officers in these cases, while we simultaneously receive the statement that the procedure was followed. If procedure was followed, and a boy died anyway, it seems to escape everyone’s attention that embedded in this comforting talk of tragedy is an assurance that the ‘accident’ may well happen again, since we will continue to use the same procedure. Hidden behind talk of following procedure is a tacit approval by police of the careless, unintelligent, aggressive approach that was used to follow procedure, meaning we are no closer to eliminating potential killings of innocents in the future.

As is common in the nationwide use of this inane loop of logic regarding impeccable following of procedure, not a single phrase from Sheriff Freitas in the public forum seems to assert anything other than an act of God as the cause of the child’s death. Perhaps he’s understandably worried about tort liability, but that is no excuse for the greater risk of complete silence and inaction on procedures. Two of the Task Force’s key goals with instituting an office of independent auditor are good communication and influence into procedures that are in need of review. Why have no procedural changes or new procedures have been acknowledged as a result of Andy’s death? Addressing procedure would seem an early step for anyone significantly concerned with responsiveness and clarity.

I suspect there were “no procedural violations“ because there are no specific procedures for accosting people with weapons, or for accosting people with potentially fake weapons. That seems a good place to start the conversation about procedure. Police brutality tends to follow certain almost boring routines, in predictable patterns; one could also start with those. Don’t get too close to suspects too quickly. Communicate clearly and consistently, especially when turning around to see who’s speaking to you may mean your death. Help your partner do his job right if he makes an important mistake. Avoid the aggressive, harried attitude that might cause an innocent party to
move unpredictably, or to panic (a very common form of police brutality death). And so on.

In other words, it is reasonable to expect procedures that reflect enough care to prohibit virtually any child from being gunned down by experienced peace officers in broad daylight, no matter what the child is holding. Experts, please forgive any mistakes in my extemporaneous list of procedures, but following any one of the above procedural proposals would’ve likely prevented this child’s brutal death; following any two or three would’ve certainly prevented it. If procedures are so porous and flawed that they dictate the apparent actions of Deputy Sheriff Gelhaus as proper— if present procedures actually encourage such a deadly response, as might be inferred by the Sheriff’s stout, implied defense of his deputy’s actions—then we have a grave problem indeed. The absence of any procedural changes, or even discussion of them, is a reflection of a lack of sensitivity, a lack of care around safety, and a recklessness with public communication that isn’t appropriate in elected officials, especially those tasked with public safety. Such a lack of responsiveness also calls into question any assumption that an OIA would automatically change our ability to influence procedure, when even an obvious and highly charged case yields such intransigence from those the OIA is designed to monitor.

After the Watts riots, Martin Luther King, Jr. said “when people are voiceless, they will have temper tantrums, like a little child who has not been paid attention to. And riots are massive temper tantrums from a neglected and voiceless people.” He is often misunderstood as justifying riots with that statement, when he was actually in the middle of a point about their senselessness and waste. It is an unequivocal statement about cause and effect, by an astute student of social psychology. When reasonable redress through the criminal court is demonstrably and formally limited, the trick for local government is to treat the resulting ire and effusion as seriously as they
can stand to, before such mild responses turn into the kinds of "temper tantrums" that are appearing in Sonoma County:

Adverse publicity of the County and the Public Safety Divisions

Demonization of citizens with reasonable expectations of clarity and responsiveness

Nuisance supervisory and sheriff recall efforts

Meeting shutdowns and arrests, and resulting publicity that detracts from the proper action of government

Ethnic division

Political polarization, resulting from a false perception of the need to choose fealty between good peace officers and alleged victims

Negative advance perceptions of our many excellent peace officers, with unpredictable behavioral responses and potential escalations during traffic stops and minor offenses

Difficult or failed reelection campaigns

Property damage

Violence
The first step back from this precipice is a sincere attempt to be responsive and transparent. What form that effort takes is up to the government agent, but upon a bit of reflection, I suspect a vibrant to-do list will arise.

Recall the thousand and more who poured onto the streets when Andy died. Continued poor communication by our government could cause that count to be joined by others from here and elsewhere. It also tees us up to risk an explosion of fury and action in the event of another killing by law enforcement that citizens viewed as suspicious.

Notes

1 From the Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force’s charter: “Fourth, the Task Force is charged with bringing to the Board of Supervisors any additional feedback from the community on these issues that merits County attention...”

2 Note that the interpretation of the fourth amendment is such that an officer can generally prevent indictment by focusing his case before the Grand Jury on how s/he feared for their life.

3 January, 2015 issue of California magazine has an excellent review of the legal issues involved that is understandable by laymen. It is available online at http://alumni.berkeley.edu/california-magazine/just-in/2015-01-06/policing-police-new-demands-reform-rules-secret-grand-juries.

4 This portion of the Act only proves that the Act utterly assumes as a given that responses by public officials during public comment periods should be occurring.

5 This is taken from a copy of the letter made available at krcb.org. I have been told that it is not the actual letter sent, but a separate draft, and that the actual letter is available. I don’t know where a copy of the actual letter is. I’m relying on the substance of the draft letter to be tantamount to the final.

6 The Police Chief, February 2007, “Transfer and Reassignment: An Important but Sometimes Risky Management Prerogative”: “In cases where employees have challenged the legality of a reassignment or a transfer, courts have ruled that the agencies were acting lawfully as long as the agencies had properly documented the legitimate reasons for the action. Legitimate reasons for making transfers and reassignments in law enforcement agencies include deploying officers in response to community needs...resolving personality disputes...failure to meet
performance standards...and resolving a grievance...." In many cases, individual officers have a constitutionally protected property interest in their continued employment, but no officer has a constitutional right to any particular duty assignment or location or shift. In *Atterberry v. Sherman* the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit affirmed that a change in duty assignment does not in and of itself deprive an employee of a property interest.
Thank you... I will forward this feedback to members of the subcommittee for consideration as we continue working on our recommendations. One of the reasons we decided to proceed with a BWC recommendation is because members of the TF had given specific feedback to the SO in August 2014 on their draft policy, and we didn't see any of our feedback incorporated into the draft that was submitted in December to the BOS.

~ Sylvia Lemus

On Tue, Apr 14, 2015 at 11:16 AM, Scott <jscottwagner@hotmail.com> wrote:

Hi Sylvia,

As said, I was quite pleased with the BWC proposals, which were fairly straightforward and I think quite fair overall. They do a good job of traversing the mine field between privacy and freedom of information requirements. Thank you for getting those through for us. They are a very good start.

During the public questioning period, Mark told us that the CALLE BWC procedure proposal and the camera procedures as envisioned by the Sheriff's Office bear little resemblance to each other. May I submit that it would be inappropriate to send a procedural recommendation concerning cameras to the BoS without careful attention to that differential? In effect, you're asking the BoS to recommend a completely different approach to the Sheriff without providing them any appropriate rationale. In fact, they will not do so. The real procedures have effectively begun to be put into place, in an independent body; it must be faced that it is now incumbent upon us to begin to articulate specific recommendations to change those procedures being established now.

Also, tremendous challenges from procedural (physical), control, enforcement, and software specification standpoints were not mentioned. Of course, you can't be expected to be experts at such things, but what is missing is a clear recognition in the writeup and our approach that the actual effort is built on these things, and, in an important way, only on these things. For example, we have apparently already made a software decision: why was that not made clear in the writeup? Does the software fulfill the specifications of the CALLE camera procedure? I'm not sure, but I seriously doubt it, given the extent of the requirements.

By not exploring such things for the BoS, there's an implication left hanging in the air that the BoS should take quite broad recommendations, compare those to the Sheriff's intentions, and adjust the recommendations you give them, using their own research. Why would we expect the BoS to do discovery work along those lines?

Others gaps that can be filled through basic research, based on worthy precedents, or academic work, or query to the Sheriff are: enforcement of procedure, and appropriate consequences of disobeying camera procedure; physical control procedure for downloads, data safety, data transfer; staffing requirements under alternate reasonable scenarios of execution of the proposed information access standards, given the selected software; system hardware standards/tradeoffs.

Eric and I had a brief conversation awhile back about the complexity of this effort. As Mark and I inferred last evening, it will be no mean feat to get cameras up and working well in a way that satisfies both the community
and the Sheriff’s Office, both of whom are key stakeholders, with naturally and even healthily conflicting mandates. A bare beginning would be to compare and contrast these procedural deviations, so that this recommendation doesn’t arrive stillborn.

Kind regards,

J. Scott Wagner
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Chris Wenmoth <cwenmoth@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2014 7:30 PM
To: Webinfo
Subject: Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force Contact Us: Suggestion from Chris Wenmoth

Subject: Suggestion
Message: I think it would be a good idea to revise law enforcement tactics and use of force policies to include taking into consideration the nature of the criminal offense of which a person is suspected. In other words, the amount of force used to restrain or detain a suspect should be in proportion to the crime that has been committed, rather than the level of resistance or noncompliance with police commands exhibited by the suspect. For instance, if a person is suspected of shoplifting or other minor offense, it would not be okay to beat or shoot that person simply because they are resisting arrest or attempting to flee. If the police officer(s) aren't able to take the suspect into custody without causing great bodily harm to the suspect, then the police officers should back off and de-escalate the situation. This is similar to the policies that many law enforcement agencies have adopted in regard to high speed vehicle pursuits, wherein the police break off the chase if the fleeing person is not suspected of a serious or violent offense. Perhaps new methods for subduing suspects need to be invented or employed. For instance, why can't we use tranquilizer darts on humans, the same way Animal Control uses them on wildlife? I've heard arguments against this idea before, but doesn't tranquilizing someone make more sense than shooting them, or beating them to death? In addition, there are several non-violent products on the market that are designed to incapacitate or control uncooperative persons, including guns that shoot bean bags and nets.

I also think that use of force policies should be revised, if they haven't been already, to take into consideration the mental health or intoxication of a suspect when determining an appropriate level of force to use to detain a suspect. For instance, mentally ill people and those under the influence should not be expected to be able to comprehend and obey police commands, and beating or shooting them for not obeying should not be allowed. If a suspect is not hurting anyone or making a viable threat to hurt someone, the police should back off. Thank you for your consideration of these suggestions.

Name: Chris Wenmoth
Email: cwenmoth@hotmail.com
Phone: 707-596-1965
Subject: Question

Message: 1) At the Jan. 27 meeting, during public comment, Father Tom Chesterman suggested allowing interested community members to be part of the Task Force subcommittees. Task Force members agreed to this, with the caveat that they not be voting members. There was also discussion of trying to get more youth involved with the work of the subcommittees. It appears that this was interpreted by county staff as a request from the Task Force to add "youth" members to the Task Force itself. I understood that the Task Force was only interested in allowing some interested nonvoting community members, of whatever age, to assist their work. Did I misunderstand?

2) Also, I notice that, since the Jan. 27 meeting, one of the subcommittees has changed its name from the Civilian Review subcommittee to the Law Enforcement Accountability subcommittee. Did the subcommittee meet and decide to change their name? If so, how does that impact on the charges of the Charter? (Note: The very first charge of the Charter is to review options for an independent "Citizen Review" body, and no mention is made in the Charter of a "Law Enforcement Accountability" body.)

3) I have not heard discussion yet of the lapel cameras. It is important for the public to know that these lapel cameras are used properly. Last October, the ACLU released a position paper endorsing lapel cameras if they are used properly. Link here: https://www.aclu.org/files/assets/police_body-mounted_cameras.pdf.

4) Going forward, will there be email set up for each subcommittee?

Thank you.
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Chris Wroth <andylopezrule@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:30 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Question from Chris Wroth: oversight body subpoena power

Topic: Question
Subject: oversight body subpoena power
Message: At the Task Force meeting of Feb. 2, I challenged the members of the LEA-SC to engage in a written debate (via email) about the feasibility of the four critical oversight components that JCAL and the ALMPL know are necessary for real accountability. The LEA-SC claims these critical components are impossible to achieve under current law. The Task Force claims they seek community engagement. OK, let’s engage. Respond to this email by listing the laws that make it impossible for the oversight body to have subpoena power. If the cited laws are an actual impediment, I will apologize and slink away. If the cited laws are only a lawyer’s legal mirage, I will explain why. Thank you.

Name: Chris Wroth
Email: andylopezrule@gmail.com
Home Phone: 707-820-4026
Cell Phone: n/a
Work Phone: n/a
Mail Address: 10964 Ogburn Lane
               Forestville, CA 95436
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of Chris Wroth <andylepezrule@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 10:26 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Suggestion from Chris Wroth: Oversight Body subpoena power

Topic: Suggestion
Subject: Oversight Body subpoena power
Message: Hi ~ I have been trying to learn, from someone on the LEA subcommittee, why they are not recommending that the new Oversight Body (OB) have the ability to seek subpoenas through the Civil Grand Jury. I, and others, have repeatedly put forth the suggestion that a volunteer committee from the Civil Grand Jury sit in on and audit OB meetings where critical incidents are discussed. This committee would then bring OB subpoena requests to the full Civil Grand Jury for consideration. This would be very simple to arrange, and would give the OB the ability to do an independent investigation. An independent investigation is vital to the process. If the OB only audits the investigations of law enforcement and their District Attorney, how will OB members ascertain if critical information was missed during those investigations. After Andy Lopez was shot, the attorney for the family, an his private investigator, spoke with people who had important information about the shooting, but had been avoiding the police and District Attorney because of fear or distrust. Had the proposed Office of Independent Auditor (OIA) model been in place when Andy Lopez was killed, some of those people would have approached OB members with their information while the investigations were being conducted. These OB members would then sit down at the table to do the investigation auditing - and likely end up arguing over what to do about the information brought to the OB by the public. Without subpoena power to call witnesses and records, the OB would be unable to know if the investigation were fair and complete. I someone would email me back and let me know the rationale for not providing the OB with subpoena power, I would very much appreciate it. Thank you. ~ Chris Wroth

Name: Chris Wroth
Email: andylepezrule@gmail.com
Home Phone: 707-820-4026
Mail Address: 10964 Ogburn Lane
            Forestville, CA 95436
To:        County of Sonoma Considering what role if any the Grand Jury might play from Chris Wroth: Use of Grand Jury

Subject:  Use of Grand Jury

Message: In the Draft Recommendation, "Considering what role if any the Grand Jury might play", the final sentence reads - "We do not recommend that the Grand Jury be used as the sole mechanism for LEA". Members of the public have advocated for using the current Grand Jury in a minimal role that would require no increase in funding/resources. That minimal role would be to act as an informal auditor of Oversight Board meetings, and to ask the Court to subpoena witnesses/records that are requested by the Oversight Board. By using the Grand Jury as an indirect method of gaining subpoena power, the Oversight Board will provide a complete service to the public. I have twice inquired of your office for reason(s) why this cannot be done. To now, I have received no response. I hope to hear from someone soon. Thank you.

Name: Chris Wroth  
Email: andylopezrule@gmail.com  
Home Phone: 707-820-4026  
Mail Address: 10964 Ogburn Lane  
Forestville, CA 95436
Subject: Comment
Message: Last night was heart-wrenching for many people, especially families of victims of police violence...and at the end of the night, many of us realized where the Task Force members stand (though most of us knew before then)...and I THANK those who voted to send the letter of recommendation to the BoS ...for those of you who DID NOT vote for it, SHAME ON YOU ALL!!... you'll showed your vindictiveness, and how truly disconnected you are from the people!! and just downright mean spirited!!... what else is new, huh...
peace
marni wrotch

Name: marni wrotch
Email: recuerdobaja@comcast.net
Phone: 707-696-6375
Address: California 95436
From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org on behalf of marni wrotch <recuerdobaja@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 1:27 PM
To: TaskForce
Subject: County of Sonoma Comment from marni wrotch: Full Task Force Meeting

Topic: Comment
Subject: Full Task Force Meeting
Message: How ironic to me that a TF member would give me crap yesterday at the BoS mtg. about how I "sign" my letters, and probably not ONE of YOU bothered to admonish Essick on his rude behavior towards those victims families and diminished the # of people who want Gelhaus off our streets in the paper...way to go Koenigshofer...beat up the little guy!!PEACE Marni Wrotchps...only 2nd time I've ever written here...what a waste if you ever want to have a REAL conversation Eric...ask...don't bully!

Name: marni wrotch
Email: recuerdobaja@comcast.net
Mail Address: CA 95436
From: Marni Wroth <recuerdobaja@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, December 09, 2014 10:09 AM
To: TaskForce
Subject: maybe this can happen HERE...

http://youtu.be/-B9eVIQCQYI

Peace
Marni wroth
January 30, 2014

Re: Santa Rosa Police Department and District Attorney mishandling of a kidnap, domestic violence, and rape case

Santa Rosa Police Chief Hank Schreeder, District Attorney Jill Ravitch, and Santa Rosa City Council Members,

We’re writing along with Daria (not her real name), a Santa Rosa mother of three small children, to express our concern for the gross misconduct, deliberate indifference, and denial of justice by multiple Santa Rosa Police officers and at least one DA investigator in responding to Daria’s case of kidnap, domestic violence, and rape.

We ask your help in reversing these injustices by, one, ordering an immediate proper investigation of the crimes against Daria, and, two, by carrying out an immediate investigation of each officer involved in this case, and holding them accountable for any part they have in all the wrongs done.

The following account provides yet another example in a staggering picture of our local law enforcement’s ongoing intentional and institutionalized denial of women’s constitutional rights to equal protection of the law in cases of gender based violence, especially to women of color, as is this victim.

The facts of the case also indicate that a number of the involved officers should also be investigated for the criminal acts of dissuading a witness and obstructing justice.

This is by no means an isolated incident. It follows closely on the heels of two separate child rape cases which SRPD also attempted to ditch in a similar manner. It follows also on the department’s own 2011 statistics showing over 75% of sex crimes reported to the department and over 80% of domestic violence calls for service never result in a case even being sent to the district attorney for review.

And it follows on two decades of SRPD’s defiant refusals to properly respond to violence against women and children despite ongoing community pressure do so, and the department’s defiant refusals to integrate women onto the police force, despite numerous sex discrimination lawsuits. As of March, 2012, female officers make up only 8% of the SRPD force, far below the national average of 14%, and only one female held rank above patrol, while 28 males held rank above patrol.

Daria’s Case

On October 16, 2013,

On the evening of October 16, at least two people in a Santa Rosa neighborhood were simultaneously dialing 911 as they were suddenly alarmed by witnessing a woman in her nightgown and robe fighting and screaming to keep from being forced into a car by multiple abductors.
By the time police arrived on the scene, the car the woman had been forced into had left. The victim's husband had gotten their 3 children into a second car and had also left or was about to leave.

According to the police dispatch report (CAD), the officers were informed the husband claimed that they (the husband and the other abductors) were taking Daria to rehab. Without any further investigation, the officers walked away from the scene of the crime and canceled the call.

And that was the end of it!

Despite credible witnesses to an in-progress forced abduction of a woman fighting and screaming to get away, none of the responding officers opened an investigation. None of the officers wrote up a crime report, nor an incident report, nor any kind of report at all. None of the officers even issued a BOLO on the cars. None of the officers did anything except walk away.

How, in any conceivable notion of even the most backwater policing, could these officers have walked away accepting the husband's story? And even if it were true Daria was being kidnapped to rehab, (and it's not), a forced abduction in that circumstance would still be a violent felony criminal act of kidnapping, with independent eye witnesses, that urgently needed to be acted on immediately and with full investigative follow-up.

Daria states she has never used drugs and never been diagnosed with mental illness. Having worked closely with Daria for about a month, we at Women's Justice Center know Daria to be fully sane, educated, honest, forthright, and drug free.

If your officers had done even the most minimal investigating they would have easily been able to prove that the day before the kidnapping Daria had applied to and been accepted into the Santa Rosa YWCA battered women's shelter and planned to leave her violent and abusive husband the next day with her children.

Further, they would have found there is clear and convincing evidence that on learning of Daria's plans to leave the marriage and enter a shelter, the husband quickly hatched a plan with family members to undertake the kidnapping...if only SRPD had cared enough to have done the most minimal investigation.

October 17, 2013

Daria was beaten up, injured, and physically restrained in the car drive from Santa Rosa to Bakersfield in the abductors' efforts to thwart Daria's repeated attempts to escape from the car. Daria's husband was following with the children in a second car. When Daria and the children arrived in Bakersfield, Daria once again attempted to escape, this time successfully. She ran to a neighbor's home, and used the neighbor's phone to dial 911.

Kern County Sheriff Department responded - almost as poorly as the SRPD, though they did take Daria's statement. Kern County District Attorney's Office did take photographs of Daria's injuries from the beatings. However, both agencies recognized the obvious, that the jurisdiction and responsibility for this case is Santa Rosa, California, as the jurisdiction for any crime is where the crime initiates.

Daria entered a battered woman's shelter in Bakersfield, which shelter would later transfer Daria to the Santa Rosa YWCA battered women's shelter on October 20, 2013.

October 18, 2013

Before leaving the Bakersfield shelter, Daria spoke by phone with the chief investigator at the Sonoma County DA's Office. After Daria recounted the details of the kidnap, the DA investigator, though
admitting on the phone that Santa Rosa Police had mishandled the case, advised Daria to deal with this in Kern County.

This is outrageous, since, the Sonoma County DA investigator knew the jurisdiction of the case was Santa Rosa.

October 22, 2013

After arriving at the Santa Rosa battered woman’s shelter, Daria went to Santa Rosa Police Station to report the kidnap herself. The responding officer opened a criminal kidnap case # 13-0013106. He wrote a report adequately describing Daria’s account of the kidnap, an account that matched that of the witnesses who had called 911 at the time of the kidnap.

The officer did not, however, include in his report the husband’s history of domestic and sexual violence against Daria, including the attacks that occurred two days before the kidnaping, the attacks that had prompted Daria’s decision to apply to the YWCA shelter. Daria told this history to this officer, including the fact that she had a video of her husband attacking her, and other evidence of his violence.

As per SRPD protocol, this case was sent to the head of SRPD domestic violence/sexual assault unit Sgt. Terri Anderson. There the case was assigned to a detective.

On or about October 29, 2013

Daria receives a phone call from the detective assigned to the case. The detective told Daria to take a few days to think about if she wanted to go forward with the case at which time the detective would call back to see if Daria wanted to continue.

November 5, 2013

When Daria hadn’t heard back from the detective by November 5, Daria called and left a message on the detective’s phone saying she wants to go forward with the case.

November 14, 2013

By November 14, when Daria still hasn’t heard back from the detective, she has a shelter advocate attempt to get hold of the detective by phone. A message is left for the detective.

November 18, 2013

The detective calls the shelter advocate to ask if Daria wants her abductors held accountable. Daria is present and again tells the detective “yes” through the advocate.

Instead of badgering Daria over the phone about whether Daria is sure she wants to go forward with the case, the detective should have right away set up an in-person, in-depth interview with Daria, especially given it’s now nearly a month since Daria herself has reported the kidnap, and more than a month since eye witnesses reported the crime at the time it occurred.

November 19, 2013

The next day, Daria herself calls the detective to leave a message on the detective’s phone again confirming she wants the abductors held accountable.
November 22, 2013

When Daria still doesn't hear back from the detective, she again calls the detective to find out what was happening regarding her case. In this or an earlier conversation, Daria has also informed the detective of the domestic and sexual violence history perpetrated by her husband. The detective states that Daria should file a separate police report regarding the history of violence.

Clearly, this detective and her boss, Sgt. Terri Anderson are doing everything they can to obstruct justice and discourage Daria from going forward on the kidnap case, and to get Daria and her case to go away. This detective still hasn’t set up an interview with Daria.

November 29, 2013

Despite this unnecessary step, Daria was trying to cooperate. She went into the police station, as instructed, and filed a police report with Santa Rosa P.D. regarding the history of verbal and physical abuse and rape by her husband. The case # of that rape/domestic violence report is 13-14776

November 30, 2013

Daria dropped of video footage at SRPD which provides clear evidence of her husband’s domestic violence. The officer tells Daria he has contacted her husband to get a statement.

Given that there is now a rape case and kidnap case, with no investigation as yet, contacting the husband for a statement is the last thing the officer should be doing.

December 5, 2013

The detective informs Daria that since most of the abuse took place in Kern county, she will be forwarding the report filed with officer to either Bakersfield police department or the Kern county sheriff's office.

The rape occurred in Penngrove and should have been forwarded to the Sonoma County Sheriff's Department. The detective knew this. Most significantly, the detective continues to avoid initiating any investigation of the kidnaping while sending the victim off on one wild goose chase after another.

December 13, 2013

The detective questions Daria again about whether she wants to go forward with the kidnaping case, trying to make her feel guilty for wanting to prosecute family members and additionally claiming that Daria’s husband had little to do with the kidnaping itself.

First, there is easy to obtain, clear and convincing evidence that Daria’s husband was the intellectual author of the kidnaping as well as a full participant in the kidnaping.

Second, this detective has now badgered Daria at least five times about going forward or not with the kidnaping case, despite the fact that each and every time Daria has said very clearly that she wants to pursue the case. Both the detective and the head of the DVSA unit, Sgt. Terri Anderson, should be charged with the criminal acts of dissuading a witness and obstructing justice.

December 23, 2013

The detective leaves a message with Daria stating that Kern county now has the (kidnap) case to be
reviewed by the Kern County D.A. The Kern County District Attorney's Office has made clear to us that they are not taking the case, for the obvious reason that jurisdiction for the case is Santa Rosa, California.

Having failed to discourage Daria by SRPD's usual means of dragging their feet, repeatedly badgering the victim about going forward, making her feel guilty for wanting to prosecute her husband and family members, misinforming her, and making her jump through unnecessary hoops, SRPD now tries a last ditch maneuver to get rid of Daria by telling her completely incorrectly the kidnap case is being handled by Kern County.

As a result of SRPD's failures and gross misconduct in responding to the crime's against Daria, Daria's husband was able to quickly go into Kern County family court and get an ex parte order giving him custody of her three children.

Thank you for your attention.

Marie De Santis
Director

Taylor Anderson-Stevenson
Advocate

Case Victim

c:
Kern County Deputy DA, David Wilson
Kern County DA Investigation asst., Diana Kadel
California Police Chief's Association
California Attorney General, Kamala Harris
FBI Field Office, San Francisco
UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, Ms. Rashida Manjoo
Sonoma County National Organization of Women
Soroptimist International of Santa Rosa
Santa Rosa American Association of University Women
Sonoma County Men Evolving Non-Violently
Sonoma County American Civil Liberties Union
Sonoma County Peace and Justice Center
Internet
Background Information on the Four Petition Demands

1. Open the monthly Sonoma County Law Enforcement Chiefs’ Association meetings to the public under Brown Act type rules!

Every month, Sonoma County law enforcement chiefs - the District Attorney, the police chiefs, the Sheriff, the Probation chief, and more - get together to hammer out law enforcement issues and policies for the county. Astoundingly, they do so completely off the public record, behind closed doors. For a tangle of legal arguments, law enforcement is exempt from Brown Act open meeting requirements.

However, the key point here is that there is no law anywhere that prohibits the chiefs’ meetings from obeying any or all of the Brown Act rules. All it would take would be a mandate from our local city councils and board of supervisors to put this in force.

It’s unacceptable that in a democracy the debate and forging of our law enforcement policies is carried out in secret. With all the enormous behind-the-scenes powers already built into law enforcement activities, no community can afford to be so completely shut out of policy decisions. Creating transparency and community input on shaping law enforcement policy is key to reform. The monthly chiefs’ meeting is a good place to start.

2. Establish county wide policy that all domestic violence and sex crime police reports get sent to the District Attorney’s Office for review!

In stark contrast to official rhetoric, no category of serious crime is treated more poorly, and with such systematic and deliberate indifference, than sex crimes and domestic violence. In Sonoma County, according to the most recent compilation of 2011 statistics, over 75% of all sex crime reports and over 75% of all domestic violence calls for service get shelved and buried in our police departments without ever being sent to the DA for review. This discriminatory denial of justice by police is extremely dangerous to the community and must be stopped!

Setting policy that all domestic violence and sex crime reports be sent to the DA for review is not the entire solution, but it will serve to stem the mass burial of these cases that’s currently taking place. There’s no reason this policy can’t be put into effect immediately. This exact policy was put in place county-wide in 1996 for domestic violence cases as a measure to combat police disregard. That policy has since been rescinded behind the closed doors of the law enforcement chiefs’ meetings.

3. Form representative citizen groups - with veto power - to work with officials on the recruiting, hiring, training, and promotion of all law enforcement officers in our communities!

One of the most unexplored points of influence over police conduct is for the community to oversee who, and what kind of person, is allowed to wield police powers in the first place. There’s no reason we can’t have representative citizen committees, with veto power, involved at every point in the process, from recruiting, to hiring, training, promotions, and selection of chiefs.

A timely place to start is to form a representative citizen panel - with veto power - to join in the recruitment and hiring of Santa Rosa’s upcoming selection of a new chief.

And another, and formidable area for change, is at our local police academy, where a rigid, outmoded system keeps replicating the same narrow brand of officers. The academy is rife with discriminatory and archaic practices, such as the academy’s para-military style of training, a style that academies around the country are abandoning because of the ‘us-them’ mentality it instills.

4. The District Attorney’s Office, as well as police and Sheriff’s departments, should be included for review in any law enforcement Civilian Review Boards formed in Sonoma County!

Trying to reform police practices while ignoring the District Attorney’s office is like trying to change the music coming from an orchestra without dealing with the conductor.

The DA is at the apex of law enforcement power. The DA’s office reviews every crime report sent in from police agencies throughout the county, and decides which cases will be prosecuted and to which degree. In this role as ultimate gatekeeper and reviewer the district attorney has enormous control over police conduct.

Even though less visible than police, the DA not only has the power to single handedly determine which crime categories will be pursued or ignored, the office also has the power to tolerate or not tolerate abusive and discriminatory police practices in the community.

Including the district attorney’s office in the purview of civilian review boards will greatly expand the breadth of community control of law enforcement practices.

What are we waiting for? Taking control of our law enforcement conduct is within our reach now, with or without formal civilian review boards!
PETITION - see reverse for background information
TO THE CITY COUNCILS AND THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF SONOMA COUNTY

LAW ENFORCEMENT REFORMS NOW!

1. Resolve that the monthly meetings of the Sonoma County Law Enforcement Chiefs’ Association
be open to the public and be conducted on the record under Brown Act type rules.
(Law enforcement policies in Sonoma County must cease to be made behind closed doors!)

2. Resolve that all police and sheriff sex crime reports and domestic violence crime reports be sent
to the District Attorney’s Office for review.
(Our police and sheriff must stop burying the overwhelming majority of violence against women and children crime
reports in their departments without sending these reports to the DA’s office for review.)

3. Resolve to form a representative citizen group - with veto power - to work with officials on the
recruiting, hiring, training, and promotion of all law enforcement officers in your community.
(Communities must have meaningful input on which individuals can and cannot wield police powers.)

4. Resolve that the District Attorney’s Office, as well as police and Sheriff’s departments, be
included for review in any law enforcement Civilian Review Boards formed in Sonoma County.

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE

MAIL signed petitions to: Women’s Justice Center, P.O. Box 7510, Santa Rosa, CA, 95407 * Tel: 575-3150

For BACKGROUND on Petition Demands, see petition download page, English or Spanish.

Organization ENDORSEMENT: Write a one sentence endorsement on the petition. Date, sign, and mail in.
Melissa James

From: Marie De Santis <mariedesantis@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:34 PM
To: TaskForce; Maddybook
Subject: Comment Letter to Sonoma County Law Enforcement Task Force
Attachments: taskforceletter.pdf

To whom it may concern,

Please see attached our letter of comments to the Sonoma County Law Enforcement Task Force.

Thank you for your attention,

Marie De Santis
Women's Justice Center
March 30, 2015

Sonoma County Law Enforcement Task Force
Santa Rosa, CA

To Sonoma County Law Enforcement Task Force,

We’re writing to comment on the draft recommendations of the Law Enforcement Task Force Community Policing Sub-Committee as they pertain to women and to the Task Force goals, in particular the goals of ending officer excessive use of force and enhancing community policing.

On January 8, 2015 we received an alarming statistic from the Sheriff’s Department in response to our public record request for sex/race demographics of the department. As of January 2015, of the 232 sworn law enforcement officers employed by the Sonoma County Sheriff’s Department, only 8 of these officers, a mere 3%, are female; far below the national average of 15%, abysmally far from parity at 50%, and completely unchanged from over 20 years ago. (See Sheriff’s reply below.)

That we have only 3% female law enforcement officers in the Sheriff’s Department in the year 2015 is, by itself, of extreme concern. The Sheriff’s exclusion of women calls for urgent targeted analysis and remedies, especially given that for two decades the Sheriff has defiantly pushed backed against all attempts by the community, government agencies, and by the courts to reverse the department’s entrenched hostility to women.

But we mainly want to express our concern that the Task Force draft recommendations themselves have neglected to address this exclusion of women in any specific way. In fact, the recommendations don’t even specify the low percentage of women, though they do specify the fact that there are only 9% Latino officers. Though the Task Force has certainly had this data on the Sheriff’s exclusion of women at hand, it has deemed it virtually irrelevant to the Task Force goals other than to insert the two words, “and women” at a couple points along the way.

The recommendations also provide no specific means for correcting this defect. These omissions are a major disservice to the community given the many ways in which the exclusion of female law enforcement officers bears directly on the issues the Task Force has been called on to resolve, especially the issue of officer-involved-shootings and officer excessive use of force. In fact, it is unlikely that any of the goals of ending officer excessive force or instilling community policing norms, can be achieved without specifically and centrally targeting an end to the hyper-male culture and highly distorted male makeup of the department.

Multiple studies by both government and academics have repeatedly demonstrated that officer race makes little difference in rates of officer-involved-shootings and use of excessive force. But officer sex is highly significant. Female officers having dramatically lower rates than male officers of officer-involved-shootings and excessive use of force, dramatically lower rates of officer misconduct of every kind, and dramatically lower rates of citizen complaints.
Further, the studies show that female officers overall outperform male officers in precisely the community policing traits the Task Force claims to be seeking. Most germane, female officers tend to de-escalate volatile situations where male officers tend more to respond to these situations as a challenge and to escalate.

The gravity of the situation in our Sheriff’s Department is greatly magnified by the decades that have gone by in which the Sheriff’s exclusion of women has been allowed to continue. As a result, the department’s hostility to women has become badly institutionalized and cemented into a warped and dangerous hyper-masculine culture. The problem is so entrenched that despite over a dozen lawsuits by female officers, interventions by both federal and state departments of justice, community petitions and pressure, the Sheriff’s exclusion of female officers has not budged from 20 plus years ago - to the great detriment of the community.

Yet despite the obvious gravity of this problem, the only reference to women at all in the recommendations comes at two or three points after laying out detailed timetables and targeted remedies for the hiring, recruiting, and bridge building to the Latino community, where the two words, “and women” are tacked on to the end of a sentence. This is perhaps worse than no mention at all, as it communicates that, yes, the Task Force is aware of the Sheriff’s Department’s problem with women, but deems it not worth wasting time or words to focus on.

Further, the Task Force seems sorely insensitive to the fact that the remedies laid out to address the Sheriff’s shortcomings in the Latino community cannot be simply pasted on to dealing with the Sheriff’s failures with women. For example, the problem for women at the Sheriff’s Department does not so much the need the neighborhood outreach, recruiting, and hiring that is delineated for the Latino community. Following high profile lawsuits by female officers, the Sheriff’s Department has never had any trouble hiring on big batches of female officers. Rather, the problem is deeply rooted within the Department where abusing and driving out female officers reaches the level of a vicious company sport.

Read any one of the dozens of lawsuits filed by female Sheriff’s Deputies and you’ll see that the Sonoma County Sheriff’s Department is defiantly determined to keep female law enforcement officers out of their ranks. This problem will never be solved by simply recruiting and hiring more women for the department to crush, nor by tacking the words, “and women” onto Task Force recommendations, nor by failing to understand how the exclusion of women augments police brutalities and warps police culture.

We’ve sat down with individual Task Force members to discuss these and related issues. We’ve provided written materials, and attended meetings. That the Task Force recommendations now so cavalierly dispense with women raises the obvious question of whether the Task Force is serious about preventing more heartbreaking homicides like the Sheriff’s killing of Andy Lopez, Jeramiah Chas, Teresa Macias, and the dozens of others who have died unnecessarily at the Sheriff’s hands.

Sincerely,

Marie De Santis
Director

NOTE 1 - Note that Windsor and Sonoma Police are Sheriff Department deputies.
NOTE 2: Note that it took over seven weeks for the Sheriff to finally properly respond to our records request for information they have on hand at all times, and then only after a heated phone call. Their December 2 response was a ‘we’ll get to it later’ letter. Law requires that they provide the information within 10 days unless they don’t have it.
January 8, 2015

Marie C. De Santos
Women’s Justice Center
P.O. Box 7510
Santa Rosa, CA 95407
mariecsantos@gmail.com

Via email & USPS

RE: California Public Records Act request dated November 19, 2014

Dear Ms. De Santos,

The Sonoma County Sheriff’s Office ("SCSO") is in receipt of the request you have made under the California Public Records Act ("CPRA") dated November 19, 2014. The SCSO provided you with an initial response on December 2, 2014. This letter is in follow-up to the SCSO's initial response.

The following is the responsive information for your request.

1. A. Total number of sworn law enforcement officers in your department,
   - 232 Total
   - 201 Sonoma County Sheriff
   - 18 Windsor PD
   - 12 Sonoma PD

2. B. Total number of sworn law enforcement officers in your department who are female,
   - 8 Total
   - 8 Sonoma County Sheriff
   - 0 Windsor PD
   - 0 Sonoma PD

3. C. Total number of sworn law enforcement officers in your department who are Hispanic,
   - 14 Total
   - 13 Sonoma County Sheriff
   - 0 Windsor PD
   - 1 Sonoma PD

4. D. Total number of sworn law enforcement officers in your department who are Asian,
   - 4 Total
   - 3 Sonoma County Sheriff
   - 1 Windsor PD
   - 0 Sonoma PD
E. Total number of sworn law enforcement officers in your department who are African American,
   - 4 Total
   - 4 Sonoma County Sheriff
   - 0 Windsor PD
   - 0 Sonoma PD

F. Total number of sworn law enforcement officers in your department who are Native American,
   - 2 Total
   - 2 Sonoma County Sheriff
   - 0 Windsor PD
   - 0 Sonoma PD

G. Total number of sworn law enforcement officers in your department who are Latina,
   - 3 Total
   - 3 Sonoma County Sheriff
   - 0 Windsor PD
   - 0 Sonoma PD

2. A. Total number of sworn law enforcement officers in your department who hold the rank of Sergeant and above.
   - 46 Total
   - 40 Sonoma County Sheriff
   - 3 Windsor PD
   - 3 Sonoma PD

B. Total number of sworn Female law enforcement officers in your department who hold the rank of Sergeant and above.
   - 2 Total
   - 2 Sonoma County Sheriff
   - 0 Windsor PD
   - 0 Sonoma PD

This completes the Sonoma County Sheriff Office's response to your CPRA request.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Shannon Dower
Discovery Clerk
(707) 995-3933

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COMMUNITY AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE
Draft Recommendations Feedback Form

NAME (optional): ______________________________________________________________________
E-MAIL (optional): ____________________________________________________________________

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:
  o Community Policing
  o Community Engagement and Healing
  o Law Enforcement Accountability

RECOMMENDATION NUMBER/NAME: __________________________________________________________________

COMMENTS:

The following suggestions should also be adopted:

I. Moratorium on hiring of military veterans as police officers within the county

II. Moratorium on hiring of law enforcement officers that have been previously fired by other departments.

III. Deputy Gellhaus be removed from patrol.

IV. Trees and other landscaping at Andy Lopez memorial remain undisturbed and not moved, altered, removed or in any way touched by the county as plans move forward for a park at that location. The trees and landscaping have been planted by the community.

V. DO NOT adopt the recommendation to put additional school resource officers in county schools.
Tamera Agard
Gabriel Albavera
Angela
John Bechtul
Tom Bonfigli
Zac Britton
Ann Gray Byrd
Curtis Byrd
Ernie Carpenter
Ann Case
Mario Castillo
John Chaney
Father Tom Chesterman
Bob Close
Liz Cozine
Dara
Sun Dave
Maria de Los Angeles
Duane DeWitt
Deborah Dobish
Jim Duffy
Susanne Dugan
Colleen Fernald
Angela G.
Carla Greeman
Eric Gregory
Nicole Guerra
Elijah Hamilton
Martin Hamilton
Carol Hiatt
Michael Hilbur
Terry Hilton
Elaine Holtz
Maggie Kane
Becca Kennedy
Dan Kerbein
Susan Lamont
Helga Lemke
Magick
Rick Massell
Marty McReynolds
Omar Medina
Evalina Molina
Rueben Mora
Eileen Morabito
Thomas Morabito
Attila Nagy
Evelyn Navarro
Thorr Olsen
Dolores Ornelas
Jay Ortega
Kathleen Parkinson-Jones
Linda Picton
Joshua Pinaula
Ken Quintana
Michael Rothenberg
Jeanna King Ruppel
Dave S.
Frank Saiz
Ana Salgado
Alfredo Sanchez
Joe Sha
Lynell Shorman
Gail Simons
Susanne
Irv Sutley
Jack Tibbetts
Terry Tigersaftey
Tonatiuh Trejo-Cantwell
Peter Tscherneff
Marsha Vas Dupre
J. Scott Wagner
Terry Weiss
Lynda Williams
Christopher Wroth
Marni Wroth
Anna Lugo
For Further Information Please Contact the Sonoma County Administrator’s Office

(707) 565-2431

Or Visit the CALLE Task Force Website at