RICHMOND POLICE COMMISSION

Wednesday, January 7, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.
Community Services Building
330 - 25th Street
Conference Room 1

MINUTES

I CALL TO ORDER (Roll Call) (Chair Cora Ward)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Cora Ward

ROLL CALL

Present: Nemy Bautista
Dolores Hembree
Glenn Stephenson
Chris Tallerico
Cora J. Ward
Naomi Williams

Absent: Roberto Reyes

Vacancies: Two

Administrative Staff Present: Don Casimere, Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer
Malia Glover, Administrative Secretary

Council Liaison: Councilmember Harpreet Sandhu - Present

City Attorney’s Office Representative: Mary Renfro, Assistant City Attorney – Present

II PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 5, 2008

Upon motion by Commissioner Hembree and second by Commissioner Williams the minutes for the regular meeting of November 5, 2008, were approved as written.

Chair Ward read a resignation letter from Cochise Potts.
COMMENTS BY COUNCIL LIAISON HARPREET SANDHU

Councilmember Sandhu said that it has been an honor being the Commission liaison. This will be his last meeting as liaison. He said it has also been an honor being a member of the City Council. He said the Police Commission is very important to the community and he will continue to be in touch with the Commission.

The commissioners thanked Councilmember Sandhu for being liaison and for his words of encouragement.

IV COMMENTS BY CITY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE

Assistant CA Mary Renfro said she had no report.

V REPORT BY CHIEF OF POLICE (Chris Magnus or his representative)

Deputy Chief Medina distributed yearly statistics for RPD. He said they ended the year on a positive note. He said the total violent crime is down more than 14% for the year and total part one crimes, including property crimes are down almost 11%. The officers have been working extremely hard over the year to embrace the neighborhood and geographic policing that they have in place and their involvement with many members of the community has helped. The community has helped with quick closure to some recent incidents that have occurred in the City.

D/C Medina presented the Commission with the following statistics on the department’s taser usage in 2008. 60 total uses of the taser – 38 actual deployments (by dart); 8 drive stun (no darts); 3 misses (no contact w/subject); 11 give ups (when taser was seen before it was deployed). To date, there has been one usage in January.

D/C Medina distributed an update by the Chief with RPD’s New Year’s goals. He stated that this year they will focus on updating/revising some of their policy manual sections. They will also be compiling a year-end data report. It will include data and real time stories from many aspects of the police department. They have reserved two pages for use by the Police Commission.

Commissioner Tallerico congratulated the police department on their accomplishments in 2008. He requested that a briefing on high speed pursuits be given at the next Police Commission meeting. He would like to know when wrong way pursuits on the freeway would be within policy.

VI REPORT BY POLICE OFFICER ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

No representative present.

VII REPORT BY GUARDIANS OF JUSTICE ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

No representative present.
VIII REPORT BY LATINO POLICE OFFICER ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

No representative present.

IX PUBLIC FORUM

No speakers.

X REPORT BY CONFIDENTIAL IAO (Don Casimere)

CIAO Casimere handed out invitations to an inaugural event hosted by the City of Richmond.

XI COMMISSIONER’S REPORTS

A. Outreach Committee

No report

B. Reports on Community Events/Training Attended

Commissioner Hembree
• Participated in firefighter oral board
• Attended memorial service for Capt. Griffin’s wife

Commissioner Stephenson
• 11/20/09 – Preview of new PAL facility
• Attended services for Capt. Griffin’s wife
• Participated in firefighter oral board
• Attended police officer swearing-in ceremony
• Toy donation for Early Childhood
• Food donation to Lutheran Church

Commissioner Bautista
• 12/07/09 – Attended United Pangasinanes of America meeting in SF
• 12/13/09 – Attended Family Christmas Concert at Hilltop Community Church
• 12/21/09 – 4 hour ride-along with Off. Joe Pineda
• 12/23/09 – Attended a 30 minute line-up and briefing at RPD
• 12/31/09 – Attended 35th anniversary and induction of officers, Filipino Americans of Contra Costa. Special Guest – Councilmember elect, Nat Bates
Commissioner Williams
- Participated in firefighter oral board
- Attended West County Alcohol Policy Working Group meeting
- Attended police officer swearing in ceremony
- Invited commissioners to inaugural event at El Cerrito Cinema
- Fed homeless for Thanksgiving and Christmas through GRIP

Commissioner Tallerico
- Attended PAL open house
- Attended memorial service for Capt. Griffin’s wife
- Attended police officer swearing in ceremony
- Ride-along with Off. Kaiser
- Ride-along with Hercules Police Department
- Ride-along with Off. Hauschild
- Charity event for Off. Moody’s children (college fund)

Chair Ward
- Congratulated Commissioner Williams on her award at BWOPA
- Participated in firefighter oral board
- Attended PAL open house
- Fed 2 families for Thanksgiving and Christmas
- Attended police officer swearing in ceremony

XII EXECUTIVE SESSION: Public Employee Performance and Discipline/Release (Police Officers)

A. Discussion and Action Regarding RPC Complaint #04-2008

Upon motion and second, the report for RPC Complaint #04-2008 was accepted with the following vote: Ayes – 6; Noes – 0; 1 commissioner absent. The findings of Unsubstantiated for the allegations of Excessive Force and Unsubstantiated for allegations of Racially Abusive Treatment were accepted with the following vote: Ayes – 6; Noes – 0; 1 commissioner absent.

The Complainant, Officers and Chief of Police will be notified in writing of the findings regarding this complaint.

B. Discussion and Action Regarding RPC Complaint #05-2008

Upon motion and second, the report for RPC Complaint #05-2008 was accepted with the following vote: Ayes – 6; Noes – 0; 1 commissioner absent. The findings of Unsubstantiated for the allegations of Excessive Force were accepted with the following vote: Ayes – 5, Noes – 1; 1 commissioner absent.

The Complainant, Officers and Chief of Police will be notified in writing of the findings regarding this complaint.
C. Discussion Regarding Complaints Received in the Past Month and Past Complaints

No new reports received in the past month.

XIII ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Commissioner Tallerico and second by Commissioner Stephenson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

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Don Casimere
Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer