

**LANCASTER CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
MINUTES
January 9, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Fuller called the meeting of the Lancaster Criminal Justice Commission to order at 10:05 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commission Members: Brown, Gaupel, Pickens, Smith, Vice-Chairman Fuller

Absent: Commissioner Chelette, Chairman Vierra

Staff

Members: Senior Criminal Justice Analyst, Public Safety Manager, Assistant City Clerk

Additional

Attendees: Vice Mayor Crist, California Highway Patrol Captain Steve Urrea, Deputy City Manager, CJC Liaison

INVOCATION

Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Lancaster

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Brown

Commissioner Chelette arrived at the meeting at this time

PRESENTATIONS:

Presentation of Law Enforcement Pursuit Policies

California Highway Patrol Captain Urrea introduced California Highway Patrol Chief Dan Bowers who gave a presentation regarding Law Enforcement Pursuit Policies. Chief Bowers stated many smaller local police agencies are moving towards ending the practice of engaging in pursuits; the California Highway Patrol has conducted many studies on pursuits and the CHP's pursuit policy is the model policy for the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Chief Bowers discussed statistics from the most recent pursuit study; the study showed statistics have not changed much - nationwide approximately 4000 individuals are off the street as a result of being pursued and ultimately apprehended; key to success is to have a robust pursuit policy with restrictions in place for officers to follow; the policy does not require officers to pursue, policy states the officer can make the decision to pursue based on factors specific to the incident. Pursuit training is provided every quarter; cost to society not to pursue is greater than if pursuits are stopped; less than ½ of 1% result in injury.

Discussion among the Commission included:

Society's negative perception of pursuits is unfortunate and may be attributed to the media; armed robber may inflict more harm than an individual who chooses to flee; CHP is actively pursuing technologies to use that will stop individuals from fleeing such as technology for tracking vehicles and shutting a vehicle down through the use of electronics.

Presentation of Day Reporting Center Project

Andrea Mitchell, representing California State University San Bernardino gave a presentation regarding the Day Reporting Center Project. The Center is a collaborative, non-profit, community-based approach to parolee reentry, works with more than 20 government agencies and non-profit organizations, provides basic programming to parolees returning to society; works with sex offenders; high need, high risk, serious, and violent parolees, program is optional for parolees, program increases community safety and decreases recidivism, recidivism rate statewide is 65%; recidivism rate for this program is approx 13%. Ms. Mitchell provided statistics for referrals, clients serviced, released from parole, successful/unsuccessful completions and the employment rate for parolees who participate.

Discussion among the Commission and staff included:

The possibility of a relationship between this program and the Paving the Way Program was discussed, clarification of the program being voluntary; the Parole Department has a learning center in their offices and is looking to partner with the Day Reporting Center in the future; the City has been engaged in discussions to issue an RFP for a Day Reporting Center in the Antelope Valley and in Long Beach; discussion took place regarding parolees teaching parolees, parolees who have completed the program have become mentors of other parolees; program is offered to male and female adults only due to many of those served are sex offenders; establishing a subcommittee of the Criminal Justice Commission could be a possibility to address the feasibility of establishing a similar program in this area.

APPROVAL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Commissioner Chelette and seconded by Commissioner Brown the Commission approved the Consent Calendar by the following vote: 6-0-0-1; AYES: Brown, Chelette, Fuller, Gaupel, Pickens, Smith
NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: Vierra

CC 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 12, 2012

COMMISSION/ STAFF UPDATES

1. CRIME STATISTICS UPDATE

The Senior Criminal Justice Analyst provided crime and arrest statistics for December 2, 2012 through December 29, 2012 and provided the weekly crime event average and median for December and January. The Senior Criminal Justice Analyst provided information for the most active reporting districts for part-one crimes for December 2, 2012 through December 29, 2012. Crime trend information for specific part-one crimes for a 52 week time period was given and a spatial trend analysis comparing December 2012 to November 2012 was discussed. The Senior Criminal Justice Analyst provided a list of the top ten repeat calls for service for the period of December 2, 2012 through December 29, 2012 and discussed a part-one crime forecast for January.

The Senior Criminal Justice Analyst thanked Commissioner Chelette for giving the key note speech at the recent Youth Court completion ceremony.

2. ARREST STATISTICS

Los Angeles County Sheriff Lieutenant Nelson provided information regarding recent arrests which ultimately resulted in the recovery of approximately \$200,000 in stolen property and numerous guns. Lt. Nelson provided statistics for the Burglary Suppression Team and the Lancaster Narcotics Crew and provided year-end arrest statistics for the personnel at the Lancaster Sheriff's Station.

Discussion took place regarding the comparison of crime statistics for 2011 to 2012.

3. CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL UPDATE

California Highway Patrol Captain Urrea provided statistics for fatal collisions and total collisions for the year and discussed these statistics as they compared to 2011. Captain Urrea provided statistics for DUI related collisions and DUI arrests for the year and discussed these statistics as they compared to 2011. Holiday DUI statistics - specifically December 21st – December 26th and December 29th - January 2nd - were discussed and compared 2011 to 2012 for the same time period. Appearance of an upward trend of these statistics may be a result of the aggressive enforcement activities taken by CHP officers.

Discussion of fatalities and collisions and the location of where these incidents are occurring took place; incidents include pedestrian involvement, right of way incidents, and incidents on mountain roadways involving motorcyclists; all incidents occurred in the entire region.

4. BUSINESS WATCH SUBCOMMITTEE/ PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

The Public Safety Manager discussed the work being done with the Juvenile District Attorney's office on the restitution model; the City, through the Civil process, is seeking restitution through the civil courts to obtain restitution from the parents; Public Safety Specialists are actively working with the community to resolve quality of life issues; Christmas patrol resulted in a successful program and positive feedback from the community; continuing to work with disaster preparedness with City staff and will now focus on disaster preparedness in neighborhood and community programs.

NEW BUSINESS

NB 1. Discussion of Anti-Shoplifting Program

Addressing the Commission on this matter:

Michelle Egberts: opposes the way in which the City is planning to address this issue.

Richard Macias: does not agree with the City's plan, believes the Mayor made the decision to address shoplifting in the City without a vote of the Council; believes lawsuits will result.

The City Manager clarified that City Council's routinely direct Commission's or staff to take action on items; direction is routinely given by affirmation without a formal vote.

NB 1. Discussion of Anti-Shoplifting Program Continued...

The Public Safety Manager discussed the intent of the program which is to obtain compliance from retailers in the City and to have a safe community for the citizens; 5 business districts in the City of Lancaster have been identified; certain retailers have been identified that do not have a loss prevention model based on a required corporate policy or have a very minimal loss prevention model; idea is to work with those retailers which do not actively pursue shoplifters and collaborate with those retailers that have strict loss prevention models in place. Target has a strong loss prevention model and customer service personnel who work with customers which ultimately works as a deterrent for shoplifting; Walmart has worked collaboratively with LASD to have routine undercover operations; clarification was given regarding the proposed program will not be utilizing 'entrapment' for retailers.

Discussion among the Commission and staff included:

Working with retailers for strategies for loss prevention; reasonable zero tolerance policy, costs increase as a result of shoplifting, idea is to harden the targets within the city to eliminate crime. Commission's role is to work with and visit retailers and return to City Council in the next 60 days.

PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR - NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

Addressing the Commission at this time:

Michelle Egberts: recently worked at the Election polls in Kern County and discussed an upcoming Deputy Registrar Training at Lancaster City Park;

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Gaupel discussed his recent absence and addressed recent allegations that he was forced to retire.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Fuller adjourned the Criminal Justice Commission meeting at 11:31 a.m. and stated the next meeting of the Criminal Justice Commission would take place on Wednesday, February 13, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

ATTEST:



BRITT AVRIT
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
COMMISSION SECRETARY

APPROVED:



DAVID VIERRA
CHAIRMAN

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES
LANCASTER CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

I, _____, _____ of the City of Lancaster, CA, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original Lancaster Criminal Justice Commission minutes, for which the original is on file in my office.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, CA on this _____ day of _____, _____.

(seal)
