

# COMMISSION ON POLICE PRACTICES REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

## Southeastern Live Well Center 2728 Sixth Ave., San Diego, CA 92103

Click <a href="https://youtu.be/665NjCqkph0">https://youtu.be/665NjCqkph0</a> to view this meeting on YouTube.

## **CPP Commissioners' Present:**

Chair Ada Rodriguez

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Bonnie Benitez

John Armantrout

Alec Beyer

David Burton

Doug Case

Steve Chatzky

Lupe Diaz Armando Flores (arrived at 5:20pm) Dwayne Harvey Darlanne Mulmat Imani Robinson Daniel Torres

## **Excused:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Clovis Honoré Cheryl Canson Dan Lawton Michael Major

## **Absent:**

Elizabeth Inpyn

## **CPP Staff Present:**

Bart Miesfeld, General Counsel
Aaron Burgess, Policy Manager
Ethan Waterman, Investigator
Olga Golub, Chief Investigator
Alina Conde, Executive Assistant
Jon'Nae McFarland, Complaint Coordinator
Yasmeen Obeid, Community Engagement Coordinator
Luqmaan Bohkary, Volunteer Law Clerk

- I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: Chair Ada Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.
- II. ROLL CALL: Executive Assistant Alina Conde conducted the roll call for the Commission and established quorum.

## III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A. CPP Regular Meeting Minutes of August 6, 2025

**Motion**: Commissioner Darlanne Mulmat moved for approval of the amended CPP Regular Meeting Minutes of August 6, 2025. Commissioner John Armantrout seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 11-0-0.

Yeas: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Benitez, Armantrout, Beyer, Burton, Case, Chatzky, Diaz, Harvey, Mulmat, Robinson, and Torres

Harvey, Mulmat, Robinson, and Torr

Nays: None Abstained: None

## IV. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

- Francine Maxwell Expressed appreciation for the Commissioners' efforts and time. Highlighted a trust issue within the community regarding police practices. Emphasized the need for better communication and transparency from the Commission to the community. Mentioned the importance of the agenda reflecting current issues and providing more detailed minutes. Addressed concerns about the Police Department's cooperation with the Commission and suggested community support to apply pressure on elected officials.
- David Rico Briefly addressed the Commissioners but faced technical difficulties, leading to a switch to online speakers.
- Darwin Fishman Appreciated the work of the Commission. Inquired about the
  Executive Director search and emphasized the need for community involvement in
  the process. Raised concerns about the role of the Commission in addressing
  allegations against the police chief. Highlighted issues with the complaint filing
  process, including difficulties in tracking the status and feeling that complaints
  are not taken seriously.
- Patricia De Arman Raised concerns about the handling of complaints related to mental health issues. Shared a personal experience with an SDPD officer, highlighting bias and unprofessionalism. Questioned the thoroughness of investigations and the transparency of findings. Requested updates on specific cases and emphasized the need for accountability and retraining of officers.

## V. CHAIR REPORT (Chair Ada Rodriguez)

Chief Wahl's Presentation: Plans to invite Chief Wahl to present at an upcoming CPP meeting concerning the department's response to recommendations.

New IA Liaison: Introduction of Lieutenant Andrea Taylor as the new CPP liaison for the IA Division, assisting with all CPP issues and inquiries related to case reviews. Chief Wahl Investigation: The Commission is seeking more information on the investigation into Chief Wahl's conduct, with the General Counsel reaching out to the district attorney's office and City Attorney's office.

Ride-Along Waiver: Discussion on the need for a standardized waiver for Commissioners participating in ride-alongs due to legal concerns and inconsistencies in current practices.

SDPD Response to Recommendations: The committee is reviewing SDPD's response to recent recommendations, identifying areas needing further clarification, such as complaint procedure notifications, mental health training, and language access protocols.

Communication Protocols: Proposal to draft a document outlining communication procedures and roles between the Commission and SDPD, emphasizing collective input and alignment. Commissioner Case volunteered to draft the comprehensive communication protocol.

VI. INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT (Interim Executive Director Bart Miesfeld)
Introduction of Law Clerk Intern: Luqmaan Bokhary, a law clerk intern, was
introduced. He holds an undergraduate degree in policy management from Brown
University and is currently in his third year at the University of Michigan Law School.
He will be interning full-time with the Commission for credit.

**Introduction of New Commissioner:** Daniel Torres was introduced as the final new Commissioner among the recent five new Commissioners.

**Chief Wahl's Presentation:** The department is working on scheduling a presentation by Chief Wahl to discuss the department's response to the Commission's recommendations, aiming for the first meeting in November.

**City Auditor Presentation:** The city auditor, Karissa Nash, will present to the Commission and the community about the scope of the audit on the Internal Affairs division at the San Diego Police Department.

**Complaint Statistics:** In July 2025, the Commission received 83 total complaints, with 57 filed directly with IA and 26 filed with the Commission. Of the 26, 17 were forwarded to IA, and 9 were out of jurisdiction.

**Chief Wahl Investigation:** Art Castañares, publisher of La Prensa, is interested in the investigation of Chief Wahl and has already done a public Records Act request. The Commission will keep in contact with him for updates.

## VII. POLICY MANAGER/CHIEF OF STAFF REPORT OUT – Tabled

## VIII. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

- A. Reporting Requirements Tabled
- B. Live Calendar Training and Information Community Engagement Coordinator Yasmeen Obeid provided an update on outreach efforts, including presentations to neighborhood associations and community planning groups, and plans to engage with high schools in the city. The Community Engagement Coordinator conducted a training session on how to access and use the live calendar for scheduling community presentations and events. She demonstrated how to access the live calendar through Google Drive, where all scheduled presentations and events are updated. Commissioners can sign up to participate in these events through the calendar. Presentation Process: Explained the process for signing up for presentations, including observing the first presentation, receiving a calendar invite with location details, and picking up necessary supplies such as PowerPoint copies, Flyers, and business cards. Materials and Logistics: The outlined the materials needed for presentations, including printed PowerPoint copies, Flyers, business cards, sign-in sheets, pens, and clipboards. Commissioners are asked to count attendees and return any extra materials after the presentation.

Francine Maxwell - Expressed her concerns about the SDPD's response to the Commission's recommendations and the need for greater transparency and

accountability.

Ilka Weston - Expressed her concerns about the SDPD's response to the Commission's recommendations and the need for greater transparency and accountability.

#### IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. SDPD Response to Recommendations to Improve the Department's Complaint Investigations System - The Commission discussed the SDPD's response to their recommendations, focusing on issues such as mental health training, language access protocols, and the classification of complaints as miscellaneous.

## X. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

## A. Executive Committee

- Discussed the need for a standardized waiver for commissioners
   participating in ride-alongs due to legal concerns and inconsistencies in
   current practices. Mentioned that some commissioners had raised concerns
   about the inadequacy of the current waiver. Highlighted that not all
   commissioners were signing waivers, indicating a misconnection in how
   SDPD handles the ride-along process.
- Noted that the committee is reviewing SDPD's response to recent recommendations from the CPP and identified areas needing further clarification. The committee will discuss these areas further in new business and prepare follow-up communication addressing specific concerns.
- Discussed the need for clear communication protocols among commissioners and SDPD, with Commissioner Case volunteering to draft a comprehensive communication protocol. Emphasized the importance of developing clear guidelines for communication between the CPP and SDPD.
- The executive committee is actively working on addressing legal concerns, improving communication protocols, and ensuring transparency and alignment in their processes.
- B. Rules Committee No reports at this time.
- C. Community Outreach Committee Committee Chair Alec Beyer reported the next meeting is on September 11th at 6:30 PM. Focus on letting the community know about the Commission's work, updating the website, and managing the master calendar for community engagement.
- D. Policy Committee Committee Chair Imani Robinson reported that the committee holds their meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be held on September 25<sup>th</sup>.
- E. Recruitment Committee Committee Chair Doug Case reports that the committee focuses on recruiting new members for the Commission. Working on a procedure for the Commission to vote on nominations.
- F. Training and Continuing Education Committee Committee Chair Darlanne Mulmat reported that next meeting on September 11th at 5:00 PM. Discussing mentorship for new commissioners and providing engaging training.

## XI. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Personnel Committee – Committee Chair Darlanne Mulmat reported that the committee is working on selecting a new executive director. Community panel has made recommendations for the second round of interviews.

- B. Operating Procedures Meet and Confer Negotiating Committee This item will be taken off the agenda moving forward.
- C. Case Review Committee Committee Chair Alec Beyer defined the process for case reviews. The Committee agreed that all commissioners are expected to participate in case reviews.

## XII. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT - None

## XIII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- Commissioner John Armantrout Highlighted the need to review the Commission's complaint portal for any shortcomings and ensure it is community-friendly and accessible.
- Commissioner Armando Flores Emphasized the importance of the complaint portal's accessibility, particularly for the deaf community, and the need for guidelines to ensure it meets accessibility standards.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Bonnie Benitez Mentioned that all standing committee meetings are available virtually, allowing public participation without the need to attend in person.
- XIV. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm.