



FOOTHILL - DE ANZA

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT
"TO SERVE AND PROTECT"



Police Chief's Advisory Committee (PCAC)

Meeting Minutes/Notes

Thursday, June 17th, 2021, 4:00pm – 5:30pm

I. Welcome and Introductions

➤ *In attendance:*

Chief Danny Acosta – PCAC Chair, FHDA PD

Judy Miner – Chancellor

Lloyd Holmes – President, De Anza College

Susan Cheu – Vice Chancellor, Business Services

Myisha Washington – Interim Vice Chancellor,
Human Resources

David Marasco – Foothill Academic Senate

Ishmael Tarikh – De Anza Academic Senate

Bill Baldwin – Central Services Classified Senate

Rhonda Wood – Foothill Classified Senate

Scott Olsen – De Anza Classified Senate

Dennis Shannakian – De Anza Classified Senate

Emaan Dada – Associated Students of Foothill
(ASFC)

Leticia Maldonado – Administrative Management
Association (AMA)

Gracian Lecue – California School Employees
Association (CSEA)

Jim Nguyen – Faculty Association (FA)

Shawna Santiago – Association of Classified
Employees (ACE)

Craig Gawlick – Teamsters

Carla Maitland - Assistant to the Vice Chancellor
of Business Services

Joy Garza - FHDA PD Training & Communications
Manager

Joe Mauss – FHDA PD Records Supervisor

Mary Donahue – Academic Senate

Priya V. – FH Student Trustee

Becky Bartindale - Coord/District Communications

- *Judy Miner thanked Chief Acosta for moving in the right direction with shared governance group and meetings to bring transparency and inclusion to the discussions. Expressed her and the Board of Trustees gratitude for holding these meetings. Judy logs off at 4:06 for graduations.*
- *Chief Acosta thanks the group for attending and invites self-introductions.*

II. Mission Statement Review

A. The purpose of the Police Chief's Advisory Committee (PCAC) is to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and to discuss issues affecting the FHDA community. The discussions are intended to be open, honest, respectful, and engaging.

- *Chief Acosta, PCAC meetings and mission statement to be formalized along with schedule.*
- *Discussion and review of Mission Statement:*
 - *Jim Nguyen suggested adding details regarding the purpose of the committee to the Mission Statement. Request to add examples of what they do.*
 - *Susan Cheu, adding a sentence that includes deliverables, results, outcomes, and recommendations like "building trust."*
 - *Bill Baldwin suggested that the Mission Statement is too broad and general*

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- *Leticia Maldonado, adding more specifics will help "exchange of ideas" and discussions will have more purpose*
- *Dennis Shannakian suggests, "...affecting the FHDA community with regard to community policing, campus safety..."*
- *Chief Acosta will send a draft of the new Mission Statement to the group*

III. Role of Committee Review

A. The Police Chief's Advisory Committee (PCAC) is an advisory body to the Chancellor's Advisory Council (CAC). The role and responsibilities of the PCAC include making recommendations to:

1. Build trust between the police department and the community
2. Hear and determine possible ways to address community concerns including:
 - a) Crime reduction programs with the Community Policing Philosophy
 - b) 2. Delivery of police services to the FHDA community
 - c) Make recommendations to Issues affecting public safety

- *Chief Acosta, the PCAC reports to the Chancellors Advisory Body.*
- *Jim Nguyen asks if the PCAC group will discussions around alternative models of policing. Chief Acosta and Susan Cheu advise that the Campus Safety Task Force group is discussing those topics and that the PCAC is an interim group to discuss, address and advise current practices and happenings of the FHDA PD.*
- *Chief Acosta encouraged two way communication to assist the group in coming up with workable ideas and suggestions, a learning environment in both directions.*

IV. 21-22 Academic Year Schedule

A. a. Propose 2nd Thursday of every month from 4:00 – 5:30 PM

- *Group discussions request that meetings be moved to the third Thursday of each month during the standard academic year (Sept – June).*

V. Suggestions for Topics

- *Ishmael Tarikh (Former Director of Bay Area Police Watch and Attorney) shares personal experiences from childhood in Watts and interactions with LE, many have not been positive. Understands what training can and can't do. Offers suggestions:*
 - *Training will not be able to resolve all the challenges.*
 - *Complete and truthful transparency in regard to community policing*
 - *Transparency vs Officer's Bill of Rights. View is that POBAR undermines transparency*
 - *Demilitarization of Police Departments – military tactics of a PD creates a barrier to community policing and building trust.*

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- *Jim Nguyen: Looking for updates from prior meetings: Website updates on crime stats, complaints process, how many complaints, status of training*
 - *Status of hiring. Can the committee have input on PD hiring?*
 - *Transparency regarding having data on the website*
- *Susan Cheu:*
 - *Include more data and crime statistics on PD website. Police Blotter good idea*
- *Lloyd Holmes:*
 - *Clery report tracks only seven crimes, log. How to balance transparency and share more crime data without creating fear on campus? Not many discussions around what actually is going on the campus and what police officers dealing with. Is there a false sense of safety and security? Some people think PD on campus is not necessary. What happens when there is a person with a gun on campus, who do we call?*
- *Chief Acosta:*
 - *Confirmed PD has received gun calls and aware of mental health issues on the rise*
 - *Both college PD stations have computers in the lobby available for people to look up crime statistic information>*
 - *Hired new staff in June to add more information to website.*
- *Lloyd Holmes:*
 - *Need to have open and honest conversations about where we stand. Lay the foundation.*
 - *Would like more people to be provided with more information; calls for service, PD numbers for the last year, issues that go on, threats on campus that need investigation, if people knew more they would be surprised.*
 - *Public comments tend to bring up issues and complaints with other agencies ie San Jose PD vs FHDA PD. Look at our home first, what are the issues here at home, on campus.*
- *Chief Acosta:*
 - *Confirmed PD has received threats on campus while students were away*
 - *Agreed overall that some LE changes are welcomed and needed*
- *Jim Nguyen: We can also collect information, surveys from the community.*
- *Ishmael Tarikh: Chico State and SJSU have a weekly "Police Blotter".*
- *Bill Baldwin: Blotter is a good idea and shared people want to feel safe and protected. But people who are *not* threats don't want to be viewed as threats.*
- *Susan Cheu: Amount of calls PD had when campus was closed March 2020 -March 2021: PD had 84 reports; suicide reports, 3 auto accidents, hate incident, vandalism, 2 vehicle thefts, 5 burglaries. Would like complete report back to the group.*
- *Jennifer Mahato reminded group classified staff were on site every day from June 2020 on.*
- *Mary Donahue: On Saturdays, she counts on a quick response time from the FHDA PD. Inquired about SCCSO's response time in comparison with FHDA PD. Gave real example of an unknown man swimming in pool near her and her class, had multiple arrest warrants, when approached he fled. FHDA PD was quick to respond and handle.*
- *David Marasco: issues concerning homeless on our campuses*

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- *Chief Acosta: Confirmed that FHDA PD has significant lower/quick response time compared to SCCSO. Confirmed there has been homeless "squatting" issues living on campus*
- *Shawna Santiago: What are FHDA PD challenges and what do your officers struggle with?*
- *Chief Acosta:*
 - *Confirmed many challenges; walking up to a vehicle during a car stop, how we respond, psychologically, emotionally. Danger is when calls become 'routine' Challenges vary among cities, counties, small/large areas, affluent vs high density city populations.*
 - *Divorce rate so high among LEO's due to inadequate tools, personnel shortages.*
 - *70-80% of LEO's have PTSD. May discuss this issue further in future meetings*
 - *Staffing issues; Currently FHDA PD is 60% understaffed*
- *Bill Baldwin: Different populations are on campus, employees daily/all day and students who may come in for a few hours on different days.*
- *Jim Nguyen: Looking ahead, any PD updates as students come back to campus?*
- *Chief Acosta:*
 - *PD has been checking cars on campus, checking doors, locking/unlocking doors, dealing with homeless trespassing/living in campus offices creating health and safety issues.*
 - *Updates looking forward to students on campus: PD will not enforce mask mandates, Deans' to monitor mask wearing with students and call PD as last resort.*
 - *PD is 60% understaffed. Officers working double shifts two/three days in a row.*
- *Gracian Lecue: How to handle internal vs external threats, example of recent incident at VTA. Wants to work together with the PD and invite PD members to their happenings.*
- *Chief Acosta:*
 - *Internal and administrative issues have come up in the past. Wants to send officers/staff to training that covers internal issues/threats, like Workplace Violence. Works with HR and Student affairs on both campuses that address these issues.*
 - *Shortly after the Gilroy Garlic Festival shooting many faculty and staff requested training on campus. PD responded and coordinated Run Hide Defend classes. Six classes were held and ZERO students, faculty or staff attended. Need to communicate together better.*
 - *Extended offer to faculty for speaking engagements but has not yet been invited*
- *Jennifer Mahato: Budget; Where does the money go? Realistic look at what is desired, how much it costs and what actually PD currently has to work with. State/Fed funds?*
- *Chief Acosta:*
 - *Ideal staffing is at least 20 officers; 10 working and 10 in training. Training can be 6 months out of the year. Comes down to budget.*
 - *"How do you measure something that did not happen?" Example of AS incidents; we do not hear of others which outcomes did not have casualties. Week of the VTA there were 20 AS incidents. Example of AS threat on our campus during pandemic, was handled.*
- *Susan Cheu calls meeting to close at 5:32pm, will send out meeting invites to members and post topics on shared drive*