

Citizens' Public Safety Advisory Board

# REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OF FEBRUARY 1, 2018 to JUNE 30, 2018

Debbie L. Hunsaker Chairperson

**Board Members** 

Amy Guerra Vernon Crowder Monica Diaz Ike Grewal James Parks Michael Vang Clifford Williams III

## **INTRODUCTION**

Report from the Chairperson, Debbie Hunsaker:

Now that we have moved past the training phase of our journey, the Citizen's Public Safety Advisory Board (CPSAB) is now focusing on the areas that are important to them and the community. We have agreed, as a group, to focus on one primary issue with a secondary issue that will move to the forefront once the primary is completed. This can be changed upon a majority of the members but, for this reporting period, the primary issue the CPSAB is focusing on is the recent Sworn and Non-Sworn Police Department Personnel Survey. The majority of the members feel it's important for this body to see how we can delve deeper into the results, coupling this with an earlier report in 2016. The second priority issue is looking into the Body Camera Video policy and procedures currently in place and comparing them with what other departments are doing. The goal is to have recommendations by the next reporting period.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

During the first quarter period, the members of the Citizens' Public Safety Advisory Board (CPSAB) worked closely with the Fresno Police Department to experience training, participate in ride-alongs, and develop the perspective to view and understand actual police encounters within the community. During this last quarter, we continued to gather information to help our board get a more complete perspective on the issues facing our community. We participated in the initial review of a survey developed by the Fresno Police Department to measure morale in the department, heard a presentation from the District Attorney's office about how officer involved shootings are reviewed, and discussed the current policies that control when or if body camera videos taken by police offers are released to the public. Some of these topics required more effort and time than others, and it was during the second quarter our focus shifted to identifying and developing recommendations that we believe carry out the goals we've been tasked with: enhancing trust, accountability, transparency and the promotion of high standards within the Fresno Police Department.

In doing so, the board has begun working on preparing a recommendation to Mayor Lee Brand as it relates to two issues. Although the board has only begun to work on preparing formal detailed recommendations, the board's work over the past quarter has been focused in these areas and therefore, a summary of each issue for the purpose of this report is discussed below.

### 1. BODY CAMERA VIDEO RELEASE POLICY

Over the last quarter, the Board began to research how other departments handle the release of body camera videos of critical incidents upon public request. Specifically, the Board is interested in looking further at information from other departments to help develop a recommendation that will address the Board's concerns of the Police Department present policy, and also provide as much transparency to the public as possible.

### 2. PERSONNEL SURVEY RESULTS

Additionally, the Board has concerns about the results of the Josephson Institute of Ethics survey in 2016 and the internal Sworn and Non-Sworn Personnel Survey taken in 2018. The board is researching what resources can be provided to the Fresno Police Department to better interpret the responses and to learn what actions can be taken to make the department even more effective.