

**JANUARY 25, 2006**

**REGULAR MEETING**

The Police Commission of the City and County of San Francisco met in the Mission District, Sanchez Elementary School, 325 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, at 6:10 p.m., in a Regular Meeting.

PRESENT: Commissioners Renne, Sparks, Campos, DeJesus, Marshall, Veronese

*(Commissioner Marshall arrived at 6:13 p.m.)*

Commissioner Renne welcomed the audience and asked the Commissioners to introduced themselves.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

**a. Review of Recent Activities**

Chief Fong welcomed the audience and introduced the Command Staff that were present. Present were Deputy Chief Pengel, Commander Harper, Commander Craig, Deputy Chief Shinn, and Commander Tacchini.

**OCC DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**a. Report on the function of the Office of Citizen Complaints**

Director Allen introduced himself and described the duties and responsibilities of the Office of Citizen Complaints. He also handed out new flyers with the new TTY phone numbers.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETINGS OF AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup>, 10<sup>TH</sup>, 17<sup>TH</sup>, AND 24, 2005, JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup> AND 11, 2006**

Motion by Commissioner Sparks, second by Commissioner DeJesus to approve the minutes. Approved 6-0.

**COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Renne announced that there will be a graduation on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>.

**CAPTAIN JOHN GOLDBERG, COMMANDING OFFICER OF MISSION STATION, TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION ON POLICE ACTIVITIES IN THE MISSION DISTRICT**

Captain Goldberg welcomed the Commission, the Command Staff, and thanked the members of the public for their attendance. He also thanked Dr. Raymond Isolo, Principal of Sanchez Elementary School, for allowing the Department to use the facilities.

Captain Goldberg introduced the lieutenants at Mission Station. Present were Lt. McNally, Lt. Zelaya, Lt. Leydon, and Lt. Hogue who was not present. Captain Goldberg thanked his staff for their help with his presentation.

Captain Goldberg gave a brief overview of the district, the personnel, and the activities in the Mission District.

Commissioner Marshall asked about the homicides involving gangs. Captain Goldberg stated that there are the two big gangs, Nortenio and Sorenios, but there are a lot of little subgroups.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Gustavos Rina, secretary of the city's oldest neighborhood group, thanked the beat officers of Mission Station and asked for more officers.

Mark Welsh, businessman in the Castro, complimented the beat officers of Castro Street and thanked the officers of the Mission Station.

Tom Rice, SRO resident, discussed concerns regarding violation of legal rights of tenants and asked to meet the officers working the SROs.

Kevin Syminite, building owner, stated that he was ready to sell the building due to drugs at Sycamore Street. He stated that since Captain Goldberg came to Mission Station, people started doing their jobs. He stated that every time he goes by the neighborhood, they are actually arresting the crack dealers and commend Captain Goldberg for a great job well done. He stated that he also has a building at the Tenderloin and stated that nothing is being done with drug dealers in the Tenderloin.

Earl Lawrence, 702 Baker Street resident, stated that the police department has become public enemy and discussed concerns about actions by the police.

Fernando Flores, SRO resident, discussed concerns regarding conflict with his landlord.

Pam Matsuda, Program Director for SAFE, thanked Captain Goldberg and the officers of Mission Station. She went on to thank the Police Department for their help in launching the annual Lunar New Year Campaign for Asian Merchants to address issues around extortion, robbery, and burglary.

M.P.R. Howard, 23<sup>rd</sup> and Potrero resident, discussed concerns regarding traffic enforcement around the SFGH area.

Darla Jones discussed concerns regarding police videos.

Trudy Byers, Civil Grand Jury, stated that the Civil Grand Jury is a jury that spends a year investigating any and all aspect of San Francisco City and County government to make sure that every citizen is being treated with respect and fairness and to make sure that every public official and civil servant is doing the best job possible.

Commissioner DeJesus asked about cameras in the district. Captain Goldberg stated that there are two cameras in the district. One is at 19<sup>th</sup> and Mission and the second one is at Camille and Treat. Captain Goldberg stated that there has been no complaints but have received requests for additional cameras at other area where there's problems.

Commissioner Campos commended Captain Goldberg and his staff for what is being done in the District. Commissioner Campos asked about what is happening with the residents of SROs. Captain Goldberg stated that this is the first complaints that he's heard about SROs. Captain Goldberg stated they are well equipped to respond to the concerns and as issues come to their attention, the officers respond and each one is taken individually. Captain Goldberg stated that the violations that was brought up tonight are probably misdemeanor violations and since they do not occur in the presence of the officers, the officers are obligation to at least offer a citizen's arrest and if somebody chooses to make that arrest, to accept that and then it is up to the Courts and the DA's office to decide.

Commissioner Campos asked if a specific officer is assigned to handle SROs. Captain Goldberg explained that the same officer is assigned to the same sector and they get to know the community and the individuals involved but there's no "SRO" officer.

Director Allen stated that one of the speakers tonight was contacted by the OCC and they are currently working with SROs and they will be out there next Tuesday to speak to the group.

Commissioner Marshall commented that at every district meeting there has been someone who has had an issue with the police and asked the OCC to handle those individual complaints. Commissioner Marshall stated that

something has to be done, specially at Bayview and Northern, because of the quality of satisfaction with the Department.

Commissioner DeJesus asked if there is anything like community dispute or arbitration that's offered to the resident and the manager prior to offering citizen's arrests. Captain Goldberg explained that if somebody wants to make a misdemeanor arrest, the officers are obligated to accept that. They also recognize that the court system on a one-on-one dispute on a misdemeanor is probably not going to go anywhere so, to the degree possible, the officers do utilize community courts and community dispute resolutions.

Commissioner Renne asked if the Department of Social Services, Trent Corp, supposed to be on top of this SRO issue and following it and monitoring it because they had a certain obligation to oversee these things. Captain Goldberg stated that he gets cooperation from the City Attorney's office and all of the city agencies that come in for a large inspection addressed issues from top to bottom and have been very helpful

Commissioner Veronese stated that the Mission District is one of his favorite districts in the City because it is so rich in culture and thanked Captain Goldberg for his presentation.

Commissioner Veronese asked the Chief about the homicide presentation that was given last week and stated that he has a number of questions that will be given to the Chief in writing. Commissioner Veronese stated that what he is focusing on is the performance of the Homicide Unit. He would like some answers as to the performance of the Homicide Unit. Commissioner Veronese stated that he has spoken to the Lieutenant in charge of the San Jose Homicide Unit and they, in 2005, resolved 30 of the 32 homicides that happened down there.

Commissioner Veronese also stated that the budget process is coming and he does not want it to sneak up on the Commission. He stated that he wants to be involved in the process and would like the budget to come before the Commission.

#### **SCHEDULING OF ITEMS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS**

None

Motion by Commissioner Campos, second by Commissioner DeJesus to adjourn the meeting. Approved 6-0.

Thereafter, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

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Sergeant Joseph Reilly  
Secretary  
San Francisco Police Commission

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