

CITIZENS PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD

Mayor Brand has announced the members of his Citizen's Public Safety Advisory Board. The nine-member board was created by the mayor to enhance trust, accountability and transparency and promote higher standards of service in the Fresno Police Department.

Members of the board were selected with the goal of reflecting the diversity of the community. Board members range in age from 26-71 years of age and come from six of the seven council districts. Debbie Hunsucker, a business owner, is board president. Hunsucker is joined by Pastor Jim Parks, retired Centro La Familia advocate Gloria Cantu, teacher Cheng Yang, Fresno City College Counselor/Coordinator Rodney Murphy, retired Fresno County Staff Analyst Ike Grewal, businesswoman Monica Diaz, legislative staffer Cody Sedaño and government affairs representative Nathan Alonzo.

Length of term: 4 years

Members serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and may be removed at any time for any reason. Failure to attend three consecutive regular meetings without being excused by a majority board vote will result in automatic termination. Any Board member may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Chairperson.

Duties:

- Advise the Office of Independent Review (OIR) in helping to define, assess and further develop Community Policing citywide;
- Monitor and develop performance metrics to measure effectiveness of Community Policing;
- Review all legally available information regarding policies, practices and procedures of the Police Department and make recommendations to the OIR;
- Hear reports from the OIR on Community/Police Department relations, the results of investigations and reviews from the Officer Involved Shooting Review Committee and also excessive force and/or unnecessary use of force investigations;
- Serve as a panel to review and discuss critical incidents for the purposes of recommending policies and practices to the Office of Independent Review;
- Prepare quarterly reports and recommendations to be voted on by the Board.

Requirements:

Board members must commit to an initial 40 hours of training, as well as annual refresher training that will be a minimum of 16 hours. The training will be comparable with the training police officers receive. Training will change from year-to-year depending on what may be confronting law enforcement at the time. It could be high risk traffic stops, vehicle pursuits, dynamic entries, methodical searches, force option decision-making, search techniques, self-defense, de-escalation or mental health awareness, among others. Most of these topics are considered perishable skills in that they require officers to train on them frequently to maintain their skill level.

Confidentiality:

Prior to taking office, Board members take an oath and sign a training waiver and a non-disclosure agreement prohibiting them from divulging confidential information, including identities of witnesses and contents of confidential testimony and documents, both as a member and after leaving the Board.

Meetings:

The Board will meet monthly. Special meetings may also be held.

Reporting:

The Board reports to the OIR. The OIR reports all findings and recommendations from the Board to the City Manager and the City Manager reports all findings and recommendations to the City Council on a quarterly basis.