

CITY OF BERKELEY POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY NEWSLETTER

THE POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD WAS CREATED TO PROMOTE PUBLIC TRUST THROUGH INDEPENDENT, OBJECTIVE, CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT OF THE BERKELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT.



MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

- PAB selects new leadership and date for annual retreat
- ODPA launches newsletter- social media strategy underway
- ODPA to host focus groups

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POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD ELECTS NEW CHAIR, RECOGNIZING CHAIR MOORE'S LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP

At the January 22, 2025, Police Accountability Board (PAB) meeting, the Board elected a new Chair in accordance with the established election procedures. Chair Moore, who had served two consecutive terms leading the PAB, guided the Board and the Office of the Director of Police Accountability through a crucial developmental phase. Under his leadership, the PAB successfully submitted its Permanent Regulations, which are currently undergoing the meet and confer process.



Outgoing Police Accountability Board Chair John "Chip" Moore (left) hands over the gavel to incoming Chair Joshua Cayetano (right) after the election at the January 22, 2025 PAB Meeting
 Photo Courtesy: ODPA

Additionally, Chair Moore oversaw the finalization of BERKELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT TEXTING OFFENSES: An Independent Investigation by the Police Accountability Board (commonly referred to as the Downtown Task Force Report), ensuring transparency and accountability in law enforcement oversight. His tenure was marked by significant milestones that strengthened the Board's role in police accountability, setting a strong foundation for the newly elected Chair to build upon.

SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGY

The Office of the Director of Police Accountability (ODPA) has launched its social media program with the creation of an official LinkedIn page. As part of this initiative, ODPA is in the process of identifying a vendor to provide guidance on developing a sustainable social media strategy. This effort aims to enhance the visibility of the PAB/ODPA's work and foster stronger police-community relations through transparent and engaging communication.

ODPA ENHANCES TRANSPARENCY WITH REAL-TIME COMPLAINT PORTAL AND MONTHLY REPORTING



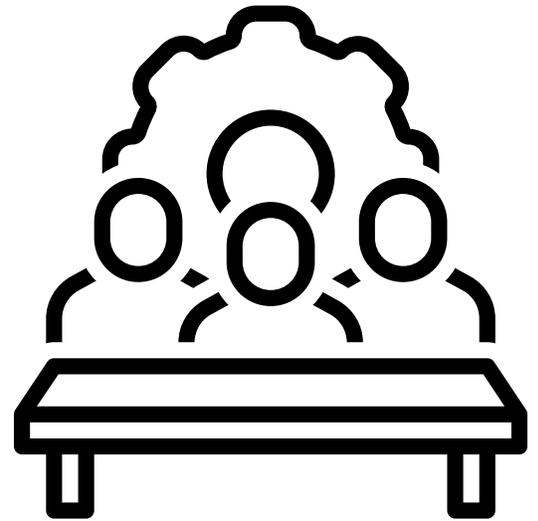
Personnel complaint activity can now be accessed in real-time through the ODPA's complaints portal page. This system provides the community with direct access to complaint filings, enhancing transparency and engagement with the police accountability process.

Moving forward, ODPA's monthly reports will include a snapshot of complaint activity and comparisons to historical trends, offering a more comprehensive understanding of patterns over time. This initiative aligns with ODPA's commitment to strengthening oversight mechanisms and fostering trust through accessible, data-driven insights.

To access our complaint portal visit:
<https://berkeleyca.siviltech.com/>

POLICY REPORT SPOTLIGHT: ODPA EXAMINES BPD RELATIONS WITH OLDER ADULTS, HOSTS COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUPS

The Police Accountability Board (PAB) is currently reviewing a policy complaint regarding the Berkeley Police Department's (BPD) interactions with older adults in the community. This complaint raises concerns about how officers engage with elderly residents, particularly in situations requiring sensitivity, de-escalation, and awareness of age-related issues. As part of this review, the ODPA, in partnership with the North Berkeley Senior Center, will be hosting two focus groups to hear directly from older adults about their experiences with the BPD. The sessions will take place on February 6th and 7th from 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM at the North Berkeley Senior Center. The feedback gathered will inform the ODPA's evaluation of existing policies and training protocols, helping to shape recommendations that promote respectful and effective police-community relations.



SUBCOMMITTEE WORK UNDERWAY

The ODPA has introduced the ODPA Policy Review Status Report, a new initiative designed to provide a snapshot of ongoing policy work at both the committee and staff levels. These reports will be included in regular meeting packets, offering transparency on the status of key policy reviews. To further enhance accessibility, the ODPA is exploring ways to model the City Auditor's recommendations dashboard, ensuring community members can easily track the progress of these reviews. This effort aims to keep the public informed and engaged in the evolution of police accountability policies.

TRAINING AND WEBINARS

As a [NACOLE](#)-affiliated agency, the PAB/ODPA actively participates in ongoing training and education through NACOLE's year-round webinar series. These sessions provide valuable insights into best practices in civilian oversight of law enforcement, with topics ranging from investigative techniques to policy development. Investigator Jayson Wechter, who serves as a NACOLE Board Member and chairs the Training, Education, and Standards Committee, plays a key role in shaping these educational initiatives. Additionally, Director of Police Accountability Hansel Aguilar contributes to the Membership Support and Development Committee, helping strengthen oversight networks nationwide. In some instances, ODPA staff develop and lead webinars, sharing expertise with the broader oversight community. NACOLE continues to expand its offerings, so be sure to check their website regularly for upcoming events and new learning opportunities.

OUTREACH EFFORTS

In honor of Black History Month, the ODPA is organizing a community event. Stay tuned for more information!