



CITY OF

## PORTLAND, OREGON

**Dan Saltzman, Commissioner**  
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March 8, 2010

### **Actions Taken in Response to the Shooting Death of Aaron Campbell**

- Commissioner Saltzman and Chief Sizer met on February 2<sup>nd</sup> with members of the Albina Ministerial Alliance, the Human Relations Committee on Police and Community Relations and the African American Advisory Committee to the police bureau to review the known facts surrounding the death of Mr. Campbell.
- Commissioner Saltzman met with family of Mr. Campbell to express his condolences. At the request of Marva Davis, Aaron's mother, Commissioner Saltzman also attended the funeral of Mr. Campbell on February 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Commissioner Saltzman petitioned the District Attorney on February 3<sup>rd</sup> to take the unprecedented step of recording the grand jury testimony, and requested the District Attorney seek public release of that testimony through the court system. Judge Jean Maurer approved the public release of the grand jury transcripts on February 17<sup>th</sup>. This is the first time grand jury transcripts have been publicly released in a police involved shooting. The transcripts are available at <http://www.co.multnomah.or.us/da/index.php>
- Chief Sizer ordered the release of all detective reports regarding the shooting of Mr. Campbell. The documents were released Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. The reports are available at <http://www.portlandonline.com/police/index.cfm?c=52175&a=286865>
- Chief Sizer asked the FBI to review the investigation conducted by Portland Police Detectives. On February 18<sup>th</sup> United States Attorney Dwight C. Holton and FBI Special Agent in Charge Oregon Arthur Balizan announced that the FBI and US Attorney's Office had initiated a preliminary inquiry into Aaron Campbell's death.
- Commissioner Saltzman, in conjunction with community leaders, requested that the United States Department of Justice Civil Right Division conduct an independent review of the Aaron Campbell shooting. The Commissioner also requested the assistance of Senator Ron Wyden in bringing this matter to the attention of United States Attorney General Eric Holder.



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- The Commissioner ordered that all officers have training and access to ballistic shields to be able to protect themselves while ensuring that those who have been shot receive immediate medical attention. Training on the new equipment and procedures began March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The Commissioner reviewed the grand jury's letter and concurs with many of their observations of most concern are the noted failures in communication, and the tactical set up that was deployed in this situation - to that end the Commissioner has ordered an outside evaluation of the police bureau's tactical training with high risk and mentally ill individuals. This outside evaluation is in addition to the administrative reviews to be undertaken by the Police Bureau which will include evaluation of the AR 15 training and deployment program, and the SERT/HNT call out policy.
- Commissioner Saltzman ordered that the bureau immediately undertake the development of a program to partner mental health workers and police officers to respond to calls in tandem. These teams can act as a resource to negotiators and have been shown to be extremely effective in resolving emergency situations where they have been deployed in other North American police agencies.