SUMMARY

THE FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF SNAPSHOT OF THE WORK BEING DONE BY THE PORTLAND POLICE BUREAU (PPB) TO ENHANCE POLICY, INCREASE ACCOUNTABILITY AND IMPROVE SERVICE TO PERSONS WITH PERCEIVED OR ACTUAL MENTAL ILLNESS.

This report details the first year of implementation of the Department of Justice (DOJ) agreement. Nearly one hundred action items have been assigned to five units within PPB related to use of force, training, crisis intervention, community based mental health services, accountability, and community engagement. This has led to significant changes to Bureau policy and practice, training protocols and the process for internal administrative investigations.

Performance outcomes will be measured over time through use of force trends, reports on interactions with persons living with mental illness, surveys of public trust, and the impact of a new community engagement and outreach plan, among other things.

Much has been accomplished, and yet much is to be done. Hurdles are anticipated as the PPB is in the midst of a long-planned replacement project for its thirty year old records management system. However, the Portland Police Bureau is committed to the continuous improvement of policing services, particularly those provided to the most vulnerable individuals in our community. PPB, through the implementation of the action items in the agreement, as well as developing and employing other policing best practices, will be responsive to community, DOJ and City Council input and recommendations.

WORK DONE SO FAR

✓ Established the Behavioral Health Unit (BHU)
✓ New Enhanced Crisis Intervention Training
✓ Expanded Mobile Crisis Units to each precinct
✓ Adopted new force, TASER & performance policies
✓ Improved oversight & accountability practices

PPB use of force cases drop 51% since 2008

(portland police bureau DOJ Progress Report)
MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

OVER THE LAST DECADE, LAW ENFORCEMENT HAS EXPERIENCED A DYNAMIC SHIFT FROM FOCUSING ON CRIMINAL ISSUES TO RESPONDING TO PEOPLE AFFECTED BY HOMELESSNESS, ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES. OPERATING IN AN ENVIRONMENT OF DIMINISHED RESOURCES FOR COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH, HOUSING AND OTHER SAFETY-NET MECHANISMS, POLICE OFFICERS ARE ENGAGED IN TWICE THE NUMBER OF SUICIDE CALLS THAN 10 YEARS AGO AND AN EVER-INCREASING NUMBER OF CALLS FOR SERVICE RELATED TO INDIVIDUALS IN A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS.

In November 2012, Portland's City Council approved a settlement agreement with the Department of Justice (DOJ) to improve the policies and practices of the Portland Police Bureau related to individuals with mental health issues. Although the agreement has yet to be approved by the federal court, the Bureau continues to move forward with reforms. The following report highlights some of the work already in progress.

In the last five years, significant changes to policy and training have resulted in a 51% reduction in the use of force. One example includes the development of specialty units within the Bureau to address contacts with individuals in mental health crisis. We continue to strive for innovative ways to manage situations with the lowest level of force possible.

EQUITY TRAINING has been provided to all Command Staff & Sergeants

41% of newly-hired Portland Police Bureau Officers represent communities of color

But there is more work to be done. We must continue to look for ways to engage our community and build trust. As part of the DOJ settlement, we look forward to working with the Community Outreach Advisory Board (COAB) and the Compliance Officer & Community Liaison (COCL) to improve our community outreach efforts.

I believe Portland Police Officers go out every day and do an incredible job in complex and difficult circumstances. Now is the time to seize new opportunities and provide officers with additional skills and resources to enhance their service to those in need. I look forward to making the changes necessary to better meet the community's expectations.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF
The Behavioral Health Unit (BHU) was established to coordinate the response of law enforcement and behavioral health systems to provide aid to individuals in crisis resulting from known or suspected mental illness or drug and alcohol addiction.

Service Coordination Team

The Service Coordination Team is a program focused on crime prevention & crime reduction offering addiction treatment & housing as an intervention for chronic offenders.

- 132 graduates to date
- Reduced graduate recidivism rates by 91%
- Every $1 spent on treatment saves $10 in criminal justice costs

3 Mobile Crisis Units

Officers + Clinicians

Over the last year, the MCU teams have served 359 clients.

Advisory Committees

The BHU established advisory committees to ensure the needs and expectations of the community, service providers, consumers, and officers were met. The external committee (BHUAC) consists of a diverse group of individuals selected per the anticipated DOJ agreement. The internal committee includes a Sergeant, an MCU Officer, an ECIT Officer, and a patrol officer from each precinct. Both are driven by the desire to serve the community and help develop a top tier program.

The BHU & Training Division created a 40 hour Enhanced Crisis Intervention Training.

- 53 sworn personnel are currently ECIT trained.
- 25 more will be trained in April of 2014.

BERS

Officers can now make electronic referrals to the unit through the BHU Electronic Referral System.
THE TRAINING DIVISION SEEKS TO PROVIDE MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU WITH RELEVANT AND TIMELY TRAINING THAT HAS DESIRABLE AND MEASURABLE OUTCOMES USING APPROPRIATE AND CONTEXTUALIZED LEARNING METHODS.

The Training Division enhanced the practice of scenario-based training directed at deadly force decision-making, use of Electronic Control Weapons (TASER), and managing contacts with people in mental health crisis. Instruction focused on de-escalation techniques. Additionally, the division is establishing new evaluation processes to identify training needs, barriers and changes to increase training effectiveness utilizing the internationally recognized Kirkpatrick model.

The Training Division provided updated information on the new Use of Force & Electronic Control Weapon policies.

Ground was broken on the new facility to house all training operations.
THE MISSION OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DIVISION (PSD) IS TO ESTABLISH ORGANIZATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY BY ENSURING POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS ARE CLEARLY DEFINED AND ADHERED TO THROUGH COMPLETE, FAIR AND UNBIASED INVESTIGATIONS. ADDITIONALLY, IT IS TO PROMOTE THE HIGHEST STANDARDS BY IDENTIFYING AND EVALUATING PROGRAMS, PRACTICE AND POLICIES WHICH FURTHER THE GOALS OF THE PORTLAND POLICE BUREAU.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

In conjunction with the Independent Review Board, PSD established a 180 day time line for completion of investigations of officer misconduct.

PERSONNEL

✓ Created an Inspector position to review use of force reports
✓ Hired two new Internal Affairs investigators for more timely resolution of complaints

USE OF FORCE:

Professional Standards Division streamlined after-action forms for accuracy & enhanced data collection, reformatted the Force Data Collection Report, updated directive 940 for DOJ compliance, created new timelines for report review which exceeds DOJ standards, instituted curriculum for supervisor in-service on use of force review, generated a quarterly Force Data & Demographics Summary Report, adopted new discipline guide to ensure consistency and predictability, and established guidelines to notify PSD of serious use of force events.

THE PORTLAND POLICE BUREAU MADE 32,428 ARRESTS IN 2013. FORCE WAS USED IN 3% OF THOSE CASES.