

# Portland Police Bureau Training Advisory Council

**Date:** July 8, 2020

**From:** Shawn Campbell  
Chair, Training Advisory Council

**To:** Mayor Ted Wheeler, Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty, Commissioner Amanda Fritz,  
Commissioner Chloe Eudaly, and Chief of Police Chuck Lovell

**Subject:** Police Duty to Intervene

On behalf of the Portland Police Bureau's Training Advisory Council (TAC), I am writing to you today to convey our advisory body's full support for the Portland Committee on Community-Engaged Policing's (PCCEP) recommendation regarding the duty of officers to intervene and the need for intervention training passed on June 23, 2020.

As directed by the Governor of Oregon signing House Bill 4205 into law on June 30, 2020, police officers in the state are now required to intervene to prevent or stop another officer engaged in misconduct, unless the intervening officer cannot do so safely. To meet these new requirements, it is felt that the Portland Police Bureau (PPB) needs to clarify, strengthen, and further elaborate its policies with regards to this subject. An officer's duty to intervene, and the proper procedures to do so, must be as detailed as possible, with the recognition that the failure to intervene makes an officer culpable in the policy violations and/or illegal activity they witness.

With regards to the above, it must be recognized that there are psychological and cultural inhibitors which can significantly impede an individual's ability to intervene. This is not just a matter of policies and directives, no matter how detailed. To overcome these inhibitors, both the state and the bureau must design and enact training specifically designed to promote and support a culture of intervention being a necessary and courageous act. This type of training should be included in all levels of training and be fully integrated into all types of training, similar to the tenants of procedural justice.

With the proper support and leadership, we fully believe that significant and effective change is possible. We look forward to providing further input regarding needed changes and strategies for implementing these changes. If you need to contact me, you can do so via email at [ppbtac@gmail.com](mailto:ppbtac@gmail.com).

Yours Truly,

Shawn Campbell

TAC Chair

**Links:**

*PCCEP recommendation regarding the duty to intervene and training to support it*

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/pcccep/article/762972>

*Oregon House Bill 4205*

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2020S1/Measures/Overview/HB4205>

***About the Training Advisory Council:***

*The TAC was created in 2012 as a police bureau advisory body by city resolution 36912. The TAC is a citizen's group with the mission of providing ongoing advice to the Chief of Police and the bureau's Training Division in order to continuously improve training standards, practices, and outcomes through the examination of training philosophy, content, delivery, tactics, policy, equipment, and facilities. The TAC is also tasked by Section 86 of the DOJ settlement agreement with the City of Portland to identify and report to the Chief of Police any patterns in the bureau's use of force. Website: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/police/61449>*