

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: Restorative Justice

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 a youth informed approach to city-wide restorative justice passed on June 23, 2020.

Significant portions of the Portland community have made their voices heard that we need to build alternative approaches to public safety outside of the established criminal justice system. Rather than relying on the utilization of punishment, the application of restorative justice provides a community-based approach towards mitigating and preventing the negative effects of crime and non-criminal disputes for both instigators and victims. Utilizing a restorative justice strategy whenever possible is viewed as a significant step towards improving the long-term outlook for individuals and communities, especially those most negatively impacted by inequities in our society. Though the PCCEP recommendation is specifically tailored towards youth, we see this as an important stepping stone towards putting into practice restorative justice programs for all age groups.

We believe that restorative justice training should be a fully integrated part of Portland Police Bureau (PPB) training, as both a key area of study and a component of all other parts of training. Similar to the tenets of procedural justice, the goal should be to not only provide tools, but to ingrain their use into the culture of the organization. Towards this, the expansion of the Public Safety Specialist (PS3) program, could play a key role in the application of restorative 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.

Yours Truly,

Shawn Campbell
TAC Chair

Links:

PCCEP recommendation for a youth-informed approach to city-wide restorative justice

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/pcccep/article/762963>

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>