

Pleasanton Police Department
Community Advisory Board
Tuesday May 23, 2023
Briefing Room

Department Attendees: Chief David Swing, Lt. Nicholas Albert, Lt. Roy Gamez, Sgt. Anthony Pittl, Crime Analyst Christine Guevarra, Administrative Assistant Kim Monfort

CAB Members in Attendance: Gary Davila, Bill Foley, Puneet Pamma, Raffiq Rajabali

Absent: Tonya Bass, Jennifer DeGroat-Penney, Erica Gallegos, Eugene Litvinoff, Ediambolo Lokoto, Pinky Mukherjee, Melanie Sadek, Sylvia Tian

I. Chief's Welcome

Chief Swing welcomed CAB members and introduced department staff in attendance to include, newly promoted Lt. Nick Albert, Investigations Lt. Roy Gamez, Criminal Investigations Unit Sgt. Anthony Pittl, and newly appointed Crime Analyst Christine Guevarra.

II. Police Department Update

a. Department Movement & Promotion

- **Christine Guevarra – Appointment to Crime & Intelligence Analyst**

Chief Swing shared that PPD Dispatcher Supervisor Christine Guevarra has been selected to serve as the department's Crime & Intelligence Analyst. Her appointment was effective May 13, 2023. Chief Swing asked Ms. Guevarra to attend the CAB meeting to share her vision for the crime analyst position. Ms. Guevarra has seventeen years of law enforcement support services experience. During that time, she has served as a Police Records Clerk, Public Safety Dispatcher, and Police Dispatch Supervisor. She is a member of the department's Technology Team and is also an advisor to the Explorer Program. Ms. Guevarra has an A.S. in Criminal Justice, a B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies and is currently pursuing her Masters degree in Crime Analysis. She is a member of the Bay Area Crime & Intelligence Analyst Association, International Association of Crime Analysts, and National Real Time Crime Center Association. Her areas of interest include spatial analysis and mapping, and innovative law enforcement technology.

Ms. Guevarra provided a PowerPoint presentation sharing her short and long term goals for the position. She defined the four categories of crime analysis: tactical, strategic, intelligence, and administrative, and reviewed her typical duties, some of which include:

1. Collecting, organizing and analyzing intelligence information and statistical data about criminal activities, patterns and known criminal offenders.

2. Researching and collecting data for various reports and projects; implementing software and maintaining those systems, collecting and organizing data and disseminating it.
3. Organizing and maintaining manuals and automated information systems for storage and retrieval of criminal offender information.
4. Developing products to inform department and command staff to assist in their strategic decision making.
5. May be deployed to the field to provide analysis and intelligence functions for an ongoing critical incident.
6. Identifying regional crime trends such as catalytic converter thefts, residential burglaries and organized retail crime, and providing spatial analysis and mapping.

Ms. Guevarra's vision for the unit is to leverage available technology and be proactive and not reactive to crime. As a resident of Pleasanton, Ms. Guevarra has a vested interest in these outcomes and programs and wants to really understand the culture and needs of the city.

Ms. Guevarra fielded questions from CAB related to how her law enforcement experience helps her in her new role, and how she would measure success at the end of the year. As part of the Technology Team, Ms. Guevarra attended the Real Time Crime Center Symposium last May which showcased crime and intelligence analyst integration into Real Time Operation Centers. Real Time Crime Centers are rapidly growing across the United States. Livermore PD recently set one up. A Crime Analyst is a great resource for that role and can expedite information sharing to that organized response.

- Nicholas Albert – Promotion to Police Lieutenant

With the departure of Lt. Maria Sarasua, an opening was created for Police Lieutenant. After a thorough and highly competitive selection process, Sgt. Nicholas Albert was promoted to Police Lieutenant. Lt. Albert has been a valued and highly respected member of the department since 2011. He holds a Bachelor's degree and Master's degree in Criminal Justice from American Military University. Lt. Albert has held a variety of special and collateral assignments to include First Aid Instructor/Supervisor, Force Options Instructor, Active Threat Instructor, Volunteer Advisor and Terrorism Liaison Officer/Supervisor. He has also served as Canine Program Supervisor, Special Enforcement Unit Detective, SWAT Operator, and President of the Pleasanton Police Officers Association. Since January 2022, he has served as supervisor of the Alternate Response Unit for Mental Health. Lt. Albert shared that he looks forward to serving the organization on the Management Team as the department looks to the future.

- b. Management Team Offsite

Chief Swing advised that the Management Team attended an off-site Team Building Workshop last week. The agenda included communication, trust, teamwork, results, the strategic plan and more. It was a great opportunity to get together to chart the future of the department.

III. Old Business

CAB member Pamma asked for clarification about the divisional reorganization that occurred at the end of April. Chief Swing advised that prior to the reorganization, there were two divisions: Operations, and Investigations & Support Services. Megan Wilske, as the manager of Support Services reported to the Investigations and Support Services Captain. Ms. Wilske has been elevated to a command level position leading the new Support Services Division and now reports directly to Chief Swing.

IV. New Business

a. Review of Recent Homicides

Lt. Gamez stated that there were two significant cases over the last two months, both homicides. Such violence can create a lot of fear and angst in the community, and negatively affect one's feeling of safety. He applauded the work done by the men and women of the department and shared the clearance rate for Violent Crime is 93%. When the Home Depot call came in, the department was well staffed, and everyone was needed, from dispatch to investigations and patrol. He thanked the entire department for rising to the occasion. Lt. Gamez asked Sgt. Pittl to provide overviews of both homicide cases.

- Home Depot Case

Sgt. Pittl gave a detailed account of when the call came in to 911 and how it progressed from there. PPD's investigation started almost immediately. Every detective was dispatched to Home Depot. Security cameras captured the entire event. Two individuals were apprehended and taken into custody. Through their statements, the female suspect was booked on charges of murder, robbery, felony evasion, and child endangerment. The male individual was charged with felony evading, aiding and abetting, and child endangerment. The robbery charge adds special circumstances which increases potential jail time. PPD provided a solid case to the DA; however, the suspect was not charged with robbery.

Sgt. Pittl spoke about the heart break in the case. The victim, 26 year-old Blake Mohs, was just doing his job. PPD has been communicating with his family weekly, if not daily about the case. They are aware of the dropped robbery charge and are taking the case up with DA's Office

A discussion ensued related to the role of loss prevention staff. In this case, during the crime, Blake recovered the property from the suspect and allowed her to walk away without any police involvement. The suspect chose to reengage Blake as he walked back into the store and forcibly take the property from him, at which time she shot him at point blank range.

- Hacienda Apartments Case

Sgt. Pittl advised that because the Hacienda Apartments case is an ongoing investigation, he is unable to provide much detail. Detectives are working tirelessly on the case and are awaiting the results of evidence processing. Because Alameda

County is so backed up with cases, the evidence was sent to Contra Costa County for a quicker turnaround time.

CAB member Rajabali asked if other cases are not being addressed while detectives investigate this case. Chief Swing advised that cases are being prioritized right now. CAB suggested increasing social media messaging especially around events such as these, so the community feels more connected and to allay some of that fear.

V. Next Steps

Chief Swing thanked the group for their feedback and the opportunity to share. The next CAB meeting will be held Tuesday, July 25, 2023; Topic – TBD. Chief Swing advised that the July meeting is the last meeting of this group's two-year term. He will be reaching out to members to discuss if they would like to continue for another two-year term or leave the board. A recruitment process for new members will kick off in the very near future.

CAB member Foley shared that CAB member Bass received the Excellence in Education award from PUSD. Congratulations to Tonya!

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.