

**North Las Vegas Police Department
Chief's Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2007**

ATTENDEES

A/Chief Chronister	Ted Johnson	Connie Holtmann-Spangler
A/Chief Forti	Susan Sayegh	Laura Marscheck
Dan Morris	Oscar Saldana-Perez	Mimi Devore-Rigg
Al Greer	John O'Carroll	Susan Schaaf

ABSENT

Florence Buchanan	Dana Phillips	Dwayne Miller
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- 1) Assistant Chief Joseph Chronister opened the meeting thanking the council for attending. He then introduced himself as Acting Chief of Police Services and Joseph Forti as Acting Chief of Detention Services. Both spoke about the direction the Department is going since the recent administration changes and expressed that they would both like to see the Council continue.

A/Chief Chronister advised the Council that the City will be doing a nationwide search in order to fill the Chief of Police position. Based on passed experience, he feels that the process will take approximately six months to fill the position.

Mimi asked why the City is looking outside instead of promoting from within? A/Chief Chronister said that the City is conducting a national search in order to get the best qualified candidates to apply.

- 2) A/Chief Chronister asked the Council to introduce themselves as he & A/Chief Forti did not know all of the members and also state how long they have been on the council. He also asked them what expectations they have as Council members. The Council members all agreed that they want to do something to help bridge the gap between the police and the community. They would like to be able to educate the public so that the public will have knowledge of why the police handle things the way they do. In the past, the Council was given projects and after investing a lot of time to the projects they were dropped before implementation. Both Assistant Chiefs agreed that the Council is a valuable component and that they will be utilized to advise the Department on issues and concerns.
- 3) S. Sayegh asked why there weren't any civilians on the last oral board and if there would be civilians on future oral boards. A/Chief Chronister stated that there was a civilian employee on each board along with a sergeant and an officer, however there were not enough outside volunteers this time around to completely fill each board, so the decision was made to have each board consistent. The Department will continue to have citizens as well as civilian employees, as long as people continue to volunteer.
- 4) A/Chief Chronister said that the Department is looking into changing some things within the Traffic Division. They are down about three officers now. The Division is going to have a new unit to investigate hit & run accidents and fatal accidents. The red light cameras are still a go. UNLV will do the statistical analysis.
- 5) Ted was concerned about not seeing many patrol cars on Craig Rd. A/Chief Chronister said that we will be securing six unmarked vehicles and placing them in the Craig Rd. corridor. We are also establishing special units to cover the area. Additionally, he stated that the patrol cars, if not on the main thoroughfares, should be in the neighborhoods and that is probably why you are not seeing them as much.

- 6) A discussion ensued on the pros and cons of hiring a new chief from the outside. Citizens are able to voice their opinions at the City Council meetings and are urged to do so. The City Manager selects the chief, however, the Mayor and City Council ratify that person to the position.
- 7) A/Chief Chronister and A/Chief Forti asked the Chief's Advisory Council what they want to do and what is needed to accomplish them. It was discussed how the police can get past the "fear factor" within the community.
 - Have officers go to the schools starting with the elementary grades during National Reading Week to interact with the children;
 - Adopt a school and be consistent. Pick a "topic of the month" and discuss it with the children. This way police can make a positive image on the children early on.
 - Have an open house at the Department one day each month and invite the community to bring their questions.
 - Have officers getting out of the cars and talking with the citizens on their beat. This can help in conquering the "fear factor". If the community doesn't want to come to the police, then the police need to go to them.
- 8) The Problem Solving Unit (PSU) will be back after the first of the year. Advise the citizens in your area to call the police if they see anything that looks suspicious. At the next meeting, we will discuss where we want to be as a Council. Also, we need to find a new day to conduct the meetings if we want to have meetings with both Acting Chiefs of Police.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD JANUARY 14TH, 2008 FROM 5:00 P.M. AT
THE SOUTH AREA COMMAND ON BRUCE AND E. LAKE MEAD**