

POLICE COMMISSION
NEWS BRIEFING

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

At the Police Commission Meeting on February 24, 2009

Report of the Chief - Chief William Bratton reported on the crime statistics which reflect a 5.4% decrease compared to this time last year in Part One crime.

Report of the Inspector General - André Birotte stated that he was honored to lecture to a class at Loyola Law School last week about his role at the Police Commission.

The Executive Director's and the Department's reports related to the Department's Efforts Regarding the Prevention of Biased Policing and the Response from Analysis Group to the ACLU of Southern California Report Entitled, "A Study of Racially Disparate Outcomes in the Los Angeles Police Department," were approved. Executive Director Richard Tefank reported that he and Commissioner Saltzman had met with Department staff to discuss the level of training time that is now devoted to the prevention of biased policing, along with the TEAMS II component. Commissioner Saltzman was complimentary of the staff who has been working on this difficult project and asked for a briefing for the public record. Deputy Chief Sandy Jo MacArthur stated that now, the prevention of biased policing is infused throughout Academy training instead of a one-hour time block. For in-service personnel, e-learning has been used since 2006. Much emphasis has been placed on investigating the post-stop activity, not just the pre-stop intentions. This kind of investigation provides a more complete review of the incident. Police Administrator Maggie Goodrich added that she is working on having information from arrest reports added to officers' TEAMS II reports. Commander Rick Webb stated the Special Order regarding the use of the term "Biased Policing," is either being distributed Department wide or will be shortly. All Commissioners expressed their gratitude for the progress made and attention paid to this issue by Department staff. Commissioner Pacheco concluded by stating that the Department and the Commission have taken tangible steps in striving for fair and impartial policing in Los Angeles. In doing so, LAPD is becoming a model in identifying and implementing training to address biased policing. He added that the Department is now in a place that it has not been before in terms of self-analysis for best practices, and the systems are in place to move forward.