



# REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

15

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604

www.CityofSacramento.org

Information

July 28, 2009

**Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council**

**Title: Informational Report: Community Racial Profiling Commission Quarterly  
Report (October - December 2008)**

**Location/Council District:** Citywide

**Recommendation:** Receive and File

**Contact:** Katherine Lester, Lieutenant, (916) 808-0800

**Presenters:** Not applicable

**Department:** Police

**Division:** Fiscal

**Department ID:** 11001021

**Description/Analysis**

**Issue:** The attached report provides the City Council with the Commission's fourth quarterly update of 2008.

**Policy Considerations:** The work of the Community Racial Profiling Commission directly supports the City Council policies of inclusion, establishing and strengthening community partnerships, and enhancing educational opportunities for the entire community.

**Environmental Considerations:**

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):** This report concerns administrative activities that will not have a significant effect on the environment, and does not constitute a "project" as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) [CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b)(3); 15378(b)(2)].

**Sustainability Considerations:** Not applicable.

**Other:** Not applicable.

**Rationale for Recommendation:** Pursuant to City Code 2.110.040, the Community Racial Profiling Commission is required to submit quarterly reports to the City Council.



**Financial Considerations:** There are no financial implications associated with this report.

**Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):** Not applicable.

Respectfully Submitted by: Brian Louie  
Brian Louie, Deputy Chief of Police

Approved by: Rick Brazier  
Rick Brazier, Chief of Police

Recommendation Approved:

*for* Ray Kerridge  
Ray Kerridge  
City Manager

Ref: COP 05-04

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## Background

In July 2000, the Sacramento Police Department (SPD) undertook a comprehensive study of traffic stops to address perceptions of racial profiling. In March 2004, City Council approved the establishment of a formal advisory commission to provide equitable representation, accountability, and reporting from Sacramento residents on this issue of national importance, as well as provide the City with a greater opportunity to be inclusive. In November 2004, City Council confirmed selections for membership on the Community Racial Profiling Commission, whose purpose is to assist the City with its racial profiling vehicle stop study. The Commission held its first meeting in January 2005 and set its future meeting dates as the third Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Center.

In February 2006, Lamberth Consulting was awarded the contract to conduct the Traffic Stop Data study. Lamberth Consulting staff studied Police Department processes of data collection and mapping, in-car camera recording of pedestrian and bicycle stops, and Police Department policies related to stops. Lamberth staff conducted their study on data collected between December 1, 2007 and May 31, 2008, with the final report presented to the Sacramento City Council on August 12, 2008. The commission members worked with Communications Specialist Michele McCormick to develop the Commission's presentation to Council and a series of stakeholder meetings to present and discuss the Lamberth study results. These public stakeholder meetings, held on August 13, 14 and 15, featured presentations by Dr. Lamberth and SPD Chief Rick Braziel, as well as dialogue among the attendees.

The Commission members are working to formulate recommendations related to issues raised in the Lamberth report, as well as devising strategies regarding implementation of recommendations made by Dr. Lamberth. Members are also focusing on identifying future goals, responsibilities, and powers for the Commissions.



COMMUNITY RACIAL  
PROFILING COMMISSION

CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA

5770 FREEPORT BLVD., SUITE 100  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95822-3516

**Letter to the Mayor and City Council**

July 28, 2009

Subject: Community Racial Profiling Commission Quarterly Report  
(October – December 2008)

The Community Racial Profiling Commission (CRPC), established in November 2004, continued to fulfill its mission to serve as an advisory body to the City Council regarding bias free policing. This fourth quarterly report of 2008 describes the activities of the CRPC from October through December 2008.

**Commission Membership**

The following table depicts the status of Commission membership for the fourth quarter of 2008. In November, Ashiya Odeye joined the Commission as representative from District 5.

<b>CRPC 2008 4th Quarter Membership</b>			
<b>NAME</b>	<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>CATEGORY</b>
Alani Cridge	District 1	Danette Brown	At-Large
Walter Kawamoto	District 2	Ernest Carter	At-Large
<i>Vacant</i>	District 3	Renee Carter	At-Large
John Floyd	District 4	Crystal Taylor, Chair	At-Large
Ashiya Odeye	District 5	Brian Louie, Vice Chair, SPD	Standing
Julia Vera	District 6	Brent Meyer, SPOA	Standing
Sean Coletta	District 7	Francine Tournour, OPSA	Standing
<i>Vacant</i>	District 8		

Since the last quarterly update, the Commission has experienced and accomplished the following:

**Nomination of Candidates for 2009 CRPC Chair–**

Members nominated Sean Coletta (District 7) and Danette Brown (At-Large) for the

position of 2009 CRPC Chair. The vote in December was a tie and the item was carried over to the January 2009 meeting.

**Update on Section 2.110.090 of Chapter 2.110 of the Sacramento City Code Relating to the Frequency of CRPC Meetings and Discussion on Selecting CRPC Meeting Dates–**

Lt. Lester reported that the ordinance change had been approved by the City Council and that henceforth, CRPC meetings would be mandatory at least once a quarter, rather than at least once a month. No changes were made regarding the penalties assessed members for missed meetings. Commission members discussed deciding at each CRPC meeting the date for the next meeting, depending on issues and needs at that time.

**Discussion of Commission Recommendations to the Sacramento Police Department Related to Traffic Stop Study Report–**

Commission Members began the quarter by brainstorming and discussing a variety of recommendation suggestions. At the December meeting, members voted to recommend the following:

- ❖ Recommended that the City of Sacramento rehire Lamberth Consulting to conduct an additional traffic stop study in four years' time to give the Police Department sufficient time to implement recommendations;
- ❖ Recommended that City leadership, including the Police Department, address community perceptions that SPD has a systemic problem of making racially biased traffic stops through the implementation of recommendations by Lamberth Consulting and the CRPC;
- ❖ Recommended that the Police Department review its current traffic stop policies and practices to include informing drivers the reasons for traffic stops and to reconsider and possibly alter their methods of asking whether drivers and/or passengers are on probation or parole; and
- ❖ Recommended that the City Council approve a resolution to refute and express zero tolerance for racial profiling.

**Discussion of CRPC Strategies Regarding Implementation of Lamberth Recommendations–**

Commission members:

- ❖ Recommended that law enforcement and the community participate in meetings modeled after the CRPC Stakeholder Meetings, including discussion of reasons for "heavy" or "light" police presence in areas of the city;
- ❖ Recommended that police officers be familiar with the areas they patrol;
- ❖ Requested reports on screening for bias in SPD recruiting standards and on SPD training on bias free policing;
- ❖ Recommended that SPD add an evaluation component to measure officers' attitudes and practices regarding racial profiling;
- ❖ Asked if SPD is using Vehicle Stop Data Form data to find and discipline officers who are racially profiling. DC Louie reported that SPD uses an

- ❖ “early warning” system that identifies a developing pattern of allegations; and
- ❖ Requested and received information on SPD officers’ involvement with the community.

### **Report on (a) SPD Hiring Process regarding Screening Applicants for Racial Bias and (b) SPD Training on Bias Related Enforcement Actions–**

Lt. Lester provided Commissioners with a list of questions asked of prospective SPD hires during the Department background process, which SPD updated in 2005. The Lieutenant reported that SPD provides its academy attendees with at least 31 hours of cultural diversity training, although the State of California mandates only 12 hours of training. Members expressed an interest in viewing the training materials, and Lt. Lester will research whether the Commission of Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) materials can release the materials.

### **Discussion of Future Goals and Responsibilities of the CRPC–**

Commission members discussed whether the purpose of the Commission had been fulfilled with the release of the Lamberth Traffic Stop Study and ultimately decided that the Commission was also charged with advising the City Council on racially biased policing. Members created the following goals:

- ❖ To foster better police/community relations through activities such as the CRPC community forums and the stakeholder workshops;
- ❖ To analyze relationships between racial profiling and social issues using quality research; and
- ❖ To understand policing from a police perspective.

### **Discussion of and Recommendation of General Order 210.05 – Bias Related Enforcement Actions–**

Lt. Lester reported that the draft of the revised General Order (GO) 210.05 regarding bias-related enforcement actions was under review by SPD management staff and that Chief Braziel would provide the final draft to Commission members for their input. The revision was being written to comply with recommendations in the Lamberth Traffic Stop Study Report. Commission members viewed the outgoing GO 210.05 and asked that mention of corrective action be added to the draft. Lt. Lester explained that corrective action and discipline are covered in a separate publication and showed Commissioners the Internal Affairs Investigations Manual. The Lieutenant also stated that the level of discipline for officers depends on the scope of the violation. Each violation is reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and the level of discipline is decided by the Chief of Police and reviewed by the Office of Public Safety Accountability. Members recommended that SPD add the following to the GO 210.05 draft: “Reports shall be processed with an emphasis on openness, and consequences for inappropriate conduct will reflect the Department’s zero tolerance for bias.”

### **Discussion of Status of Videotaping Stakeholder Meetings and Posting Videos on City of Sacramento and/or CRPC Websites–**

Lt. Lester reported that Bill Taylor, the City of Sacramento webmaster, planned to have the videos of stakeholder meetings held after the release of the Lamberth Traffic Stop

Study report posted on the CRPC website during the week following the meeting. The stakeholder video files are large, necessitating the search for a different server that can hold the files. The videos will probably be viewed with Media Player and will not be downloadable; however, interested parties will be able to request that a copy be burned and sent to them.

**Comments and Operational Updates on Sacramento Police Department Activities—**

Deputy Chief Brian Louie:

- ❖ Reported that the Department continued to collect Vehicle Stop Data Forms for each traffic stop made in the City and that the compliance rate remained in the mid to high 90% range during the quarter;
- ❖ Reported that the number of traffic citations remained steady during the quarter;
- ❖ Updated Commission members monthly on crime and enforcement factors that could influence the focus of traffic stops.

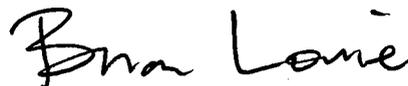
**Goals –**

Commission members continue to contemplate and discuss the dimensions of their purpose and their powers and duties in serving as an advisory body regarding vehicle stop data collection and bias free policing to the City Council and as a liaison to the Community in the aftermath of the Lamberth study release.

Sincerely,



Crystal Taylor, 2008 Chair, CRPC



Brian Louie, 2008 Vice Chair, CRPC