

City of Pomona

505 S. Garey Ave
Pomona, CA 91766

Regular Meeting Minutes

POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION



*Chair Eunice Russell
Vice-Chair Brian Brooks
Commissioner Hanan Gibani
Commissioner Tremale Ratcliffe
VACANT - commissioner*

VISION STATEMENT

*Pomona will be recognized as a vibrant, safe, beautiful
community that is a fun and exciting destination and the home of
arts and artists, students and scholars, business and industry.*

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

6:30 P.M.

Council Chambers

6:30 P.M. Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Russell called the Police Oversight Commission Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Russell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Eunice Russell
Vice-Chair Brian Brooks
Commissioner Hanan Gibani (arrived at 6:32 p.m.)
Commissioner Tremale Ratcliffe

Absent: None

STAFF PRESENT

Todd Samuels, Pomona Police Captain
Rosalia Butler, City Clerk/Commission Secretary
Diana Robles, Deputy City Clerk/Commission Secretary
Cristina Talley, Talley and Talley Law Firm, Commission Legal Advisor/Staff Liaison

CONSENT

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

It is recommended that the commission members approve the following Police Oversight Commission Meeting minutes:

April 8, 2025

Chair Russell requested an addition to the minutes.

MOTION BY CHAIR RUSSELL, SECOND BY VICE CHAIR BROOKS, CARRIED 4-0 (COMMISSIONER GIBANI ABSTAINED), to continue the April 8, 2025 Meeting Minutes to next meeting.

DISCUSSION

2. Continued Item from April 8 Meeting

Assigning Commissioner to Fill a Vacancy on each of the Following Ad-Hoc Committees: Use of Force Policy Review, Annual Report and Community Awareness Day

After a discussion between commissioners and Legal Secretary Tally, it was clarified that the only active ad-hoc committee was the Community Awareness Day and therefore only one appointment was needed.

Commissioner Gibani expressed interest in joining the Community Awareness Day Ad-hoc committee.

Commissioner Ratcliffe asked a few questions and Chair Russell answered his questions.

MOTION BY CHAIR RUSSELL, SECOND BY VICE CHAIR BROOKS, CARRIED 4-0, to appoint Commissioner Gibani to the Community Awareness Day Ad-Hoc Committee.

3. Monthly Report(s) from the Police Department.

Vice Chair Brooks thanked PD for changing the format of the report and suggested additional formatting changes.

Commissioners asked various questions about the data in the reports.

This item was for discussion only so no official action was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Garcia discussed concerns with living conditions and lack of security at the Serenity Villas property.

Kathleen Zelmer discussed concerns with inadequate management, drug activity and unsafe conditions at the Serenity Villas property.

Geraldine Fletcher discussed concerns with homeless individuals trespassing and threatening residents of the Serenity Villas property.

Gwendolyn Blume advised some of the residents have organized themselves as the Serenity Senior Advocate Group and have contacted the City's Housing Division and the Code Compliance Division about the concerns shared by previous public commenters.

Allegra Gallegos submitted a non-speaking card to express support for the other public speakers discussing concerns with the Serenity Villas property.

INSPECTOR GENERAL COMMUNICATION

Inspector General Gennaco had no reportable action.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Commission Secretary Robles gave a brief update on the status of the applications received for the Police Oversight Commission vacancy.

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

Vice Chair Brooks made a motion to agendize a discussion of the Serenity Villa property.

Chair Russell requested Commission Secretary Robles to review which items were already agendized for the June meeting.

Commission Secretary Robles listed out the agendized items for the June meeting.

Chair Russell suggested the Commission receive a presentation from PD's HEART unit and Neighborhood Watch unit to help address the concerns raised during public comment, rather than agendize a discussion on how to manage private property.

Legal Adviser Talley confirmed those presentations would fall under the purview of the commission as it would educate the public on police department resources.

Commissioner Gibani expressed disagreement and stated the HEART unit and the Neighborhood Watch groups have a responsibility in addressing concerns like the ones raised during public comment.

Chair Russell stated the suggested item to agendaize was a presentation from the HEART unit and from Neighborhood Watch unit.

Commissioner Ratcliffe asked if a presentation only from Neighborhood Watch be agendaized as both Code Compliance and the PD HEART unit had already made presentations to the commission.

Captain Samuels advised the area commander for the residents of Serenity Villa was talking to those residents in the lobby of the chamber.

Vice Chair Brooks stated he would like to see an abbreviated presentation from the HEART Unit/Quality of Life Unit.

MOTION BY VICE CHAIR BROOKS, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER GIBANI, CARRIED 4-0, to agendaize a presentation from the Pomona PD Quality of Life unit and Neighborhood Watch unit for next month's meeting.

Chair Russell advised she had met with Pomona Police Chief Michael Ellis to discuss U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement activity in the City and requested him to give a presentation on how Pomona PD interacts with outside agencies.

MOTION BY CHAIR RUSSELL, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER RATCLIFFE, CARRIED 4-0, to agendaize a presentation from Pomona Police Chief Michael Ellis on how Pomona PD interacts with outside agencies for next month's meeting.

Chair Russell gave an update from the Community Awareness Day ad-hoc committee and described some of the topics that would be presented that day. Chair Russell also stated she had attended the memorial service for Beth Brooks and requested a moment of silence to honor Mrs. Brooks.

Commissioner Ratcliffe shared suggestions to the Community Awareness Day ad-hoc committee and advised he would be attending the upcoming District 5 Area Commander meeting.

MOTION BY CHAIR RUSSELL, SECOND BY VICE CHAIR BROOKS, CARRIED 4-0, to agendaize a discussion regarding notification and review of personnel complaints for next month's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Russell adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m. on May 13, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

DIANA ROBLES

Deputy City Clerk/Commission
Secretary to the Police Oversight
Commission

EUNICE RUSSELL

Chair of the Police Oversight
Commission