ALL OUT FOR POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY!



Calling all Portlanders who want to see a strong, vibrant, and credible Civilian Police Review Board: Come to Portland City Council Wednesday, November 16, 2011 at 2 PM!

Independent Police

Portland's "Independent" Police Review Division (IPR) was established in 2001 and given the authority to conduct investigations separately from the Portland Police Bureau's Internal Affairs (IA)... yet no such investigation has ever happened. In March, 2010, the IPR was given some broader authority to review IA investigations, but IPR's 9-member Citizen Review Committee was told to wait before they receive more power. A group of citizens, police, and city officials met for four months and presented 41 recommendations for change to City Council in December, 2010.

On November 16, the City Auditor (who oversees IPR) is proposing a meager SIX changes to the ordinance, only three of which in any way reflect community concerns, with the others administrative tweaks. The Mayor and Chief put out a document essentially agreeing that the CRC *should not have any more power* than what the Auditor is proposing, claiming the CRC's role is just to review the quality of investigations.

CRC's tagline is "community oversight of the Portland Police Bureau," not "community oversight of the IPR and Internal Affairs."

We need to demand more change. Ask for ALL the Stakeholder Report recommendations to be adopted. We need true civilian oversight, and if we don't get more meaningful change now, we may have to wait another 10 years for a chance.

The City wants to avoid ruffling the feathers of the powerful Portland Police Association. While we support the rights of workers to collectively bargain for wages and benefits, we do not support public policy being set through those negotiations, especially when done by police officers.

For details, see our website at http://www.portlandcopwatch.org/ipr_changes_1111_analysis.pdf

Portlanders concerned about police accountability should contact City Council now, and testify on the 16th.

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For more information, details and updates: Portland Copwatch (503) 236-3065 http://www.portlandcopwatch.org