INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE PORTLAND POLICE BUREAU: Agency Culture, Community Perception, and Public Safety in a Time of Change



This Presentation

 High-level review of our objective and methodology

 Highlight the key recommendations of our Report

Address questions

The Project: 3 Questions

- Are Police Bureau policies, culture, actions, or outcomes driven by racial bias?
- Are Police Bureau policies, culture, actions, or outcomes driven by political bias?
- Are Police Bureau policies, culture, actions, or outcomes resistant to change sought by the community?

Objective: Cultural Assessment of the Portland Police Bureau



Key Recommendations: Eliminating Association with Hate Groups

Examine applicants' social media posts to disqualify anyone with links to extremist groups or racist viewpoints.



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Modify directives and disciplinary guidelines to make clear that membership or participation in hate groups, racial supremacist organizations or militant groups is a violation of policy that could subject members to discharge.

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Thoroughly investigate all allegations that a Bureau member is associated with an extremist group or has posted on social media any communications associated with racist viewpoints.

Key Recommendations: Hiring to Improve Community Ties



Emphasize diversity of relevant life experiences in recruitment efforts and reassess criteria that automatically excludes persons who might be excellent police officers.



Consider innovative ways of recruiting.



Include a community member in the interview process for prospective new officers.

Key Recommendation: Focus on Community Relationships



Develop ways to incorporate into Academy training a community-based program focused on non-law enforcement social service work aimed at reinforcing the importance of building relationships within Portland's diverse communities.

Key Recommendations: Focus on Racial Disparities



Use statistical dashboards relevant to racial disparity issues to increase transparency and show changes over time.



Identify any patterns of practice that may result in disparate uses of force specifically on persons of color.



Evaluate how policing strategies impact racial disparities, and report to community.

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