

**From:** [calandsman](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** JTTF Police Report  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 24, 2023 8:39:43 AM  
**Attachments:** [JTTF Police Report.pdf](#)  
[ATT00001.txt](#)

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To: City Council  
From: Carol Landsman for Jewish Voice for Peace-PDX  
Re: January 25 Agenda item 82 on PPB report on JTTF

Jewish Voice for Peace-PDX has always had serious concerns about the JTTF. We support full equality for Palestinians and Jewish Israelis grounded in international law and universal principles of human rights. We work for social justice for all and work to end both anti semitism and islamophobia. The JTTF has in past focused on Muslim men suggesting it is islamophobic. This was certainly proved to be the case with its entrapment of the teenager Mohammed Mohamud in 2010. We were relieved when the city withdrew.

Now that the City is again participating with the JTTF on a case by case basis, we have concerns and questions; the required report provides few if any answers. For example we think Portland residents need to know at a minimum, the following,

- # how does the city decide what cases to send to the JTTF. What criteria does the PPB use?
- # same for the FBI
- # Are cases of anti semitism or islamophobia considered terrorist?
- # what is the definition of terrorism used?

Without more information in the PPB report about JTTF/ PPB policies and tactics, we cannot be comfortable about what the city and the JTTF are actually doing.

**From:** [Portland Copwatch](#)  
**To:** [PortlandCityCouncilwheeler@portlandcopwatch.org](mailto:PortlandCityCouncilwheeler@portlandcopwatch.org); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Commissioner Gonzalez Office](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Peace and Justice Works](#)  
**Subject:** Item 82: Peace and Justice Works/Portland Copwatch JTTF testimony  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 24, 2023 7:13:25 PM

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Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Mapps, Rubio, Ryan, and welcome to this issue Commissioner Gonzalez:

I'm Dan Handelman with Peace and Justice Works and its project group Portland Copwatch.

Portland Copwatch found the Joint Terrorism Task Force agreement between the FBI and Portland Police tucked away on the consent agenda back in November 2000. For over 22 years we've been organizing with others in the community to ensure the police don't violate the rights of people of color, labor organizers, environmental activists, civil rights activists, immigrants, Muslims, and others, or Oregon state law.

In 2011 after the Mohamed Mohamud sting by the FBI, the PPB got back into the JTTF after six years out of it. We remember the years 2012-2015 when the PPB was sending reports to City Council which basically said "there was at least one case where we worked with the JTTF." The police said they did not want to give away the pace of their investigations and tip off the so-called bad guys. A ridiculous assertion.

When Portland got out of the JTTF again in 2019, the Council passed a resolution requiring the annual reports such as the one you see today. In a few of them, the community was given at least some indication of why the particular cases might have been considered "terrorism" or related to hate crimes, the required nexus for the PPB to work with the JTTF.

This year's report states that there are 10 cases the FBI sent to the PPB, but only details three of them, saying #4-10 are open investigations. One had to do with a person manufacturing gun parts, one making threats to community members through the media, and the only one which could perhaps be seen as terrorism was a threat against a federal elected official. However it seems the FBI sent this to the PPB because they realized the person has mental health issues and so the case went right to the "Behavioral Health Unit." Two of the three are identified as white people and the third was unknown.

We appreciate that the Bureau is still listing cases sent by the PPB to the FBI, even though the resolution does not call for that. Neither does it call for demographics of such cases, but those are provided. The Bureau sent three cases to the FBI, one about a "threat of targeted violence," one involving a shooting in which a person was killed and others injured, and one shooting at a protest at which nobody was hit. There is no indication of why the Portland Police thought these might be "terrorism" cases. There were five people involved in the three cases, identified as four white men and one white female.

Peace and Justice Works and Portland Copwatch call upon the City to treat the relationship with the FBI as something that will occur when a

true case arises where lives are endangered due to politically motivated violence, but to stop deputizing two officers for the occasional team-ups which seem to lead nowhere.

Failing that, we urge Council to fix the resolution to require the details and demographics of Portland to FBI cases to be included, and to require a clear explanation of how those cases relate to the limited scope of work the Resolution requires. We also hope the Resolution will include a guarantee of contemporaneous oral public testimony at the hearings on the reports, as we had to be creative for the first two years until the Council changed its policy to allow testimony on reports.

The price of liberty is eternal vigilance-- and that does not just include protection against people who would attack people living in the United States, it also means we must be sure our government is not violating its own principles in order to do so.

Thank you

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**From:** [Jude Stone](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Submitting written testimony for 1/25/23 Council Meeting  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 25, 2023 9:18:58 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)  
[JTTF 01.2023 Written Testimony ACLU.docx](#)

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Good morning,

I would like to submit written testimony (in addition to the oral testimony I've signed up for) on behalf of the ACLU of Oregon for today's City Council meeting regarding Agenda Item 82.

I've attached my testimony to this email. If this is not the correct way to submit written testimony, please let me know and I'll resubmit it accordingly. Thank you!

Best,

**Jude al-Ghazal Stone**

Pronouns: he, him, his

American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon

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Good morning Mayor and Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony about the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) and to request amendments regarding their report. My name is Jude al-Ghazal Stone and I'm here on behalf of the ACLU of Oregon and in coordination with several other organizations involved in the community campaign.

We appreciate the increased transparency we've seen in the last few years' JTTF reports, including more details about the content and demographics involved in the task force's cases.

However, we still have serious concerns about the level of transparency and oversight regarding the relationship between the FBI and Portland Police Bureau (PPB). We're troubled by both their general collaboration, and, more specifically, by the lack of clarity about how most cases mentioned in this year's report qualify as terrorism.

Since the early days of the JTTF, Portlanders and city officials have had misgivings about the FBI's and PPB's partnership. Portland's JTTF began around 2000, and by 2005, the [City of Portland withdrew from the task force](#) because the mayor, former Police Chief Tom Potter, was denied the clearance required for proper oversight.

Oregonians understand the importance of transparency and police oversight, which is why in the wake of Oregon law enforcement and federal agencies like the FBI [extensively surveilling and disrupting](#) many civil rights and BIPOC-led organizations, our state legislature enacted [ORS 181A.250](#). This statute prohibits Oregon law enforcement agencies from collecting information about any individual's or group's political, religious, or social views or associations unless that information is reasonably connected to criminal conduct.

Importantly, the FBI is not subject to this state law — but the PPB is. Without transparent reporting on the collaboration of state and federal law enforcement, Portland citizens cannot know if the PPB is violating our state laws regarding their civil rights.

In fact, it was an advocate for the JTTF, Commissioner Nick Fish, who highlighted the necessity of oversight when the City was [voting on whether to leave the task force](#) for a second time. He asked: "Why would we walk away [from the JTTF] and forfeit our opportunity for oversight of [the FBI's] work?" The answer is: with the JTTF, Portlanders have oversight of neither the FBI's nor the PPB's work, despite demanding greater transparency around their partnership for over two decades.

In 2019, the most recent time that Portland commissioners decided to leave the JTTF, City Council began requiring that the PPB produce an annual report detailing its cooperation with the FBI. While the annual report has partially increased transparency, we still lack the oversight necessary to guarantee that the PPB is fully compliant with ORS 181A.250.



When law enforcement agencies violate this law, Oregonians do not [suffer the consequences](#) equally. BIPOC communities, particularly Black communities, as well as Muslims, Arab-Americans, and people with names like mine have [borne the brunt](#) of both [local and federal witch hunts](#) for terrorist activity. My grandmother is someone who many would consider a model citizen. She's a retired librarian who is active in her church, local dance troupe, and citywide recycling club. Yet since 9/11, she has been surveilled and questioned by federal law enforcement officials countless times simply because she is Arab. People like her undergo [unsubstantiated arrests, raids, and trauma](#) at the hands of both the FBI and PPB, which is why greater oversight of their collaboration is critical to ensure that Portlanders' civil rights are protected.

Accordingly, the ACLU of Oregon urges the Commission to, at a minimum, create a community-focused oversight structure of the PPB's annual reports and engagement with the JTTF. However, the strongest way to protect our people's civil rights is to sever the formal relationship between the Portland Police Bureau and the FBI.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jude al-Ghazal Stone

Pronouns: he, him, his

**American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon**

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**From:** [Marleen Wallingford](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Portland JACL testimony  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 25, 2023 9:52:57 AM  
**Attachments:** [City Council Testimony 12523.pdf](#)  
[ATT00001.htm](#)

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# PORTLAND JACL

SUPPORTING CIVIL RIGHTS SINCE 1928

Good Morning, council members. I am Marleen Wallingford and a member of the Portland JACL board which is a nonprofit civil rights organization which was founded more than 95 years ago to help young Japanese Americans become more civically engaged.

Our community is particularly sensitive to unwarranted surveillance because that is exactly what our community was subjected to during the 30's and 40's. That is why one day after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the FBI was able to sweep through the Japanese American Community here in Portland. They searched homes and arrested a little over a hundred community leaders. It is our obligation to guarantee that this does not happen to any other community. There was no evidence that our community was engaging in sabotage but there was suspicion that because of our race, we were predisposed to be loyal to our ancestors homeland. As it turns out, despite the nation's fears, not one Japanese or Japanese American was ever found to be engaging in sabotage.

The Portland Police has had a history of being in and out of the Joint Terrorism Task Force. We had left the task force until the Pioneer Courthouse attempted bombing incident in 2010. This arrest and conviction of a young Muslim man was the culmination of a long-term undercover operation, during which he had been monitored closely for months. With the collaboration of an undercover officer, a bombing was planned during the Christmas tree lighting ceremony. The device was in fact inert; and the public was never in danger.

In 2019, the Portland City Council voted to withdraw the two assigned officers from the Task Force and cooperate on a case by case basis. The Portland Police was required to provide to annual report describing its cooperation with the Task Force.

We have recently viewed the annual report by the Portland Police Bureau for 2022. As with previous year's reports very little information is given and there is no way for the general public to know how the incidents or concerns came to the attention of the FBI or the Portland Police Bureau and it is not clear how the actions described could be considered domestic or international terrorism.

We have been told that by cooperating with the federal agency, the Portland Police Bureau can monitor their work. There is no way that our local police can have any control over FBI practices. It is time that we divest our community from an agency that has such a clouded history of upholding our constitutionally protected rights. The FBI needs to reflect upon its culture of white supremacy and its bias against constitutionally protected peaceful protest.

We appreciate this time to be able to publicly comment on the report.

**City Council Meeting - Wednesday January 25, 2023 9:30 a.m.**

<b>Agenda No.</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>
82-01	Jude al-Ghazal	Stone
82-02	Marleen	Wallingford
82-03	Brandon	Mayfield
82-04	Dan Handelman	Portland Copwatch
82-05	Debbie	Aiona