

Domestic Violence Response:

Special Victims Unit benefits from collaboration with partners, but patrol officers need more training

June 2022



P O R T L A N D
C I T Y A U D I T O R

**Independent
Police Review**



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Mary Hull Caballero, City Auditor
Ross Caldwell, Independent Police Review Director

Report Team:
Casey Clithero, Investigator I

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When police respond to domestic violence calls, officers conduct interviews, gather evidence, offer assistance, and write a report that will form the basis for additional investigation and possible criminal charges. The Police Bureau's Special Victims Unit and a team of Multnomah County employees follow up with survivors and prioritize calls involving violent, repeat offenders. In the past, Independent Police Review has received complaints about the Bureau's response to domestic violence survivors. This review was initiated to better understand community members' concerns, identify systemic issues, and make recommendations for policy revision and training to improve service.

Based on a community survey, interviews with experts, and a review of national practices, Independent Police Review concluded:

- The Special Victims Unit benefits from co-location and collaboration with service partners;
- Patrol officers responding to emergency calls need more training on the impact and implications of trauma on survivors of domestic violence and that they feel safe enough to participate in the process; and,
- The Bureau's directive needs updating to provide context for why certain procedures are required when responding to domestic violence calls.

Special Victims Unit works closely with partners on cases

The Police Bureau created the Domestic Response Reduction Unit in the 1990s to investigate domestic violence cases. That unit was renamed the Special Victims Unit in 2020 to reflect the Bureau's partnership and co-location with Multnomah County's Domestic Violence Enhanced Response Team and additional responsibilities, including elder crimes and offenses perpetrated against vulnerable adults. In addition to domestic violence calls, the unit addresses sexual assaults, robberies, and shootings that have a nexus to domestic violence.

The Bureau receives approximately 8,000 to 9,000 domestic violence calls per year. From 2008 to 2014, the unit used an automated risk scale developed in collaboration with Portland State University to identify the highest-risk cases for priority case assignment. With a significant volume of calls, this tool allowed the Bureau to focus its limited investigative resources on its most dangerous cases. However, recent compatibility issues with the Bureau's multi-agency records database, known as RegJIN, caused the tool to cease working, and to date there is no comparable replacement.

Community partners who work closely with the Bureau on domestic violence issues praised the sergeants, detectives, and officers who work in the unit. County partners said that unit members understand how trauma affects survivors and value partnerships with the domestic violence organizations and advocates.

There has been discussion within the Bureau of moving the Special Victims Unit from its current location, which it shares with Multnomah County and community groups. In interviews, partners supported the unit's desire to remain where it is to facilitate collaboration and insisted that positions be retained.

We conducted a survey of domestic violence survivors and advocates to learn their views of the Bureau. More than half of the survivors and advocates who responded indicated that they would be comfortable contacting the Bureau if they or a loved one experienced domestic violence. Some of those respondents noted that the Bureau is their only option, and they would like officers who answer calls for service to be better trained about how trauma affects survivors' behavior. Some said the Bureau has improved its response when called to help and appreciated that advocates are embedded in the Special Victims Unit. Others reported less confidence in officers who respond to domestic violence calls, describing them as engaged in victim-blaming and uninformed about the effects of trauma. One respondent noted that contacting the police is "not safe or accessible to people of color, people with autism or disabilities, or sexual minorities."

Patrol officers need training, guidance

Generally, Portland officers assigned to patrol receive a basic level of domestic violence training when they are hired provided by the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training. That has not always been the case. Between the early 2000s and 2016, the Bureau provided additional multi-day training on domestic violence in its Advanced Academy.

The advanced training included classroom instruction and a full day of simulations in which officers addressed domestic violence scenarios with coaching from supervisors and partners from community agencies, including the district attorney's office. The scenarios helped officers gain experience, receive constructive feedback, and familiarize themselves with the community resources available to survivors. In interviews, sergeants from the Special Victims Unit highlighted the scenario format as a valuable training tool and said they have repeatedly requested that it be put back on the Advanced Academy agenda. The sergeants also would like to provide more training and instruction at the Bureau's regular in-service events during the year. Officials from the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office, Volunteers of America, and others supported more training for patrol officers, especially when it includes scenarios.

More specific guidance is needed in the Police Bureau's Domestic Violence Directive

Portland Police directives guide officers' conduct in the field. They also are available to the public to review Bureau policy and procedure. Many directives contain language recognizing the importance of the policies and describing the values underlying them. Directives that apply to domestic violence do not contain enough explanatory context to help officers understand the importance of certain requirements.

The Bureau's directive on Protection Orders and Domestic Violence Cases (825.00) tells officers what they must do when responding to domestic violence calls but does not explain why. For example, the directive states that domestic violence calls require at least two officers to respond, and that officers who arrive first may not call off the second officer. It does not explain why two officers are needed, such as being able to separate the parties involved and calm others who may be at the location. The directive says officers must make an arrest of the perpetrator and write a police report for all domestic incidents, actions difficult and possibly unsafe to carry out alone in a volatile environment.

When someone calls for help in a domestic violence situation, officers must understand and be able to explain the steps they must take to best protect the victim and their own safety as well as collect evidence of the offense. For example, the North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault explains the importance of separating involved parties:

Coercion and threats from the abuser may also hamper their ability to give details about the incident in that retaliation could be a real threat. Officers can minimize some of the intimidation by separating the victim and offender. Interviewing the parties separately conveys the message that the issue is between the officers and the offender since a crime has been committed. Officers should not place the victim in a situation where they must confront the offender.

Trauma-informed training is essential for domestic violence calls

Training in the neurobiology of trauma is an emerging area in law enforcement, and experts recommend it be included in basic training for all officers. The Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training has a trauma-informed curriculum under development, but its existing curriculum does not include trauma-informed practices as a prominent theme. The absence of trauma-informed education during basic training or the Bureau's Advanced Academy is a missed opportunity to provide better police services to survivors.

The training is essential for officers to understand why survivors of sexual assault often don't flee, cry out, or fight back against their attackers. It also provides insight into why survivors of domestic violence may stay with a perpetrator, refuse to reach out for support, and provide misinformation to law enforcement and loved ones. Knowing what happens in the brain during a traumatic event can inform an officer's approach and demeanor with survivors when responding to a domestic violence call and could lead to better investigative outcomes after the initial contact.

Detectives, sergeants, and officers in the Special Victims Unit are trained in the Forensic Experiential Traumatic Interview, an emergent curriculum that holds the neurobiology of trauma among its foundational principles. Though this form of interviewing is ideal for longform, survivor-directed interviews and most appropriate for investigators, an understanding of the neurobiology of trauma would also benefit patrol officers responding to acute domestic violence calls. Trauma-informed interviewing techniques have utility for investigations whether an officer has five minutes or two hours with a survivor.

Reports from responding officers are essential for prosecutors

When officers overlook specific elements of domestic violence crimes in their reports, abusers may be charged with misdemeanors instead of felonies. The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office said it could improve the accuracy of its charging decisions if officers provided evidence aligned with the legal elements of domestic violence crimes, including indicators of lethality and intent. The Bureau agreed, acknowledging that report writing for domestic violence cases was an area where officers need more training. Special Victims Unit staff said articulating the legal elements was especially important for domestic violence incidents that involved strangulation. For example, officers often document the appearance of bruising, but bruising alone is not considered an injury according to Oregon law. Officers must ask "pain-scale" questions in addition to documenting bruising, so the presence and extent of injuries are clear.

The ideal patrol response from the District Attorney's Office's perspective to domestic violence calls would involve officers asking an array of questions, such as whether a perpetrator was aware of protection orders or whether an alleged attacker knew the victim was pregnant. Answers to such questions illustrate the degree of lethality and intent involved, which can result in appropriate charges for more dangerous perpetrators.

Recommendations

1. Ensure that the benefits of the Special Victims Unit being located with its community partners are assessed appropriately against the costs of moving it.
2. Re-establish and maintain a risk assessment tool to prioritize high risk domestic violence cases for investigative follow-up.
3. Revise Directive 825.00: Protection Orders and Domestic Violence Cases to provide officers guidance on the reasons behind the actions they are required to take during domestic violence responses.
4. Provide training at the Bureau's Advanced Academy and in-service sessions to ensure the Bureau can achieve:
 - a. Trauma-informed domestic violence response and investigations with a focus on the neurobiology of trauma and victim behavior;
 - b. Scenario-based training in accordance with recommendations from the Special Victims Unit and community partners;
 - c. Trauma-informed interviewing techniques with a focus on victim behavior/safety and lethality indicators for perpetrators; and
 - d. Effective reports with an emphasis on articulating criminal elements and providing thorough and accurate information to ensure appropriate prosecutorial charging decisions.

View the Police Bureau's response to our report

View the response to the report from Portland Police Chief Chuck Lovell at the end of this report.

Methodology

The objective of this review was to compare Portland Police Bureau's policies, practices, and training on domestic violence response to best practices and identify areas in which the Bureau may improve in meeting the needs of the Portland community.

We developed and shared a community survey with domestic violence service providers and survivors. The survey consisted mostly of open-ended questions. Participation was not mandatory, and respondents could choose to leave questions blank. Twenty-five community members shared their feedback about the Portland Police Bureau's response to domestic violence. The recommendations were informed by the survey responses, a review of national best practices, and interviews with Bureau employees, community partners, and experts in the field of domestic violence response. Among the partners were employees at the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office, members of the Domestic Violence Enhanced Response Team, and Volunteers of America.



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Ted Wheeler, Mayor

Charles Lovell, Chief of Police

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June 6, 2022

Mary Hull Caballero
City Auditor
1221 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 310
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Auditor Hull Caballero:

My team and I have read the recent Independent Police Review's review of the Portland Police Bureau's response to domestic violence calls. We agree, either fully or in part, with each of the four recommendations. We would like to provide some clarification on our stance regarding each recommendation.

Recommendation One: Ensure that the benefits of the Special Victims Unit being located with its community partners are assessed appropriately against the costs of moving it.

We agree that this is always an extremely valid criteria to consider. Co-housing the multidisciplinary teams affords the survivor of abuse a sense of personal safety, helps ease the apprehension of meeting with law enforcement, and makes accessing services easier.

Recommendation Two: Re-establish and maintain a risk assessment tool to prioritize high risk domestic violence cases for investigative follow-up.

Your report highlights our current issue: the digital records management system is incompatible with the old assessment tool. We agree having an electronic solution would be better, but the development and selection of this tool needs to be thoughtful and timed with any move to a different records management system.

Even without an automated tool, the supervisors at our Special Victims Unit (SVU) reviewed over 11,400 police reports in 2021 and assigned 9.1% of the cases for follow-up by SVU investigators.

Recommendation Three: Revise Directive 825.00: Protection Orders and Domestic Violence Cases to provide officers guidance on the reasons behind the actions they are required to take during domestic violence responses.

We agree officers need guidance on the reasons behind actions they are required to take. We believe the appropriate place to have the "explanations behind the rule" is in the training provided about the rule. We are committing to restoring training on domestic violence response and expanding the scope of training provided in our response to the final recommendation.

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Recommendation Four: Provide Training at the Bureau's Advanced Academy and in-service sessions to ensure the Bureau can achieve:

- a. Trauma-informed domestic violence response and investigations with a focus on the neurobiology of trauma and victim behavior;**
- b. Scenario based training in accordance with recommendations from the Special Victims Unit and community partners;**
- c. Trauma-informed interviewing techniques with a focus on victim behavior/safety and lethality indicators for perpetrators; and**
- d. Effective reports with an emphasis on articulating criminal elements and providing thorough and accurate information to ensure appropriate prosecutorial charging decisions.**

We agree all of these training recommendations are appropriate and would improve our response to survivors of domestic abuse. Our Training Division has been made aware of each recommendation and has added this to our Annual Training Assessment for implementation as soon as we can develop curriculum and identify when we have adequate class time at in-service. Adding additional training to the Advanced Academy will also be possible as soon as we can develop curriculum. Effective report writing also includes effective review by supervisors who approve these reports, so we will also develop curriculum for supervisor in-service aimed at improving report review.

Thank you for providing us the opportunity to respond to this review.



Charles Lovell
Chief of Police

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View this report online: www.portland.gov/ipr/domestic-violence-response

Independent Police Review

The City Auditor's Independent Police Review provides impartial oversight of police conduct, practices, and policies to increase accountability and public trust.

Independent Police Review | 1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 140, Portland, OR 97204



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6 Июня, 2022

Мэри Халл Кабальеро
Городской Аудитор
1221 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 310
Portland, OR 97204

Уважаемый Аудитор Халл Кабальеро:

Моя команда и я прочитали недавний обзор Независимого Полицейского Обзора о реакции Портлендского Полицейского Управления на звонки о насилии в семье. Мы полностью или частично согласны с каждой из четырёх рекомендаций. Мы хотели бы дать некоторые пояснения относительно нашей позиции в отношении каждой рекомендации.

Рекомендация Первая: Обеспечить надлежащую оценку выгод от того, что Специальное Отделение для Жертв находится вместе с его партнёрами по сообществу, по сравнению с затратами на его перемещение.

Мы согласны с тем, что это всегда чрезвычайно важный критерий для рассмотрения. Совместное размещение междисциплинарных бригад даёт пострадавшему от жестокого обращения чувство личной безопасности, помогает облегчить опасения встречи с правоохранительными органами и упрощает доступ к услугам.

Рекомендация Вторая: Восстановить и поддерживать в рабочем состоянии инструмент оценки рисков, чтобы приоритизировать дела о домашнем насилии с высокой степенью риска для последующих расследований.

В вашем отчёте подчеркивается наша текущая проблема: система управления электронными записями несовместима со старым инструментом оценки. Мы согласны с тем, что электронное решение было бы лучше, но разработка и выбор этого инструмента должны быть продуманными и синхронизированными с любым переходом на другую систему управления записями.

Даже без автоматизированного инструмента руководители нашего Специального Отдела для Пострадавших (SVU) рассмотрели более 11,400 полицейских отчётов в 2021 году и 9.1% дел переданы на доследование следователям СВУ.

Рекомендация Третья: Пересмотреть Директиву 825.00: Охранные Судебные Приказы и Дела о Насилии в Семье, чтобы дать офицерам указания о причинах действий, которые они должны предпринимать при реагировании на насилие в семье.

Мы согласны с тем, что офицерам нужны указания о причинах действий, которые они должны предпринять. Мы считаем, что подходящее место для «пояснений к правилу» это обучение, посвященное правилу. Мы обязуемся восстановить обучение по реагированию на насилие в семье и расширить объём обучения, предоставленного в нашем ответе на окончательную рекомендацию.

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Рекомендация Четвёртая: Обеспечить обучение в Высшей Академии Бюро и занятия без отрыва от работы, чтобы гарантировать, что Бюро может достичь:

- a. Реагирование на насилие в семье с учётом травм и расследования с акцентом на нейробиологию травмы и поведение жертвы;**
- b. Сценарное обучение в соответствии с рекомендациями Особых Жертв**
- c. Партнёры подразделения и сообщества;**
- d. Методы опроса с учётом травм с упором на поведение жертвы / показатели безопасности и летальности для преступников; а также**
- e. Эффективные отчёты с упором на выявление криминальных элементов и предоставление подробной и точной информации для обеспечения надлежащих решений обвинения.**

Мы согласны, что все эти рекомендации по обучению уместны и улучшат нашу реакцию на пострадавших от домашнего насилия. Наш Отдел Обучения был проинформирован о каждой рекомендации и добавил её в нашу Ежегодную Оценку Обучения для реализации, как только мы сможем разработать учебный план и определить, когда у нас будет достаточно времени для занятий без отрыва от производства. Добавление дополнительного обучения в Расширенной Академии также станет возможным, как только мы разработаем учебную программу. Эффективное написание отчётов также включает в себя эффективную проверку руководителями, которые утверждают эти отчёты, поэтому мы также разработаем учебную программу для действующих руководителей, направленную на улучшение проверки отчётов.

Спасибо, что предоставили нам возможность ответить на этот отзыв.



Чарльз Ловел
Начальник Полиции

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2022年6月6日

Mary Hull Caballero

市审计长

1221 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 310

Portland, OR 97204

亲爱的审计长 Hull Caballero:

我和我的团队已经阅读了最近的独立警察审查 (Independent Police Review) 就波特兰警察局对家庭暴力求救电话回应的审查。我们完全或部分同意四项建议中的每一项。我们想阐明一下我们对每项建议的立场。

建议一：确保特殊受害者部门 (Special Victims Unit) 的位置在其社区合作伙伴的所在地的益处是根据对搬迁成本作适当的评估。

我们同意这总是一个非常值得考虑的因素。多学科团队共处一室为虐待幸存者提供了人身安全感,有助于减轻与执法部门会面的担忧,并使获得服务更容易。

建议二：重新建立和维持风险评估工具,以便优先处理高风险家庭暴力案件然后作出跟进调查。

您的报告强调了我们当前的问题: 数码记录管理系统与旧的评估工具不兼容。我们同意, 电子解决方案会更好, 但该工具的开发和选择需要深思熟虑并适时调整到不同的记录管理系统。

即使没有自动化工具, 我们的特殊受害者部门 (SVU) 主管在2021年也审查了11,400多份警方报告, 并将9.1% 的案件分配给SVU调查人员跟进。

建议三：修订指令 825.00: 保护令和家暴案件, 为警员提供指导, 说明他们在回应家暴期间需要采取的行动背后的原因。

我们同意, 警员必需要就他们需要采取的行动背后的原因提供指导。我们认为, 在提供有关规则的培训中, 加入“规则背后的解释”是适当的。我们致力于恢复关于家庭暴力回应的培训, 并扩大我们在对最终建议的回应中提供的培训范围。

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建议四：在警局的高级学院和在职课程提供培训，以确保警局能够做到：

- a. 回应和调查有创伤的家庭暴力，重点是创伤和受害者行为的神经生物学；
- b. 根据特殊受害者部门和社区合作伙伴的建议进行基于情况的培训；
- c. 对有创伤的面谈技术，重点是受害者行为/安全和肇事者的杀伤力指标；和
- d. 有效的报告，重点是阐明犯罪要素并提供全面和准确的信息，
以确保作出适当的起诉指控决定。

我们同意所有这些培训建议都是适当的，并将改善我们对家庭虐待幸存者的回应。我们的培训部门已了解每项建议，并将其添加到我们的年度培训评估中，以便尽快制定课程并确定我们有足够的在职上课时间时就可实施。一旦我们能制定课程，也可以尽快为高级学院增加额外的培训。有效的报告撰写还包括批准这些报告的主管的有效审查，因此我们还将为在职主管制定课程，旨在改进审查报告。

感谢您为我们提供回复此审查的机会。



Charles Lovell
Chief of Police



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Charles Lovell, Chief of Police

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Ngày 6 tháng Sáu, năm 2022

Mary Hull Caballero
City Auditor
1221 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 310
Portland, OR 97204

Kính gửi Kiểm Toán Viên Hull Caballero:

Nhóm của tôi và tôi đã đọc bản đánh giá gần đây của Đánh Giá Độc Lập của Cảnh Sát về phản ứng của Sở Cảnh Sát Portland đối với các cuộc gọi về bạo lực gia đình. Chúng tôi đồng ý, hoàn toàn hoặc một phần, với từng đề xuất trong số bốn khuyến nghị. Chúng tôi muốn cung cấp một số giải thích rõ ràng về lập trường của chúng tôi đối với từng đề xuất.

Khuyến Nghị Một: Đảm bảo rằng các lợi ích của Đơn Vị cho Nạn Nhân Đặc Biệt (Special Victims Unit) được đặt cùng nơi với các đối tác cộng đồng của họ được đánh giá phù hợp so với chi phí di chuyển của họ.

Chúng tôi đồng ý rằng đây luôn là một tiêu chí cực kỳ hợp lệ để xem xét. Việc hợp tác xây dựng các nhóm đa kỹ luật mang lại cho những người sống sót sau bạo lực cảm giác an toàn cho cá nhân, giúp giảm bớt sự e ngại trong cuộc họp với cơ quan thực thi pháp luật và giúp việc tiếp cận các dịch vụ dễ dàng hơn.

Khuyến Nghị Hai: Thiết lập lại và duy trì một công cụ đánh giá rủi ro để ưu tiên các trường hợp bạo lực gia đình có nguy cơ cao để theo dõi điều tra.

Báo cáo của quý vị nêu bật vấn đề hiện tại của chúng tôi: hệ thống quản lý hồ sơ kỹ thuật số không tương thích với công cụ đánh giá cũ. Chúng tôi đồng ý rằng có một giải pháp bằng điện tử sẽ tốt hơn, nhưng việc phát triển và lựa chọn công cụ này cần phải được cân nhắc kỹ lưỡng và đúng lúc khi chuyển sang một hệ thống quản lý hồ sơ khác.

Ngay cả khi không có công cụ tự động, các giám sát viên tại Đơn Vị cho Nạn Nhân Đặc Biệt (Special Victims Unit (SVU)) của chúng tôi đã xem xét hơn 11,400 báo cáo của cảnh sát vào năm 2021 và giao 9.1% các trường hợp cho các điều tra viên SVU theo dõi.

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Khuyến Nghị Ba: Chỉ Thị Tái Duyệt 825.00: Lệnh Bảo Vệ và Các Trường Hợp Bạo Lực Gia Đình để cung cấp cho các viên chức hướng dẫn về lý do đằng sau các hành động mà họ phải thực hiện trong các cuộc ứng phó với bạo lực gia đình.

Chúng tôi đồng ý rằng các viên chức cần được hướng dẫn về các lý do đằng sau các hành động mà họ phải thực hiện. Chúng tôi tin rằng nơi thích hợp để có "giải thích đằng sau quy tắc" là trong khóa đào tạo được cung cấp về quy tắc. Chúng tôi cam kết khôi phục hoạt động đào tạo về ứng phó với bạo lực gia đình và mở rộng phạm vi đào tạo được cung cấp trong sự ứng phó của chúng tôi đối với khuyến nghị cuối cùng.

Khuyến Nghị Thứ Tư: Cung cấp Đào Tạo tại Học Viện Nâng Cao của Sở và các buổi học tại chức để đảm bảo Sở có thể đạt được:

- a. Ứng phó và các điều tra về bạo lực gia đình có thông báo tổn thương với sự tập trung vào sinh học thần kinh của sự tổn thương và trạng thái của nạn nhân;
- b. Đào tạo dựa trên tình huống phù hợp với khuyến nghị của Đơn Vị cho Nạn Nhân Đặc Biệt và các đối tác của cộng đồng;
- c. Các kỹ thuật phỏng vấn có thông báo tổn thương tập trung vào các chỉ số hành vi/an toàn và khả năng gây chết người của nạn nhân đối với thủ phạm; và
- d. Các báo cáo hiệu quả với trọng tâm là nêu rõ các yếu tố tội phạm và cung cấp thông tin đầy đủ và chính xác để đảm bảo các quyết định buộc tội theo hướng tối tụng phù hợp.

Chúng tôi đồng ý rằng tất cả các khuyến nghị đào tạo này đều phù hợp và sẽ cải thiện phản ứng của chúng tôi đối với những nạn nhân bị bạo hành trong gia đình. Bộ Phận Đào Tạo của chúng tôi đã nhận thức được từng khuyến nghị và đã thêm nội dung này vào Đánh Giá Đào Tạo Hàng Năm của chúng tôi để thực hiện ngay khi chúng tôi có thể phát triển chương trình giảng dạy và xác định khi nào chúng tôi có đủ thời gian cho học tại chức. Việc bổ sung thêm chương trình đào tạo cho Học Viện Nâng Cao cũng sẽ có thể thực hiện được ngay khi chúng tôi có thể phát triển chương trình giảng dạy. Viết báo cáo hiệu quả cũng bao gồm việc đánh giá hiệu quả bởi những người giám sát phê duyệt các báo cáo này, vì vậy chúng tôi cũng sẽ phát triển chương trình giảng dạy cho người giám sát tại chức nhằm mục đích cải thiện việc xem xét báo cáo.

Cảm ơn bạn đã cho chúng tôi cơ hội để phản hồi bài đánh giá này.



Charles Lovell
Cảnh Sát Trưởng



CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON



Bureau of Police

Ted Wheeler, Mayor

Charles Lovell, Chief of Police

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6 de junio del 2022

Mary Hull Caballero
Auditora de la Ciudad
1221 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 310
Portland, OR 97204

Estimada Auditora Hull Caballero:

Mi equipo y yo leímos la reciente revisión de la Revisión de Policía Independiente sobre la respuesta de la Oficina de Policía de Portland a las llamadas de violencia doméstica. Nosotros estamos de acuerdo, ya sea completa o parcialmente, con cada una de las cuatro recomendaciones. Quisiéramos proveer alguna clarificación sobre nuestra posición para cada recomendación.

Recomendación uno: Asegurar que los beneficios de que la Unidad de Víctimas Especiales se ubique junto con sus colaboradores comunitarios sean evaluados apropiadamente contra los costos de mudarse.

Estamos de acuerdo con que este siempre ha sido un criterio completamente válido para considerarse. La ubicación conjunta de los equipos multidisciplinarios permite que los sobrevivientes del abuso tengan un sentido de seguridad personal, ayuda a reducir la aprensión de reunirse con la policía y hace que los servicios sean más fáciles de acceder.

Recomendación dos: Restablecer y mantener una herramienta de evaluación de riesgos para priorizar los casos de violencia doméstica de alto riesgo para darle un seguimiento investigativo.

Su reporte destaca nuestro problema reciente: el sistema de manejo de registros es incompatible con la vieja herramienta de evaluación. Estamos de acuerdo con que sería mejor tener una solución electrónica, pero el desarrollo y selección de esta herramienta necesita pensarse bien y sincronizarse con cualquier cambio a un sistema de manejo de registros diferente.

Aun sin tener una herramienta automatizada, los supervisores de nuestra Unidad de Víctimas Especiales (SVU) revisaron más de 11,400 reportes de policía en el 2021 y asignaron el 9.1% de los casos para un seguimiento por los investigadores de SVU.

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Recomendación tres: Revisar la directiva 825.00: Órdenes de Protección y Casos de Violencia Doméstica para proveer a los oficiales una orientación sobre las razones detrás de las acciones que tienen requerido tomar durante las respuestas a la violencia doméstica.

Estamos de acuerdo con que los oficiales necesitan una orientación sobre las razones detrás de las acciones que tienen requerido tomar. Nosotros creemos que el lugar apropiado para tener las “explicaciones detrás de la regla” es en el entrenamiento provisto sobre la regla. Nos estamos comprometiendo a restaurar el entrenamiento sobre la respuesta a la violencia doméstica y expandir el alcance del entrenamiento provisto en nuestra respuesta a la recomendación final.

Recomendación cuatro: Proveer entrenamiento en la Academia Avanzada de la Oficina y sesiones de capacitación interna para asegurar que la Oficina pueda lograr:

- a. **Respuesta informada sobre el trauma e investigaciones con un enfoque en la neurobiología del trauma y el comportamiento de las víctimas;**
- b. **Un entrenamiento basado en escenarios de acuerdo con las recomendaciones de la Unidad de Víctimas Especiales y los colaboradores comunitarios;**
- c. **Técnicas de entrevista informadas sobre el trauma con un enfoque en el comportamiento/seguridad de las víctimas y los indicadores de letalidad para los perpetradores; y**
- d. **Reportes efectivos con un énfasis en la articulación de elementos criminales y provisión de una información detallada y exacta para asegurar las decisiones de cargos criminales apropiados.**

Estamos de acuerdo que todas estas recomendaciones de entrenamiento son apropiadas y que mejorarían nuestra respuesta a los sobrevivientes de la violencia doméstica. Nuestra División de Entrenamiento ha sido informada sobre cada recomendación y ha agregado esto a nuestra Evaluación Anual de Entrenamientos, con la finalidad de implementarse tan pronto como podamos desarrollar el currículo e identificar cuándo tenemos un tiempo de la clase adecuado en nuestra capacitación interna. Agregar un entrenamiento adicional a la Academia Avanzada también será posible tan pronto como podamos desarrollar el currículo. La escritura de reportes efectiva también incluye la revisión efectiva por los supervisores que aprueban estos reportes, por lo que también desarrollaremos un currículo para los supervisores en la capacitación interna con el objetivo de mejorar la revisión de reportes.

Gracias por ofrecernos la oportunidad de responder a esta revisión.



Jefe de Policía
Charles Lovell