

# PUBLIC COMMENTS (SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL)

**Shane Johnson**

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**From:** Da Ge <gayanilo@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 5, 2024 11:56 AM  
**To:** Police Commission  
**Subject:** Public Comment – 10/2/24 III. AGENDA REVIEW Commissioner Training Within 90 Days of Appointment ; 11/6/24 XI. NEW BUSINESS a. subcommittees

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Public Comment – Wed, October 2, 2024 III. AGENDA REVIEW Require Commissioner Training Within 90 Days of Appointment

Public Comment – Wed XI. NEW BUSINESS a. Discuss and Vote on a recommendation to the City Council to create limited scope and limited duration ad hoc subcommittees

Any revisions to the Community Police Review Commission, including trainings, should have the input of the community, the Commission, and the city employee unions affected by revisions. Also, any Community Police Review Commission subcommittees created, and any commissioner participating in subcommittee(s) created must abide by the Brown Act and meet in public.

Recent occurrences at the Commission, including the resignation by Jerry Threet, have questioned the legitimacy of the Commission. Restore public trust on the Commission; for one, by including input of all on Commission revisions and actions

-Dan G, resident of Richmond

## Shane Johnson

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**From:** Davjaneer <dtillis888@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 3, 2024 10:47 AM  
**To:** Police Commission  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Public Forum

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Hello Commissioners

My name is Davjaneer Tillis. I am a Richmond resident. I'm also a concerned community member who is calling on the Community Police Review Commission to hold the police accountable and ensure that there is more transparency about any abuse or misconduct by RPD officers. I'm concerned that officers (like Srgt Caine) will continue to harm people in this community because their misconduct and abuse have gone unchecked. I'm also concerned that there is a lack of transparency and information regarding complaint investigations.

As a resident, I have witnessed an RPD officer verbally assault and discriminate against family members because of the area in Richmond they were in. When I was younger an RPD officer made it a point to harass and call my loved ones out of their name. He did so based on the color of their skin and the assumption that they were up to no good because they were visiting another family member who lived in a part of Richmond with a higher crime rate and homelessness. My family members and I were hurt and taken aback because the officer had a different demeanor when he had come to our house to take a report a few weeks prior. That incident showed us RPD officers discriminate against residents based on the area of Richmond that they live in. We filed a report with RPD but when we tried to check on if any disciplinary actions were taken we couldn't find any information.

Currently it's hard for any community member to find information about complaints, investigations and disciplinary actions taken. I would like to see the city publish a report showing the decisions of CPRC, the Police Chief and City Manager and note any disciplinary actions taken. I know that there are other California cities that have this info published in their annual reports and I feel Richmond should do the same.

The Community Police Review Commission needs to be empowered to reflect statewide best practices of Police oversight bodies. That way we can truly empower the community to speak up against any abuse or misconduct to make sure that there aren't any more stories like my family's, Kwesi Guss or Pedie Perez. RPD is here to serve our community, not hurt or harm them.

Please hold those that hurt our community accountable for No one is Above the Law!!!

Thank you for your time.

Davjaneer

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**Shane Johnson**

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**From:** Shane Johnson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 6, 2024 9:20 PM  
**To:** Police Commission  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment: Item XI.a - ad hoc subcommittees, CPRC 11/6/2024

Thank you,  
Shané Johnson  
City Manager’s Office  
450 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 300  
Richmond, CA 94804  
510-620-5458  
510-620-6542 fax

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**From:** Leisa Johnson <leisa\_johnson@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 6, 2024 7:47 PM  
**To:** Shane Johnson <Shane\_Johnson@ci.richmond.ca.us>  
**Cc:** Leisa Johnson <leisa\_johnson@icloud.com>  
**Subject:** Public Comment: Item XI.a - ad hoc subcommittees, CPRC 11/6/2024

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Dear Shane,

Can you please include the below comments into the meeting minutes for the 11/6/2024 CPRC meeting? I have submitted these before the item has been called per the City Clerk’s policy for City Council, boards and commission meetings so that they may be included in final minutes.

Please note that I will also be speaking to this item tonight, but I can’t convey all of this in two minutes.

I would greatly appreciate confirmation of receipt of this email request.

Many thanks!

Warmly,  
Leisa

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Good evening Commissioners,

I have several serious concerns regarding this item.

Last month, the discussion was about relevant training for CPRC commissioners so they could perform their role in an ethical, fair and unbiased manner. Commission Cantu was supposed to come back to the CPRC today with refined suggestions.

That item is now gone, and Commissioners Cantu and Martinez, both of whom have publicly spoken and written about their anti-police bias, want to suddenly create several ad hoc subcommittees.

**This is exactly what the RPA did with the Reimagining Public Safety Task Force in 2020.**

- The RPA/aligned majority city council created the task force with a very narrow focus and limited duration of ~ 1 year.
- In reality, the task force didn't close down for nearly **4 years** and openly operated outside of their approved narrow focus.
- The task force created subcommittees that met in private, excluded certain task force members, and brought forward recommendations that were rubber stamped first by the majority task force members that were hand-picked by the RPA majority councilmembers, and then by those same RPA/aligned majority councilmembers.
- All of this was used to further defund RPD and to sequentially "tie up" those general fund dollars and carry them over year after year, while creating end-of-year budgets with "unspent funds".
- The cumulative result: decreased officer morale, a large vacancy rate, numerous investigative units eliminated or severely understaffed, all of which negatively impacts timely justice for victims and their families.

**Everyone wants and supports accountability**, but there must be balance and the Commission should not be trying to make it harder for police to do their jobs while safely & effectively serving the public.

So is your goal now to try & recreate these oversight boards in Berkeley, Oakland and SF? If so, why, and how has that worked out for those 3 cities?

- All three have large vacancy rates on their forces, with low officer morale.
- The continual attempt to emulate cities where things are not working properly is exhausting and ineffective.
- The law is also going to limit what some of you clearly want to try and do, just as it has in Berkeley, Oakland, and SF.

**Thus, my comments for this Commission to consider are:**

1. Clearly define the intended goal for each Ad Hoc Subcommittee you contemplate creating.
2. Clearly define "Limited Scope" and "Limited Duration" and hold yourselves accountable to that unlike the task force.
3. Every subcommittee meeting must be agendized, meet publicly and follow the Brown Act.
4. Every Commissioner who wants to serve on a subcommittee should be able to serve, no exclusions.

This Commission has lost its legitimacy in the eyes of the public. And if we hope to restore some semblance of legitimacy, everything should be done publicly and with full transparency.

Thank you.  
Leisa