



Audit of the Sacramento Community Police Review Commission: Renewed Focus on Cooperation is Urgently Needed

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Common Models of Civilian Oversight of Police

Review Focused Model

Investigation-Focused Model

Monitoring/Auditing-Focused Model

Hybrid Agencies and Hybrid Systems

City of Sacramento's Civilian Police Oversight Structure

- In Nov. 2016, the City Council empowered OPSA with authority to conduct investigations related to citizen complaints. OPSA tracks and monitors high profile or serious complaint cases to conclusion, reviews completed investigations, and advises of any deficient investigations.
- In Nov. 2016, the City Council established the role of SCPRC to review police policies and procedures in an advisory capacity.
- In July 2020, the City Council authorized the creation of an Office of Inspector General and provided full independence and authority to investigate officer-involved shootings and use-of-force incidents that result in serious bodily injury or death.



City Code sec.
2.110.030
Powers and Duties
of the Police
Commission

A. The commission shall advise and make recommendations to the city council regarding police policy, procedures, and best practices, including those related to community relations, hiring, and training best practices.

B. The commission shall review quarterly reports prepared by the OPSA relating to the number, kind, and status of all citizen complaints filed against police department personnel, to determine whether there are patterns of misconduct that necessitate revisions to any police policy, practice, or procedure.

C. At least annually, to report and make recommendations to the Mayor and the City Council regarding the activities of the commission and the Sacramento Police Department's efforts to strengthen bias-free policing and community-police relations.

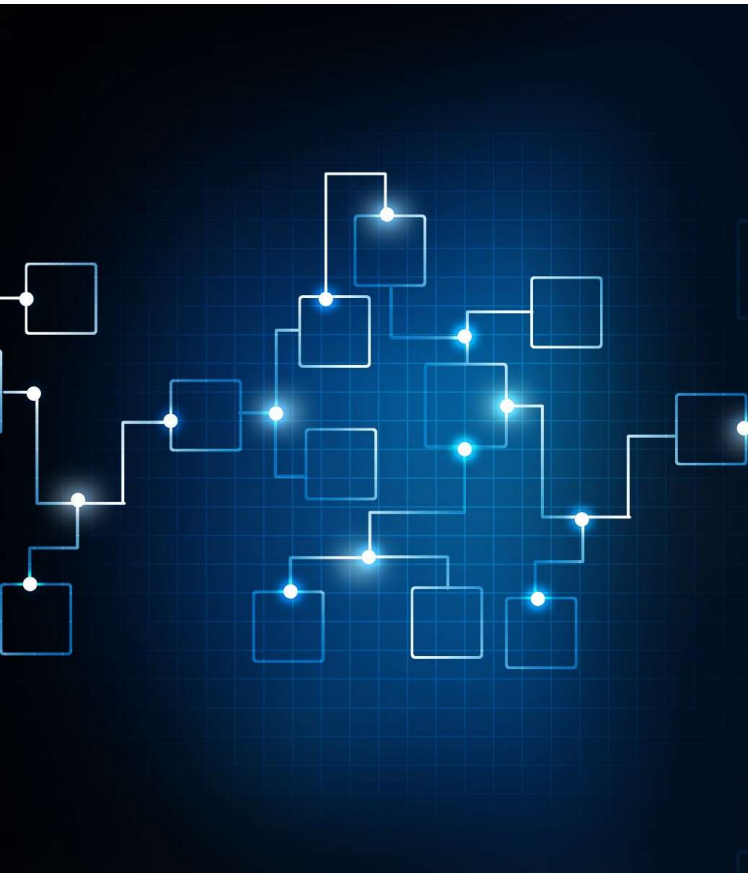
Finding 1: The Lack of Clarity and Defined Roles and Responsibilities has Led to Confusion and Frustration

The Sacramento City Code does not adequately define the authorities and powers of the SCPRC and stakeholder agencies, including the SPD and OPSA.

Ambiguity and lack of agreement could negatively impact trust and performance satisfaction in SPD.



Finding 1: The Lack of Clarity and Defined Roles and Responsibilities has Led to Confusion and Frustration



- Recommendation
 - The City Council should clarify the purpose, powers, and duties of the SCPRC and how it interacts with other City departments to achieve its objectives. The City Council should memorialize the changes in the City Code.

Finding 2: The SCPRC Requires Resources and Investment from the City to Effectively Achieve its Objectives

- Sub-finding 1

- The City does not provide sufficient staff support and/or funding to allow the Sacramento Community Police Review Commission to fulfill its purpose and duties which has resulted in tension between the Commission, OPSA, and SPD.



Sub-finding 1: The City does not provide sufficient staff support and/or funding to allow the Sacramento Community Police Review Commission to fulfill its purpose and duties which has resulted in tension between the Commission, OPSA, and SPD.

- According to NACOLE, providing funding and staffing must be sufficient to meet the mission, purposes, and duties of the agency.
- Support for civilian oversight should include a sustained commitment to provide adequate resources to retain experienced professional staff, perform outreach, communicate with police staff and stakeholders, and assist in conducting analysis of law enforcement patterns.
- City Code states that staff support for the Commission shall be provided by OPSA.
- OPSA and Commission agree that OPSA serving this role may create the perception that its independence is compromised.



Sub-finding 1: The City does not provide sufficient staff support and/or funding to allow the Sacramento Community Police Review Commission to fulfill its purpose and duties which has resulted in tension between the Commission, OPSA, and SPD.

- Recommendation

- The City Council should determine the staffing needs and responsibilities, and funding for the Sacramento Police Review Commission. The City Council should memorialize the specific role of staff provided, the funding source, and what City office or department will house the position, through resolution or codifying changes in the City Code.



Recommendation: The City Council should determine the staffing needs and responsibilities, and funding for the Sacramento Police Review Commission.

- Where are we now?

- OPSA is no longer providing administrative or functional support to the Commission.
- Administrative staffing now provided by City Clerk's Office.
- The Commission, meanwhile, is not receiving any additional staff support from the City





Thank you

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