



COMMUNITY RACIAL  
PROFILING COMMISSION

**CITY OF SACRAMENTO**  
CALIFORNIA

5770 FREEPORT BLVD., SUITE 100  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95822-3516

## Letter to the Mayor and City Council

July 15, 2008

Subject: Community Racial Profiling Commission Quarterly Report  
(January – March 2008)

The Community Racial Profiling Commission (CRPC), established in November 2004, continued to fulfill its mission to serve as an advisory body to the City Council regarding bias free policing. This first quarterly report of 2008 describes the activities of the CRPC from January to March 2008.

### Commission Membership

The following table depicts the status of Commission membership for the first quarter of 2008. In January, At-Large member Crystal Taylor began her term as elected Chair for 2008 and Deputy Chief Brian Louie became the Vice Chair as representative from the Police Department. Daniela Lopez-Garcia joined the Commission in January as representative from District 5, and in February, Alani Cridge joined as representative from District 1.

CRPC 2008 1st Quarter Membership			
NAME	CATEGORY	NAME	CATEGORY
Alani Cridge	District 1	Danette Brown	At-Large
Walter Kawamoto	District 2	Ernest Carter	At-Large
<i>Vacant</i>	District 3	Renee Carter	At-Large
John Floyd	District 4	Crystal Taylor, Chair	At-Large
Daniela Lopez-Garcia	District 5	Brian Louie, Vice Chair, SPD	Standing
Julia Vera	District 6	Brent Meyer, SPOA	Standing
Sean Coletta	District 7	Francine Tournour, OPSA	Standing
<i>Vacant</i>	District 8		

*The Mission of the Community Racial Profiling Commission is to serve as an advisory body of our community regarding bias free policing.*

Since the last quarterly update, the Commission has experienced and accomplished the following:

### **Discussion on Status of Lamberth Vehicle Stop Study –**

Dr. John Lamberth:

- ❖ Citing data compiled for a racial profiling data analysis study that Lamberth Consulting conducted in San Antonio, Texas in 2003, explained the concept of “odds ratio” (used to determine whether racial profiling is occurring) as the odds of a minority being stopped at a given location versus the odds of a minority available in the driving population to be stopped at that location;
- ❖ Discussed the difference between data that is statistically significant and data that is meaningful;
- ❖ Provided a breakdown of odds ratios as:
  - Benign – 1.0 to 1.5 ratio
  - Possibly problematic – 1.5 to 2.0 ratio
  - Problematic – 2.0 and up ratio
- ❖ Explained that a law enforcement agency must consider the average odds ratio for an entire city but must study areas with high odds ratios;
- ❖ Emphasized the importance of factoring traffic stops made by specialized police units and during special operations into study results;
- ❖ Reported that he had received the first set of vehicle stop study data;
- ❖ Reported that he had met with members of the Police Department, reviewing the many procedures put into place by the Department to assure the gathering of accurate, reliable data for the study, and that he was impressed with these procedures;
- ❖ Described the duties of the SPD Sustainment Team to examine issues related to tracking the data;
- ❖ In response to a request that the final report include “secondary measures” to back up the odds ratio for each location, indicated that after-stop activity details would act as secondary measures.

### **Discussion on Vehicle Stop Study Rollout Plan and Commission Report –**

Communication Specialist Michele McCormick –

- ❖ Distributed a report and reviewed her presentation and workshop at the December 2007 CRPC meeting concerning the release of the traffic study results. The report, compiled with input from Commission members, identified: 1) key stakeholders as individuals and groups involved and interested in local civil rights issues and those who participated in the Commission’s September 2007 Community/Police workshop; 2) important concepts to communicate to stakeholders and the public regarding the study methodology; 3) materials to facilitate access to and understanding of the study; and 4) Commission needs in contributing to effective study dissemination;

- ❖ Distributed a list of community stakeholders who will receive a memo written by Chair Crystal Taylor and approved by the Commission about the progress of the study;
- ❖ Distributed and discussed the outline for a report detailing the members' extensive and continued participation in the vehicle stop study to append to the study results report;
- ❖ Led a discussion on additions and changes to a draft of the Commission's Vehicle Study Communications Plan and Timeline for briefing City Council members in preparation for the Council meeting, communicating study results to stakeholders and the public, and addressing media interests.

### **Operational Update on Sacramento Police Department Activities–**

Chief of Police Rick Braziel:

- ❖ Explained problems that the Lamberth vehicle stop data form study, conducted from October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007, has been experiencing with officers' online and paper form (Scantron) submissions of traffic stop data, resulting in the collection of an insufficient amount of usable data for meaningful analysis;
- ❖ Explained methods currently being used to identify and correct these problems;
- ❖ Discussed the decision to extend the vehicle stop study period to capture sufficient data to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the analysis. Deputy Chief Brian Louie will brief the Commission on the status of the data at each CRPC meeting.

Deputy Chief Brian Louie:

- ❖ Briefed Commission members throughout the quarter on Police Department activities and programs that could affect the frequency, location, or focus of traffic stops during the study period;
- ❖ Updated Commission member monthly on study progress and the percentage rate of completed vehicle stop data forms for traffic stops.
- ❖ Reported that because new procedures for data collection have been put into place, compliance has reached an acceptable level to provide data for valid statistical analysis.

### **Commission Comments, Ideas and Questions –**

Commission members:

- ❖ Stated that Commission members must communicate their confidence in the study results after sufficient data has been collected;
- ❖ Reminded the Commission about the study release communications plan members had produced at the September 2007 meeting;
- ❖ Commented that the study results would be valuable to the Police Department as well as the community;

- ❖ Requested a report and written description of procedures put into place by the Department to assure the gathering of accurate, reliable data for the study, including common problems and fixes;
- ❖ Requested a racial breakdown of sworn officers in the Police Department and in Patrol only, as well as a list of languages spoken by both groups.

**Goals –**

Commission members continue to contemplate and discuss the dimensions of their purpose and their powers and duties in serving as an advisory body to the City regarding vehicle stop data collection, analysis processes and interpretation, and vehicle stop study release procedures. The Commission meets and counsels regularly with Lamberth Consulting and is working with Communication Specialist Michele McCormick to ensure that the design, implementation, and release of the traffic stop study result in an accurate report on the status of vehicle stops in the city of Sacramento.

Sincerely,



Crystal Taylor, 2008 Chair, CRPC



Brian Louie, 2008 Vice Chair, CRPC