

LOS ANGELES POLICE COMMISSION

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POLICE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
100 WEST FIRST STREET, SUITE 134
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-4112

(213) 236-1400 PHONE
(213) 236-1410 FAX
(213) 236-1440 TDD

December 16, 2022

VIA EMAIL: carolh.stnc@gmail.com

Lydia Grant
President
Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
P.O. Box 635
Tujunga, California 91043-0635

Dear Ms. Grant:

The Commission has heard at length from community members in the Foothill Area and the concerns were addressed publicly via the Chief of Police report at the November 15, 2022 Police Commission meeting. The reason the Chief of Police addressed these concerns directly is because personnel changes and discipline are at his sole discretion. It may seem externally that decisions are arbitrary. They are not. Due to the confidential nature of personnel matters they cannot be discussed publicly by the Chief of Police.

Los Angeles City Charter Section 1070 provides sole authority to the Chief of Police to impose disciplinary action upon a Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) sworn police employee. This section and the involved sworn employees Memorandum of Understanding with the City provides for their appeal rights to any proposed discipline by the Chief of Police. Additionally, the assignment of employees is within the discretion of the Chief of Police as the General Manager of the Department. The Board of Police Commissioners does not have the authority to intervene in or supersede the action of the Chief of Police in these personnel matters.

It is understandable that through active community engagement, a close working relationship can develop between community members and the officers and command staff at the area division. It can be disappointing when employees are reassigned but, the LAPD's officers and command staff are trained to be flexible and serve all communities. It is the expectation of the Commission that officers new to communities will develop the same relationships and investment in the community that their predecessors did. It is the hope of the Commission that the community will embrace these officers and see them as dedicated and qualified partners.

Thank you for sharing your concerns. We welcome your continued input in various matters.

Sincerely,


RICHARD M. TEFANK, Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners