

Ken Crane

From: Ken Crane
Sent: Thursday, June 7, 2018 4:51 PM
To: 'Jeri L Williams'
Subject: Shooting study

Jeri,

I wanted to reach out regarding the proposed shooting study you had mentioned in our last meeting on May 25th. The consensus of my board is that we will not support or advocate for such a study. The primary reason is we see it as a waste of taxpayer monies and feel there are much better things 150 thousand dollars could be spent on.

It also appears that commissioning a study of this type is motivated by political reasons rather than actual tangible needs. We base this belief on the following:

1. We all seem to be in agreement that although OIS's are higher than in years past, every shooting that has occurred thus far this year was a fully justified use of force.
2. You stated our officers would not be the focus of the study, rather you wanted to look at the dynamics behind suspect behavior. We view this as a waste of time and resources.
3. There has not been a hue and cry from the community calling for such studies, and if truly needed, the city should pay not the PD.
4. You made a comment that despite your belief that our officers did nothing wrong you cannot just sit by and do nothing.

On the final point we agree with you; however, we believe an over-priced study by an out of state research firm is not the answer. We believe a better approach would be to engage in messaging the public with simple, common sense truths.

The public needs to be told that there is an obligation to comply with lawful authority when stopped or detained by the police. They need to be told that if they don't attack cops with knives, guns, rocks, or try to fight with the police, or try to take the officer's gun then things will generally turn out well with no injury to officers or citizens.

If our officers really aren't doing anything wrong, then let's work the other end of the equation and help the public by educating them. I'd be willing to bet you could get buy in and possibly build a coalition of valley police agencies that would be willing to collaborate and share expenses on a campaign of this nature.

Let's put 150 thousand dollars into some proactive PSA's with regard to public safety. How about messaging on how to ensure the safety of our officers and our citizens? Isn't the goal that everyone go home safe? I believe this is something PLEA would be willing to partner on.

If your position has changed and you believe a study is no longer necessary please let me know. We felt it important to let you know unequivocally where we stand on the issue and the reasons why.

Sincerely,

Ken Crane

President

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