



## LA MESA COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD AGENDA

### A Regular Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, July 17, 2024, 4:00 p.m.

**Location:** La Mesa Police Department Community Room, 8085 University Avenue  
La Mesa, California

**Board Members:** Chair Leroy Johnson  
Vice Chair Janet Castanos  
Board Member Lauren Cazares  
Board Member Christian DeMent  
Board Member John Fonseca  
Board Member Aaron Landau  
Board Member Jeffrey Scott McIlwain  
Board Member Caitlin Tiffany  
Board Member Susan Wayne

The public may view the meeting in-person or live using the following remote options:

Teleconference Meeting Webinar

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89806770947>

Telephone (Audio only)

(669) 900-6833 or (253) 215-8782 Webinar ID: 898 0677 0947

Copy and paste the webinar link into your internet browser if the webinar link does not work directly from the agenda.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- **In-Person comments during the meeting:** Join us for the Board meeting at the time and location specified on this agenda to make your comments. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes.
- **How to submit eComments:** eComments are available once an agenda is published.

Locate the meeting in "upcoming meetings" and click the comment bubble icon. Click on the item you wish to comment on. eComments can be submitted when the agenda is published and until **24 hours prior** to the meeting. eComments are limited to 3700 characters (approximately 500 words). eComments may be viewed by the Board and members of the public following the close of the eComment submission period (24 hours prior to the meeting). Email your comment to [cityclrk@cityoflamesa.us](mailto:cityclrk@cityoflamesa.us) if you have difficulty submitting an eComment. eComments will not be read aloud as a regular meeting item; however any member of the Board or member of the public may do so during their respective comment time.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Public Comment will be limited to 3 minutes per item. The timer begins when the participant begins speaking. Time cannot be combined or yielded to another speaker.

Citizens who wish to make an audio/visual presentation pertaining to an item on the agenda, or during Public Comments, should contact the City Clerk's Office at 619.667.1120, no later than 12:00 p.m., the business day prior to the meeting day. Advance notification will ensure compatibility with City equipment and allow Board meeting presentations to progress smoothly and in a consistent and equitable manner. Please note that all presentations/digital materials are considered part of the maximum time limit provided to speakers.

Agenda reports for items on this agenda are available for public review at the City Clerk's Office, 8130 Allison Avenue, during normal business hours.

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 8130 Allison Avenue, during normal business hours.

**ACCESSIBILITY:** The City of La Mesa encourages the participation of disabled individuals in the services, activities and programs provided by the City. Individuals with disabilities, who require reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the Board meetings, should contact the Administrative Services Department 48 hours prior to the meeting at 619.667.1175, fax 619.667.1163, or [GSpaniol@cityoflamesa.us](mailto:GSpaniol@cityoflamesa.us).

Hearing assisted devices are available for the hearing impaired. A City staff member is available to provide these devices upon entry to City Council meetings, commission/board meetings or public hearings held in the City Council Chambers. A photo i.d. or signature will be required to secure a device for the meeting.

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Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ROLL CALL

2. ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS – (TOTAL TIME – 15 MINUTES)**

NOTE: In accordance with state law, an item not scheduled on the agenda may be brought forward by the general public for comment; however, the Community Police Oversight Board will not be able to discuss or take any action on the item at this meeting. If appropriate, the item will be referred to Staff or placed on a future agenda.

**4. CONFLICT DISCLOSURES**

**5. CURRENT BUSINESS**

**5.1 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE COMMUNITY POLICE  
OVERSIGHT BOARD REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 15, 2024**

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**Recommended Motion:**

Approve minutes.

**5.2 LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

- STAFFING AND RECRUITMENT
- PAST AND UPCOMING EVENTS

**5.3 INDEPENDENT POLICE AUDITOR UPDATES**

**5.4 APPLICATION FROM LUCAS FONSECA FOR CPOB STUDENT  
INTERNSHIP**

7

**5.5 PRESENTATION BY DR. SAHNI - ROLE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL  
EVALUTIONS IN HIRING DECISIONS**

**6. COMMITTEE REPORTS (3-MINUTE LIMIT)**

**7. STAFF AND BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**



## La Mesa Community Police Oversight Board

### Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: May 15, 2024, 4:00 p.m.  
Location: La Mesa Police Department Community Room, 8085 University Avenue  
La Mesa, California

Present: Chair Leroy Johnson  
Vice Chair Janet Castanos  
Board Member Lauren Cazares  
Board Member John Fonseca  
Board Member Aaron Landau  
Board Member Jeffrey Scott McIlwain  
Board Member Susan Wayne

Absent: Board Member Christian DeMent  
Board Member Caitlin Tiffany

Staff: Assistant City Manager Amanda Lee  
Chief Ray Sweeney  
Assistant to the City Manager Dedmon  
General Counsel Caroline Chiappetti  
Independent Police Auditor ("IPA") Rick Rasmussen  
Deputy City Clerk Stacy Ready

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#### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

##### 1.1 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 2. **ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

#### 3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – (TOTAL TIME – 15 MINUTES)**

Gene Carpenter commented on Chief Sweeney's presentation of the Challenge Coin for Compassion Award to Melinda Sheriff and the application submission process for the CPOB Board.

4. **CONFLICT DISCLOSURES**

There were no conflict of interest disclosures.

5. **CURRENT BUSINESS**

5.1 **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE COMMUNITY POLICE  
OVERSIGHT BOARD REGULAR MEETING HELD APRIL 17, 2024**

**Moved by** Board Member Fonseca

**Seconded by** Board Member Cazares

Approve minutes.

Yes (7): Chair Johnson, Vice Chair Castanos, Board Member Cazares, Board Member Fonseca, Board Member Landau, Board Member McIlwain, and Board Member Wayne

Absent (2): Board Member DeMent, and Board Member Tiffany

**Motion Approved (7 to 0)**

5.2 **LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

- **STAFFING AND RECRUITMENT**
- **PAST AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

Chief Sweeney provided an update on the staffing, recruitments, and vacant positions in the La Mesa Police Department ("LMPD"). He recognized National Police Officers Memorial Day in honor of the fallen officers who have fallen in the line of duty.

Chief Sweeney commented on April and May community events and activities.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

5.3 **INDEPENDENT POLICE AUDITOR UPDATES**

IPA Rasmussen gave an update on the quarterly report and shared he submitted Case Nos. 23-14 and 23-15 for staff review. Due to an officer involved shooting, Case No. 23-08 was pending.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

**5.4 PRESENTATION BY CITYGATE - LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
INDEPENDENT STAFFING STUDY RESULTS**

Chief Sweeney introduced Citygate Associates Gary Elliott, John Carli, Thomas Woodward, and Ralph Brown. The Citygate team provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Comprehensive Staffing and Resource Analysis Study for LMPD, and shared their recommendations for patrol and traffic unit services, investigations, records and communications, and services training and administration with the CPOB Board.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

**6. COMMITTEE REPORTS (3-MINUTE LIMIT)**

There were no committee reports.

**7. STAFF AND BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Johnson announced the cancellation of the June 19, 2024 CPOB meeting due to the Juneteenth National Independence Holiday. He commented on the 3rd Annual La Mesa Juneteenth and Friends Celebration event on Sunday, June 16, 2024, from 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Board Member Cazares invited Board Members to the Career and Life Goals event hosted by Mayor Arapostathis and Councilmember Dillard on Thursday, May 16, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:03 p.m.



CITY OF LA MESA  
Office of the City Clerk  
8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa, California 91942  
619.667.1120

## COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD (CPOB) INTERNSHIP APPLICATION

**Please check all that apply:**

➤ Applicants must be residents of the City of La Mesa and between the ages of 16 and 22

☒ High School Student

☐ College Student

☒ Between 16 and 22 years old **(required)**

Please complete this application in full (attach a resume or other information which may assist the CPOB in making its selection) and file it with the City Clerk.

Name: Lucas Fonseca

Home Phone:

E-mail Address:

Cell Phone:

Residence Address:

La Mesa

Zip: 91941

Resident of the City since: 2007

College Major or Major of Interest: Mechanical Engineering

Educational Background: 6 years of Spanish immersion, Sophomore at Helix High, Honors student 4.33 GP/

Memberships in School/Community Organizations: Sporting San Diego Soccer Club

The reasons why you wish to be considered for appointment by the CPOB: I would like to learn more about police policies and how I might be able to provide insight from a high school students perspective.

I am a third generation La Mesan and I value and understand the importance of the safety of our community and the role the La Mesa Police Department plays in it.

Available for meetings in the: ☐ Daytime ☒ Evening ☐ Both

Both Preferred term length: ☐ 6 months ☒ 12 months

Please return your completed application to the City Clerk's Office, 8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa, California 91942 or by email to [cityclrk@cityoflamesa.us](mailto:cityclrk@cityoflamesa.us).

*I DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING INFORMATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT.*

Signature of Applicant:

Date: 5/13/24