

Pleasanton Police Department
Community Advisory Board
Tuesday November 18, 2025
4833 Bernal Avenue, Briefing Room

Department Attendees: Chief of Police Tracy Avelar, Capt. Kurt Schlehuber, Acting Lieutenant Chris Lewellyn, Sergeant Brian Jewell, Crime Prevention Officer Leslie Montgomery, Administrative Assistant Kim Monfort

CAB Members in Attendance: Torin Fischer, Bill Foley, Erica Gallegos, Andrew Gelb, Carroll Jacoby, Pinky Mukherjee, Camron Shimy

Absent: Raffiq Rajabali, Maritess Simmons, Kenya Sullivan, Mike Telang, Mary Woo

I. Welcome

Chief Avelar welcomed the group to tonight's meeting.

II. Police Department Updates

a. Promotions

Officers Brian Jewell and Ken White have been promoted to Police Sergeant. Both stood out among a very strong pool of internal candidates. Sergeant Jason Hunter has been promoted to Police Lieutenant and Sergeant Christopher Lewellyn has been promoted to an Acting Lieutenant role. His position will become permanent upon the retirement of Acting Captain Gamez later this year. A formal Badge Pinning/Oath of Office ceremony will take place in December.

Both Sergeant Jewell and Acting Lieutenant Lewellyn joined the meeting to introduce themselves to the group.

Sergeant Jewell has been with the department for eight and a half years. He is a graduate of Livermore High School and the Alameda County Sheriff's Office Regional Training Center. Sergeant Jewell has been a detective in the Criminal Investigations Unit, is a member of SWAT, is a Force Options Instructor, a Field Training Officer and the current president of the Pleasanton Police Officers Association. He stated that it is a pleasure to work for PPD and credits his coworkers with helping him grow.

Acting Lt. Lewellyn began his career in law enforcement in 2008 with Antioch Police Department. He lateraled to the Pleasanton Police Department in 2011. He was promoted to Police Sergeant in 2018. He has been in SWAT for thirteen years, has been Vice President of the Pleasanton Police Officers Association and is pursuing his Masters degree at the University of San Diego.

b. Horizon Treatment Services

Horizons Pleasanton facility is a brand-new Diversion Treatment Center used for adults 18+ who have been diverted from jail and may be experiencing a mild-moderate mental health or substance use crisis that does not meet 5150 criteria. This is a great alternative to incarceration available to PPD officers. Horizons provides a ton of resources and support.

c. Other Department Updates

- The purchase of additional ALPR's was approved in May. 75% have been installed.
- The Behind the Badge Program (formerly known as the Citizen's Academy) will start in January.
- The EOC (Emergency Operations Center) is hosting a tabletop exercise tomorrow on fires, floods, rain, and earthquakes. Chief Avelar plans to include RTIC (Real Time Information Center) staff as well.
- The department intends to start a drone program. Will likely purchase two drones to start. Policy will be developed and brought back to CAB for evaluation. It will be included with the AB481 Military Equipment report to council.

III. Old Business

a. Department Grants

CAB Member Foley was pleased to see the department receive a \$150,000 Cannabis Grant. The funds were used to purchase a DUI enforcement vehicle, a new motorcycle for enforcement, and 300 cones. Funds will also be used to host a DUI checkpoint in Pleasanton on December 5th. Other grants the department has received include COPS grant, OTS (Office of Traffic & Safety) grant, bullet proof vest grant, mental health grant, and officer wellness grant. The department applied for, but did not receive, an organized retail theft grant. That grant was awarded to San Ramon PD. Vendors often send information on grants to pay for their products.

b. Other Business

CAB asked questions about the downtown pedestrian fatality. Alcohol was not a factor.

IV. New Business

a. Crime Prevention Presentation

Crime Prevention Officer Leslie Montgomery was introduced to talk about her role in the department. Officer Montgomery is an experienced patrol officer, a Force Options Group Instructor, is on the CSI (Crime Scene Investigation) team, and sits on the board for the Pleasanton Police Officer's Association. Due to staffing, the Crime Prevention Officer position was vacant for two years prior to Leslie joining the unit in April, 2025. Crime Prevention is part of the Community Services Unit. Officer Montgomery said her role is truly fun and she loves community building. Her mission is to foster community safety, educate the public, reduce property loss and improve quality of life.

Officer Montgomery plans and oversees many programs including Behind the Badge, Teen Academy, Cone with a Cop, Coffee with a Cop, Touch a Truck, Special Olympics Torch Run and Pleasanton Palooza. As previously stated, Behind the Badge is the new Citizen's Academy and offers citizens an opportunity to see what it's like here at PPD. CAB is welcome to attend. Behind the Badge is a gateway to the department's Volunteer program while the Teen Academy is for youth age 14-18 and is a gateway to the department's Explorer program.

Officer Montgomery is also heavily involved in posting social media for PPD. She also gives preschool presentations, plans and oversees National Night Out and works with community

neighborhood watch groups. Leslie is trained in CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) which is a proactive multidisciplinary strategy to reduce opportunities for crime to occur by manipulating the physical environment. It looks at lighting, landscaping, window placement, etc. Officer Montgomery sits on the city's Staff Review Board and makes sure that businesses and new developments meet necessary CPTED levels. Officer Montgomery oversees the department's Camera Registry program and is in the process of developing an Exceptional Needs Registry.

Officer Montgomery asked CAB for feedback on two programs:

- Alarm Permitting/False Alarm Management
While the municipal code allows for PPD to charge for false alarm responses, the department does not do that. False alarm calls require a minimum two-officer response for safety. Many agencies require citizens and businesses to pay for alarm permits. Current municipal code does not allow for this. Officer Montgomery hosted a discussion with CAB on how the community might respond to changing the municipal code to allow for the charging of permitting fees.
- National Night Out
This year NNO hosted 52 parties over a span of three hours. Historically the department hosts around 40 parties. Additional parties had to be turned away. Staffing for the event included 54 paid staff members and up to 20 volunteers. In the past community members could request the new Command Vehicle, Armed Rescue Vehicle or Crime Scene Investigations vehicle. A lot of neighborhoods can't get the vehicles to the parties without shutting down streets. The demand for parties and vehicles has become greater than the department can fulfill.

Some agencies host one big party that everyone can attend. Capt. Schlehuber shared that Walnut Creek and San Ramon have a model with one location. It includes booths, vehicles and is a huge community event. Officer Montgomery asked the group to brainstorm the pros and cons of doing this in Pleasanton. CAB offered plenty of feedback including:

- Merging several parties to one location so there are fewer parties for staff to attend
- Offering National Night Out on two dates throughout the year
- Partnering with PUSD to host NNO at the nine elementary schools in town
- Explaining the situation to block captains and asking for their ideas
- Hosting an Open House

Other feedback CAB offered Officer Montgomery included offering Crime Prevention neighborhood meetings over Zoom to include CPTED, fraud prevention, scam prevention. It was also suggested that the meeting be video recorded and offered on the department's website.

V. Next Steps

- a. Next Meeting January 27, 2025

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.