Joint Committee on Transparent Policing and Use of Force Reform

Thank you for reading my email. As a concerned citizen in Portland I believe that community safety requires trust and transparency to be effective. It has been made clear over the last several months (and decades) that both trust and transparency are missing in Oregon, whether we're considering Portland Police Bureau, Mult. Co Sheriff, or Oregon State Police. The issues you intend to discuss today, if approached intentionally, could certainly go a long way to restoring that much needed trust. Until that happens, we're certain to see an erosion of community safety, not an improvement.

LC 742— Local law enforcement should never be able to use weapons banned in war on civilian populations. Targeted enforcement should be the bare minimum requirement to neutralize a threat to life.

LC 743—How can we achieve transparency if cops are allowed to hide their identity from the public they serve? Large, clear legible name tags should be required and any officer who refuses to provide their name and badge number should be immediately disciplined.

LC 746—How can we achieve transparency and thus trust if arbitrators are allowed to veto or excuse accountability measures?

LC 747—Since no language has been published on this item I'll simply say harming arrestees should be a crime commensurate to the civilian legal code. Assault is assault. It's even worse if transacted by someone sworn to "protect."

LC 762—Make misconduct and discipline transparent so citizens, agencies, and any interested party can know what risks or past transgressions an officer may present. Accountability is an expected part of nearly any profession, why should those given the force to alter or end life be excluded? LC 825—There may be no greater impediment to trust between LEO and the community than qualified immunity. Anything less than complete removal of qualified immunity is a slap in the face of the public. End qualified immunity now.

Thank you, Kai McMurtry 97213