

Testimony

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to voice my opinion that the Portland Police Bureau is failing the citizens of Portland. If complete abolition is not possible at this time, we MUST ABSOLUTELY remove any officers from the Bureau who DO NOT LIVE IN PORTLAND, OREGON. I have witnessed countless instances during the summer of 2020 of Portland Police showing no regard whatsoever for the community they are supposed to protect. They destroy property (public & private) without any justification. They use chemical weapons in residential neighborhoods. And they use completely unwarranted violence on peaceful demonstrators.

Every demonstration for Black Lives Matter that I have attended this summer that included a police presence ended in police-instigated violence, while every demonstration that did not include a police presence ended with people going home safely. It should be extremely obvious to anyone who has attended a protest, or viewed video taken by Portland's local press, that members of PPB are egregiously abusing their power on a near-nightly basis.

We know that members of PPB have been in contact with agitators of violent far-right groups such as Joey Gibson, of Patriot Prayer. PPB have given protection to these groups, who also are mainly made up of non-Portland residents. It is safe to say that these groups detest our city for ideological reasons. And it is safe to say that their friends in PPB feel the same. The last point I want to make is: the Portland Police Bureau is made up of 82% non-Portland residents. 82% of the Police in Portland have no allegiance to the city or its citizens. This is completely unacceptable. They must be removed.

Thank you,
Harrison Harb, resident of Portland, Oregon.