



Portland Police Bureau Report to City Council on the Portland Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) – 2023

On May 8, 2019, the Portland City Council adopted Resolution 37424 (As Amended)ⁱ (referred to herein as “resolution”), Establish Parameters of Cooperation between Portland Police Bureau (PPB) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Joint Terrorism Task Force (FBI JTTF)ⁱⁱ.

The resolution states, in part, that by the end of January, a report to City Council shall contain the following information:

- The frequency with which the FBI’s Special Agent in Charge requested the assignment of PPB CIU officers for an investigation;
- The number of cases that were referred to the PPB by the FBI;
- The number of cases that were referred to the FBI by the PPB; and,
- The nature of closed cases referred to the PPB by the FBI, including the demographics of persons investigated; and, the disposition of those cases.

Overview

The mission of the Portland Police Bureau is to reduce crime and the fear of crime. The PPB works with all community members to preserve life, maintain human rights, protect property and promote individual responsibility and community commitmentⁱⁱⁱ.

The parameters of cooperation between the PPB and the FBI JTTF, as defined in the resolution, are consistent with this mission statement.

After passage of the resolution and as required by the resolution, the PPB created Directive 750.00, Bureau Cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Joint Terrorism Task Force.^{iv} This directive was initially made effective January 2, 2020, is consistent with the resolution; and all PPB officers are required to read and sign an acknowledgement of this directive. This directive is subject to annual public review, with outreach to City Council offices to solicit additional feedback.

On January 24th, 2023, all PPB CIU members attended annual refresher training with a member of the Portland City Attorney’s Office to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws. This



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training is required as part of the resolution. Additionally, the City Attorney's Office will send a letter to the Oregon Department of Justice to confer on whether or not there were any legal issues with PPB officers working with the JTTF, based on changes to state or federal law.

The City Attorney's Office has advised the PPB CIU that they are not aware of any changes in state or federal law that would preclude them from legally working with the JTTF in any capacity.

2022 Statistical and Information Report to City Council

Below are the four areas required to be presented in this annual report:

The frequency with which the FBI's Special Agent in Charge (SAC) requested the assignment of PPB CIU officers for an investigation

The number of cases that were referred to the PPB by the FBI:

In 2022, the FBI JTTF referred ten (10) cases to the PPB. In accordance with the resolution, these cases were shared with the PPB CIU for review and investigative action, which is summarized in later paragraphs.

Consistent with previous City Council requests, PPB reports that no information shared with PPB was based off of facial recognition.

The number of cases that were referred to the FBI by the PPB:

In 2022, PPB CIU referred three (3) cases to the FBI JTTF for review. The nature of these cases included an individual making a threat of targeted violence, a shooting that resulted in several critical injuries including the death of one individual, and the referral of a 2021 non-injury shooting case connected to a downtown protest. The known demographics of the subjects collectively involved a total of four (4) white male adults and one (1) white female adult.

Per City Council request, PPB reports that no information shared with or requested by the FBI violates ORS 181A.250 (Specific information not to be collected or maintained)



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Nature of Closed Cases Referred to the PPB by the FBI (including demographics of persons investigated; and the disposition of those cases):

The following outlines each case referred to the PPB by the FBI in 2022 that fits the described criteria:

Case 1^v

Report of an individual residing in Portland who was alleged to be engaged in the manufacture of illegal firearm components.

White Male (Identified)

Case Closed – Individual was contacted/interviewed and case was referred to ATF for additional follow-up.

Case 2^{vi}

Report of an individual residing in Portland making targeted threats of violence via the internet to specific federally elected officials.

White Female (Identified)

Case Closed – Individual was contacted/interviewed and based on the circumstances the case was referred to PPB – BHU for follow-up.

Case 3^{vii}

Threats of violence to community member(s) made via social media to a local news station and subsequently reported to law enforcement.

Unknown suspect demographics (Unidentified)

Case Closed – Lack of tangible leads

Cases 4-10

These cases remain open investigations and will likely appear in the 2024 report to council.



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PPB Oversight and Efforts to Improve Processes in 2023

The Chief of Police or the Deputy Chief serves as the liaison to the FBI JTTF and may be granted the appropriate security clearance by the FBI to allow for full oversight of any investigation and case review referred to or from the FBI. The CIU sergeant maintains a security clearance for full oversight. PPB CIU officers that could be assigned to an FBI investigation are subject to all relevant federal, state, and local laws; all PPB directives (policies); and relevant federal regulations. Violation of any of these could prompt an investigation resulting in discipline up to and including termination. Legal violations could also result in a criminal investigation and prosecution.

The Chief of Police regularly communicates with the CIU supervisor to review any and all information related to information referred to or from the FBI JTTF to ensure continued compliance with the spirit and letter of the resolution.

The PPB will also review all feedback after the delivery of this report and work to incorporate constructive changes where applicable and appropriate to the next annual report.

Conclusion

Protecting the City of Portland and those who live, work, pray, play, and visit is the responsibility of the PPB; however, the PPB cannot do it alone and works with other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to investigate threats to life, including hate crimes, and suspected cases of terrorism.

Threats to life, hate crimes, and terrorism (both domestic and international) are a national and global challenge that require coordination and information sharing between law enforcement agencies.

Identifying those planning to commit a criminal act, and more specifically an act of terrorism, and employing interdiction strategies to prevent an attack, is a top priority.

The PPB, and our law enforcement and community partners, must continue to work to assess and investigate these threats to life, hate crimes, and acts of terrorism, and work to interdict and prevent violence from occurring in our communities.

Members of the community may be the first line of defense against targeted violence, hate crimes, and acts of terrorism. The national "If You See Something, Say Something"^{viii} effort by DHS helps guide community members about suspicious activity and how to report it. This guidance is readily available in many languages and provides community members learning opportunities on how to recognize the



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signs of terrorism-related suspicious activity. Additionally, the DHS Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA) Hometown Security^{ix} program provides access to tools and resources to support community security and resilience. Emergencies should always be immediately reported to 9-1-1, while non-emergency suspicious activity may be reported directly to the Portland Police Bureau.

ⁱ <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/police/article/732572>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices/portland/news/stories/portland-fbis-joint-terrorism-task-force-jttf-111318>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.portland.gov/police>

^{iv} <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/police/article/785391>

^v PPB Case #22-343845

^{vi} PPB Case #22-2044

^{vii} PPB Case #22-802129

^{viii} <https://www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something>

^{ix} <https://www.cisa.gov/hometown-security>