



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

Public Safety Commission Meeting - 09/25/2025

Location: Willie L. Hinton Neighborhood Resource Center

Quorum: Yes (6 commissioners present)

Chair: Commissioner Burris

I. Opening Business

- Present: Commissioners Doyle, Burris, Morshedi, Herts, Charles, Thompson, Fowler
- Absent: Commissioners Gilbert, Moffitt, Lopez
- Motion to skip reading the Public Safety Commission goals aloud at each meeting.
Motion carried unanimously.

II. Commissioner Comments

- Discussion regarding the closure of the Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU).
- Commissioners expressed concern about the lack of mental health services and the resulting burden on LRPD and county jail. What can the commission do to help - GDI Initiative getting off the ground (Charles)? How can we get the various wards involved? Direct quality of life issues to proper area? Maybe we can be in attendance at the next Mobile City Hall to help inform the public about what we do and why we are here.
- Plans were made to invite a Pulaski County Sheriff's Office representative to discuss impact and potential collaborations.
- Chief Helton provided in-depth commentary on the effects of the CSU closure and advocated for a diversion center.

III. Staff Updates

- Chief Helton provided crime statistics:

- * Violent crime down 8% YTD; 26% over 5 years
 - * Property crime down 23% YTD; 23% over 5 years
 - * Overall crime down 18% YTD; 22% over 5 years
 - 75 current vacancies; staffing remains a challenge
 - Commended department's summer performance and homicide clearance rate (100%)
 - Reported addition of a new search and rescue dog "Radar" to the department.
 - Previewed community outreach including National Night Out and quarterly neighborhood meetings.
- **Cody Pritchard (Senior Deputy City Attorney):**
 - Present for legal questions; no opening comments.
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IV. Citizen Communication

- Limited to three (3) minutes per person, with a maximum of 21 minutes allowed.
- *No more than seven (7) speakers total.*

V. Old Business

- **Adoption of August 25th meeting minutes:**
 - Motion passed unanimously.
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VI. New Business

- Motion passed to draft a letter from the Commission to the City Board urging them to address the loss of CSU and increase support for mental health services.
- Subcommittee meeting scheduled for October 2 at 11:00 AM to draft the letter and hear from LRPD social worker Stephanie Wilson.
- Discussed Public Safety Commission visibility at city events like Local City Hall and National Night Out.
- Proposed name tags for commissioners; suggestion to self-fund if city budget does not allow.

- Motion passed to take a group photo at the next meeting even if all members are not present.
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Motion to Adjourn:

- **Motion passed unanimously.**