

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

DATE: February 12, 2019
TO: Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: Police Chief Kraig Fullen via Interim City Manager Jerene Watson
SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON AGENDA ITEM #16, FEB. 13th 2019, CITY COUNCIL AGENDA, REGARDING THE RESOLUTION ON RACIAL EQUALITY AND JUSTICE

The report is in response to an inquiry from Vice Mayor Huish regarding the resolution submitted by Mayor Robert Uribe during this Black History Month on racial equality and justice.

DISCUSSION:

After the City Council Agenda Packet was distributed, staff was asked to research the number of police complaints regarding racism for calendar year 2018 and 2019 year-to date.

While the Police Department does have the capability to classify racially biased crimes in the Records Management System, there have not been any recorded in recent years. Investigations have been conducted relating to criminal damages at our local churches that potentially might have been motivated by hate, but remain unsolved due to evidence that was not definitive.

Internal complaints against staff are not recorded within the system, but I do not recall any complaint made for racial discrimination against a staff member in 2018 or 2019, although an informal complaint was made in December of 2017. In that case, the officer's actions were clarified to the complainant's satisfaction.

Finally, as one other way to try to research this request, supervisory staff was polled and they have not received any complaints against any staff members for racial discrimination or related issues. Presently we are not aware of any reports filed by the public for crimes that are racially motivated.

RECOMMENDATION / CONCLUSION:

This report is for information only.