

## **CITIZENS POLICE ADVISORY GROUP**

### **Brief History:**

The Citizens Police Advisory Group was created in October of 2016. At the time it was created a resolution creating this advisory group was adopted by City Council. The Hampton Police Division and Hampton City Council were supportive of the recommendations of the Final Report of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. Recommendation 4.5.3 of that report advocates for a citizen group to advise the police on crime prevention strategies and agency policies from a citizens' perspective. The Citizens Police Advisory Group was created to fulfil that role.

### **Committee Mission/Objectives:**

The Citizens Police Advisory Group is charged with advising the Chief of Police on crime prevention strategies and agency policies from a citizens' perspective. The committee functions in an advisory capacity only. The Chief of Police is ultimately responsible for all decisions regarding crime prevention strategies and Hampton Police Division policy.

### **Factors for Consideration Prior to City Council Appointing Members:**

While City Council will ultimately make the decision about who to appoint to the Citizens Police Advisory Group, consultation with the Chief of Police would be beneficial prior to making appointments. Some factors to consider when making appointments included:

- Making sure that the diversity of committee membership reflects the diversity of the community. (For stakeholders like the Hampton Unity Commission and the Hampton Neighborhood Commission it may be advisable to have the existing commissions submit 3 recommendations for Council to consider. This choice will allow City Council to better ensure that the committee membership reflects the diversity of the community.)
- Making sure that each member of the committee has passed a criminal background check. (The Hampton Police Division may be limited in the information it is willing to share with individuals who cannot pass a criminal background check, especially relating to tactical issues and other issues involving officer safety. Therefore having individuals who are being considered for appointments undergo a criminal background check prior to appointment is advisable).
- Open dialogue between the City Council and the Chief of Police about potential appointees prior to appointment. (There may be ongoing criminal investigations or other investigative reasons, unknown to Council, that may impact the suitability of an appointee to the CPAG. Discussing potential appointees with the Chief of Police prior to making the appointment may help to insure the integrity of the advisory committee).

**Recommended Representative Mix:**

When Council created the Citizens Police Advisory Group, it specified a twelve (12) member body to include:

- One representative from Hampton City Schools
- Two representatives from the Faith Community
- One representative from Langley Air Force Base
- One representative from the legal community
- One representative from the Hampton Unity Commission
- One representative from the Hampton Neighborhood Commission
- One representative from the Community at Large
- One representative from a Civil Rights Organization
- Two representatives from the Youth
- One representative from Hampton University