

To the City and Community of Berkeley:

The Berkeley Police Review Commission presents its 2018 Annual Report. This report includes statistical data concerning misconduct complaints filed during the year, an outline of the complaint process, and the work and achievements of the Commission.

2018 was an exciting and productive year for the Police Review Commission. We commissioners [took it upon ourselves to] evaluate the Commission's role in the City and Community of Berkeley and drafted a charter amendment to reorganize and strengthen the PRC's authority. Each commissioner, especially our subcommittee members, worked diligently in a short period of time to ensure that the PRC be structured in a way which best benefits our City and Community. This charter amendment proposal then went to the City Council, which further revised.

This year, the PRC ensured that its work and dedication to the Community was recognized by the City Council. During the year, the PRC's 2017 report, "Towards Fairness & Impartiality," was accepted by Council, which made recommendations and asked the City Manager to develop a plan of action for implementation. Additionally, Council adopted a Surveillance Technology Use & Community Safety Ordinance, based on a proposal from the PRC.

The Commission also worked tirelessly to review the Department's Body-Worn Cameras policy and learn about the officer's use of these cameras. The Commission looks forward to now having body-worn camera footage available at Boards of Inquiry.

On behalf of the PRC, I would like thank staff, Ms. Katherine J. Lee, Mr. Byron Norris, and Ms. Maritza Martinez, for their hard work and dedication to this Commission. Their role is vital to the functioning of the PRC as an independent and effective oversight body, and we are grateful for the countless hours they put in to helping the Commission progress and achieve its goals. I would also like to thank the citizens of Berkeley, who undoubtedly influence our work, and the numerous community-based organizations who continue to contribute to our cause.

Finally, thank you to the Berkeley Police Department for its tireless efforts to keep our community safe, as well as its commitment to attending our meetings and working collaboratively with commissioners. The Department's involvement in this process is vital to ensuring we are providing the most effective oversight and guidance possible. A special thank you to Chief Greenwood for his leadership and dedication to engaging with the PRC and the Community.

The work of oversight demands constant collaboration, growth, and shared responsibility. The Commission has remained dedicated to working with the City Council, the Police Department, and the Community to continually evaluate and strengthen our oversight process. It is my hope that the partnerships we worked to build in 2018 will only strengthen in the years to come.

Respectfully,

