

CITY COUNCIL
Lori Wilson, Mayor
Alma Hernandez, Mayor Pro-Tem
Jane Day
Michael J. Hudson
Wanda Williams



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

First and Third Tuesday
Every Month

A G E N D A

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OF SUISUN CITY

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2021

6:30 P.M. VIA ZOOM

SUISUN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS -- 701 CIVIC CENTER BOULEVARD -- SUISUN CITY, CALIFORNIA

NOTICE

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953, Subdivision (b) and Executive Order released on March 12, 2020, the following Public Safety and Emergency Management Committee includes participation via the ZOOM application.

PER CITY POLICY, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR FACE MASKS WHILE IN CITY FACILITIES UNLESS VACCINATED. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A FACE MASK, ONE WILL BE PROVIDED FOR YOU.

DUE TO CORONAVIRUS COVID-19, CITY HALL IS CLOSED DURING THE EVENING TO THE PUBLIC. RESIDENTS MAY ATTEND THE MEETING VIA THE ZOOM APPLICATION.

ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION:

MEETING ID: 837 2226 7246

WEBSITE: <https://zoom.us/join>

CALL IN PHONE NUMBER: (707) 438-1720

REMOTE PUBLIC COMMENT IS AVAILABLE FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MEETING BY EMAILING CLERK@SUISUN.COM (PRIOR TO 12:00 NOON ON WEDNESDAY) OR VIA WEBSITE OR THE ZOOM PHONE APPLICATION.

*(If attending the meeting via phone press *9 to raise your hand and *6 to unmute/mute for public comment.)*

ROLL CALL

Committee Members

REPORTS: (Informational items only.)

1. Recent Fire Department Activity – (Vincent: jvincent@suisun.com).
2. Recent Police Department Activity – (Roth: aroth@suisun.com).
3. City Manager Update – (Folsom: gfolson@suisun.com).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(Oral participation from the audience is limited to 3 minutes to each speaker).

DEPARTMENTS: AREA CODE (707)

ADMINISTRATION 421-7300 ■ PLANNING 421-7335 ■ BUILDING 421-7310 ■ FINANCE 421-7320

FIRE 425-9133 ■ RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES 421-7200 ■ POLICE 421-7373 ■ PUBLIC WORKS 421-7340

SUCCESSOR AGENCY 421-7309 FAX 421-7366

GENERAL BUSINESS

4. Homeless Activity Update - (Roth: aroth@suisun.com).
5. Traffic Committee Update - (Roth: aroth@suisun.com).
6. Discussion and Direction: Response to Letter from Solano County Democratic Central Committee Regarding Right-Wing Extremism - (Roth: aroth@suisun.com).
7. Date and Time of Next Public Safety Committee Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Agenda related writings or documents provided to a majority of the Committee less than 72 hours prior to a Committee meeting will be made available for public inspection during normal business hours.

AGENDA TRANSMITTAL

MEETING DATE: April 20th, 2021

CITY AGENDA ITEM: Discussion and Direction: Response to Letter from Solano County Democratic Central Committee Regarding Right-Wing Extremism.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact to this discussion.

STRATEGIC PLAN: Ensure Public Safety

BACKGROUND: The City received a letter dated March 16, 2021 from the Solano County Democratic Central Committee regarding right-wing extremism and asking the City Council to implement a comprehensive policy and set of protocols to root out and expel extremists from law enforcement and related agencies. The letter included as an attachment an open letter to government officials from Benicia Black Lives Matter in response to a report from Open Vallejo detailing alleged support of right wing extremism within the leadership of the Solano County Sheriff's Office.

STAFF REPORT: The Suisun City Police Department does have policies in place to address potential behavior that falls into these categories. Attached is the section of the PD Policy Manual regarding Standards of Conduct that all department members are held to.

The Police Department does not have specific policies with regard to extremist groups and does not monitor employee's social media posts looking for extremists relationships. However, with regard to department members potentially being part of an extremist group, or making social media posts, the following could apply with regard to outlining conduct that could result in discipline:

323.5.4 – Relationships

(d) & (e) these could apply if the department member made comments associating them with a group that has been identified as a criminal enterprise or gang, or a group that is involved in criminal activity.

323.5.8 – Performance

(e) & (i) could apply if the member's conduct brings discredit to the department or fractures the community trust.

323.5.9 – Conduct

(m) could be looked at similar to the above-mentioned violation should the conduct discredit the department.

The department is not aware of any members under investigation for these types of behaviors and is confident none of its members were present at the US Capitol on January 6th, 2021.

PREPARED BY:

Greg Folsom, City Manager

Additionally, department members undergo an extensive background check prior to being offered employment. This background reviews social media belonging to the applicant and incorporates interviews with individuals familiar with an applicant. This is done to determine the character of an applicant and to root out any extremist personal beliefs. Individuals falling into the category of having extremist beliefs that are contrary to the mission of the police department would not be offered employment.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that Council discuss this issue and provide direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Solano County Democratic Central Committee Letter
2. Suisun City Police Department Standards of Conduct



Solano County Democratic Central Committee

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e: info@solanodemocrats.com

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2020-2022

Executive Board

Marjorie Olson
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Verneal Brumfield
Northern Vice-Chair

Tiffanee Jones
Southern Vice-Chair

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Lynette Henley
Parliamentarian

Thomas D. Bilbo
Information Resource
Officer

March 16, 2021

Mayor Lori Wilson
Suisun, CA

Dear Mayor Wilson,

The Solano County Democratic Central Committee is alarmed by recent reports of white supremacists in the law enforcement community, both locally and nationwide. Even before the January 6th insurrection, it has been the FBI's assessment that right-wing violence is the foremost domestic threat to our nation. That threat became a reality during the violent insurrection at the United States Capitol on January 6th, resulting in multiple injuries and deaths. Analysis of the insurrectionists who stormed the Capitol with the intent of stopping the certification of the election has found that 25% of those involved had ties to active law enforcement or military personnel. It is profoundly disturbing that so many sworn officers let hatred override their oath of office and lead them to such seditious and destructive acts against our country and our Constitution. This is a shocking wake-up call for the nation.

Solano County is not immune. The recent concern put forth by Benicia Black Lives Matter* serves to highlight the problem locally. The people of Solano County, including law enforcement officers, need to have confidence in our local personnel. To that end, we consider it essential that you and other Government Officials strongly condemn right-wing extremism, and work to eliminate any such influence within our local law enforcement agencies.

The Solano County Democratic Central Committee urges you to take immediate action to adopt—and implement—a comprehensive policy and set of procedures to root out and expel extremists from law enforcement and related agencies.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Olson, Chair
Solano County Democratic Central Committee

*Text of Benicia Black Live Matter letter follows below.

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Standards of Conduct

323.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes standards of conduct that are consistent with the values and mission of the Suisun City Police Department and are expected of all department members. The standards contained in this policy are not intended to be an exhaustive list of requirements and prohibitions but they do identify many of the important matters concerning conduct. In addition to the provisions of this policy, members are subject to all other provisions contained in this manual, as well as any additional guidance on conduct that may be disseminated by this department or a member's supervisors.

323.2 POLICY

The continued employment or appointment of every member of the Suisun City Police Department shall be based on conduct that reasonably conforms to the guidelines set forth herein. Failure to meet the guidelines set forth in this policy, whether on- or off-duty, may be cause for disciplinary action.

323.3 DIRECTIVES AND ORDERS

Members shall comply with lawful directives and orders from any department supervisor or person in a position of authority, absent a reasonable and bona fide justification.

323.4 GENERAL STANDARDS

Members shall conduct themselves, whether on- or off-duty, in accordance with the United States and California constitutions and all applicable laws, ordinances, and rules enacted or established pursuant to legal authority.

Members shall familiarize themselves with policies and procedures and are responsible for compliance with each. Members should seek clarification and guidance from supervisors in the event of any perceived ambiguity or uncertainty.

Discipline may be initiated for any good cause. It is not mandatory that a specific policy or rule violation be cited to sustain discipline. This policy is not intended to cover every possible type of misconduct.

323.5 CAUSES FOR DISCIPLINE

The following are illustrative of causes for disciplinary action. This list is not intended to cover every possible type of misconduct and does not preclude the recommendation of disciplinary action for violation of other rules, standards, ethics and specific action or inaction that is detrimental to efficient department service:

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323.5.1 LAWS, RULES AND ORDERS

- (a) Violation of, or ordering or instructing a subordinate to violate any policy, procedure, rule, order, directive, requirement or failure to follow instructions contained in department or City manuals.
- (b) Disobedience of any legal directive or order issued by any department member of a higher rank.
- (c) Violation of federal, state, local or administrative laws, rules or regulations.

323.5.2 ETHICS

- (a) Using or disclosing one's status as a member of the Suisun City Police Department in any way that could reasonably be perceived as an attempt to gain influence or authority for non-department business or activity.
- (b) The wrongful or unlawful exercise of authority on the part of any member for malicious purpose, personal gain, willful deceit or any other improper purpose.
- (c) The receipt or acceptance of a reward, fee or gift from any person for service incident to the performance of the member's duties (lawful subpoena fees and authorized work permits excepted).
- (d) Acceptance of fees, gifts or money contrary to the rules of this department and/or laws of the state.
- (e) Offer or acceptance of a bribe or gratuity.
- (f) Misappropriation or misuse of public funds, property, personnel or services.
- (g) Any other failure to abide by the standards of ethical conduct.

323.5.3 DISCRIMINATION, OPPRESSION, OR FAVORITISM

Unless required by law or policy, discriminating against, oppressing, or providing favoritism to any person because of actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, economic status, cultural group, veteran status, marital status, and any other classification or status protected by law, or intentionally denying or impeding another in the exercise or enjoyment of any right, privilege, power, or immunity, knowing the conduct is unlawful.

323.5.4 RELATIONSHIPS

- (a) Unwelcome solicitation of a personal or sexual relationship while on-duty or through the use of one's official capacity.
- (b) Engaging in on-duty sexual activity including, but not limited to, sexual intercourse, excessive displays of public affection or other sexual contact.
- (c) Establishing or maintaining an inappropriate personal or financial relationship, as a result of an investigation, with a known victim, witness, suspect or defendant while a case is being investigated or prosecuted, or as a direct result of any official contact.

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- (d) Associating with or joining a criminal gang, organized crime and/or criminal syndicate when the member knows or reasonably should know of the criminal nature of the organization. This includes any organization involved in a definable criminal activity or enterprise, except as specifically directed and authorized by this department.
- (e) Associating on a personal, rather than official basis with persons who demonstrate recurring involvement in serious violations of state or federal laws after the member knows, or reasonably should know of such criminal activities, except as specifically directed and authorized by this department.

323.5.5 ATTENDANCE

- (a) Leaving the job to which the member is assigned during duty hours without reasonable excuse and proper permission and approval.
- (b) Unexcused or unauthorized absence or tardiness.
- (c) Excessive absenteeism or abuse of leave privileges.
- (d) Failure to report to work or to the place of assignment at the time specified and fully prepared to perform duties without reasonable excuse.

323.5.6 UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS, DISCLOSURE, OR USE

- (a) Unauthorized and inappropriate intentional release of confidential or protected information, materials, data, forms, or reports obtained as a result of the member's position with this department.
 - (a) Members of this department shall not disclose the name, address, or image of any victim of human trafficking except as authorized by law (Penal Code § 293).
- (b) Disclosing to any unauthorized person any active investigation information.
- (c) The use of any information, photograph, video, or other recording obtained or accessed as a result of employment or appointment to this department for personal or financial gain or without the express authorization of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.
- (d) Loaning, selling, allowing unauthorized use, giving away, or appropriating any department property for personal use, personal gain, or any other improper or unauthorized use or purpose.
- (e) Using department resources in association with any portion of an independent civil action. These resources include but are not limited to personnel, vehicles, equipment, and non-subpoenaed records.

323.5.7 EFFICIENCY

- (a) Neglect of duty.
- (b) Unsatisfactory work performance including but not limited to failure, incompetence, inefficiency, or delay in performing and/or carrying out proper orders, work assignments, or the instructions of supervisors without a reasonable and bona fide excuse.

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- (c) Concealing, attempting to conceal, removing, or destroying defective or incompetent work.
- (d) Unauthorized sleeping during on-duty time or assignments.
- (e) Failure to notify the Department within 24 hours of any change in residence address or contact numbers.
- (f) Failure to notify the Personnel Department of changes in relevant personal information (e.g., information associated with benefits determination) in a timely fashion.

323.5.8 PERFORMANCE

- (a) Failure to disclose or misrepresenting material facts, or making any false or misleading statement on any application, examination form, or other official document, report or form, or during the course of any work-related investigation.
- (b) The falsification of any work-related records, making misleading entries or statements with the intent to deceive or the willful and unauthorized removal, alteration, destruction and/or mutilation of any department record, public record, book, paper or document.
- (c) Failure to participate in, or giving false or misleading statements, or misrepresenting or omitting material information to a supervisor or other person in a position of authority, in connection with any investigation or in the reporting of any department -related business.
- (d) Being untruthful or knowingly making false, misleading or malicious statements that are reasonably calculated to harm the reputation, authority or official standing of this department or its members.
- (e) Disparaging remarks or conduct concerning duly constituted authority to the extent that such conduct disrupts the efficiency of this department or subverts the good order, efficiency and discipline of this department or that would tend to discredit any of its members.
- (f) Unlawful gambling or unlawful betting at any time or any place. Legal gambling or betting under any of the following conditions:
 - 1. While on department premises.
 - 2. At any work site, while on-duty or while in uniform, or while using any department equipment or system.
 - 3. Gambling activity undertaken as part of an officer official duties and with the express knowledge and permission of a direct supervisor is exempt from this prohibition.
- (g) Improper political activity including:
 - 1. Unauthorized attendance while on-duty at official legislative or political sessions.
 - 2. Solicitations, speeches or distribution of campaign literature for or against any political candidate or position while on-duty or, on department property except as expressly authorized by City policy, the memorandum of understanding, or the Chief of Police.

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- (h) Engaging in political activities during assigned working hours except as expressly authorized by City policy, the memorandum of understanding, or the Chief of Police.
- (i) Any act on- or off-duty that brings discredit to this department.

323.5.9 CONDUCT

- (a) Failure of any member to promptly and fully report activities on his/her part or the part of any other member where such activities resulted in contact with any other law enforcement agency or that may result in criminal prosecution or discipline under this policy.
- (b) Unreasonable and unwarranted force to a person encountered or a person under arrest.
- (c) Exceeding lawful peace officer powers by unreasonable, unlawful or excessive conduct.
- (d) Unauthorized or unlawful fighting, threatening or attempting to inflict unlawful bodily harm on another.
- (e) Engaging in horseplay that reasonably could result in injury or property damage.
- (f) Discourteous, disrespectful or discriminatory treatment of any member of the public or any member of this department or the City.
- (g) Use of obscene, indecent, profane or derogatory language while on-duty or in uniform.
- (h) Criminal, dishonest, or disgraceful conduct, whether on- or off-duty, that adversely affects the member's relationship with this department.
- (i) Unauthorized possession of, loss of, or damage to department property or the property of others, or endangering it through carelessness or maliciousness.
- (j) Attempted or actual theft of department property; misappropriation or misuse of public funds, property, personnel or the services or property of others; unauthorized removal or possession of department property or the property of another person.
- (k) Activity that is incompatible with a member's conditions of employment or appointment as established by law or that violates a provision of any memorandum of understanding or contract to include fraud in securing the appointment or hire.
- (l) Initiating any civil action for recovery of any damages or injuries incurred in the course and scope of employment or appointment without first notifying the Chief of Police of such action.
- (m) Any other on- or off-duty conduct which any member knows or reasonably should know is unbecoming a member of this department, is contrary to good order, efficiency or morale, or tends to reflect unfavorably upon this department or its members.

323.5.10 SAFETY

- (a) Failure to observe or violating department safety standards or safe working practices.
- (b) Failure to maintain current licenses or certifications required for the assignment or position (e.g., driver license, first aid).

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- (c) Failure to maintain good physical condition sufficient to adequately and safely perform law enforcement duties.
- (d) Unsafe firearm or other dangerous weapon handling to include loading or unloading firearms in an unsafe manner, either on- or off- duty.
- (e) Carrying, while on the premises of the work place, any firearm or other lethal weapon that is not authorized by the member's appointing authority.
- (f) Unsafe or improper driving habits or actions in the course of employment or appointment.
- (g) Any personal action contributing to a preventable traffic collision.
- (h) Concealing or knowingly failing to report any on-the-job or work-related accident or injury as soon as practicable but within 24 hours.

323.5.11 INTOXICANTS

- (a) Reporting for work or being at work while intoxicated or when the member's ability to perform assigned duties is impaired due to the use of alcohol, medication or drugs, whether legal, prescribed or illegal.
- (b) Possession or use of alcohol at any work site or while on-duty, except as authorized in the performance of an official assignment. A member who is authorized to consume alcohol is not permitted to do so to such a degree that it may impair on-duty performance.
- (c) Unauthorized possession, use of, or attempting to bring a controlled substance, illegal drug or non-prescribed medication to any work site.

323.5.12 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

- (a) Failure of a supervisor to take appropriate action to ensure that members adhere to the policies and procedures of this Department and the actions of all members comply with all laws;
- (b) Failure of a supervisor to timely report known misconduct of a member to his or her immediate supervisor or to document such misconduct appropriately or as required by policy; or
- (c) The unequal or disparate exercise of authority on the part of a supervisor toward any member for malicious or other improper purpose.

323.6 SUPERIOR-SUBORDINATE RELATIONSHIPS

Authority shall be exercised in a firm but fair manner. Superior members shall support subordinates in their actions when they can reasonably do so and shall avoid censuring subordinates in the presence of others. Superior members are strictly forbidden from censuring or discrediting those under their command in a tyrannical or abusive manner.

When on duty and in the presence of the public, superiors and subordinates shall refer to one another by their rank or title.