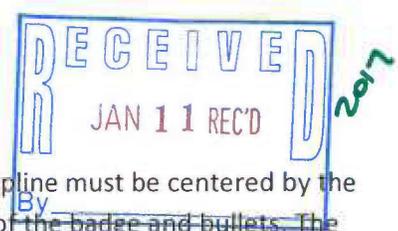


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Los Angeles Community Action Network  
(Public Comment) January 10, 2017



**Opposition to Proposed May Ballot: Optional Board of Rights Panel**

Any conversation on police reform be it use-of-force, accountability, transparency or discipline must be centered by the voice, power and opinion of those that find themselves, continuously, on the wrong side of the badge and bullets. The mere fact that this entire political Ponzi scheme was cooked-up and written, behind closed doors, in partnership with the Los Angeles Police Protective League, out of the eyesight and earshot of organizations and individuals that have spent a lifetime on this issue, speaks to the continued pattern of pay-to-play politics that define Los Angeles.

To be clear, of the options listed only one could be considered given the wealth of information provided in the Chief Legislative Analyst report. Number 5, to scrap this entire process which is "unique" to Los Angeles and start all over.

But there is one step before that...to start the process of replacing Chief Beck because, as this report shows, there is a vote of no confidence in his leadership within the walls of the institution he commands. What else could explain:

- That less than half of those the Chief of Police recommends for termination are actually terminated.
- And that in cases of demotion or suspension the Chief's training, experience and leadership is soundly rebuked.

The only answer is that his leadership is non-effective, a fact that the general public agrees with, and should be terminated.

Now let's pivot to your leadership and political motivation.

- Given the power of the peace officers lobby it could be considered, at this time anyway, political suicide to go against their wishes. It would be, however, politically advantageous, to join the public clamor for increased "civilian" oversight and use that energy to pass a ballot measure (written by the Police Protective League) that would actually protect and shield officers from discipline more often than not.
- It's no secret that the racist Willie Horton ads had a lasting effect on political campaigns and careers and ultimately impact the way public safety decisions are routinely made...by police unions and leagues. The fact that your proposed measure would sunset in three-years, which, by the way, happens to be the same amount of time Chief Beck has on his existing contract, roundly illustrates where your leadership begins and ends. Removing a Chief, the right thing to do is not an option. Instead, hand his power over to the Union and let him ride off into the sunset on the taxpayer's dime...and you can never be called "soft on crime."

Sincerely,

Pete White

Executive Director

Los Angeles Community Action Network