

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

Albuquerque Police Department



Gorden E. Eden, Jr., Chief of Police

April 22, 2016

Edward Harness
Executive Director
Civilian Police Oversight Agency
600 2nd St. NW, Room 813
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Dear Mr. Harness:

In your letter dated March 11, 2016, in the matter of Albuquerque Police Department (APD) Internal Affairs (IA) investigation IA-48-15, you made the following policy recommendations:

1. Immediately only allow buy bust operations after the scenarios have been fully briefed, in person, by all supervisors and participants.
2. End the practice of "radio briefings"
3. Immediately prohibit not briefed parties from participation in any operation, unless officers' request back-up.
4. Institute a drug policy: Immediately test all officers that discharge their firearms in the line of duty.
5. APD should only use legal level of window tint on vehicles. Windows that have dark tint creates a safety issue for officers.
6. APD should ensure that officers involved in undercover operations are wearing reliable wires in order for the Detectives who are involved to hear what is going on.

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I have discussed these recommendations with APD senior staff and will present your recommendations to PPRB and the newly created Office of Policy Analysis. I concur with recommendations 1, 2, 3 and 6. Radio transmissions will be used as part of an on-going investigative process to insure that all detectives assigned to the case are provide immediate updates prior to the "take down". Recommendation #4 will be sent to the City of Albuquerque Human Resources Department and the City Attorney for their legal analysis. APD has concerns with recommendation #5 as tinted windows are necessary for criminal surveillance and undercover operations. This recommendation will still be presented to the PPRB and the Office of Policy Analysis. Recommendation #6 has been implemented and new equipment purchased.

Thank you for your recommendations and we look forward to your continued involvement of the PPRB.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gorden E. Eden, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

GORDEN E. EDEN, JR.
Chief of Police