

**NOTICE OF MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
THURSDAY - JANUARY 23, 2019 - 9:00 A.M.
ROOM 204 - CITY HALL
823 ROSENBERG, GALVESTON, TEXAS
TELEPHONE: (409) 797-3510**

WORKSHOP AGENDA

1. DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - 3.A. Clarification Of Consent And Regular City Council Agenda Items - This Is An Opportunity For City Council To Ask Questions Of Staff On Consent And Regular Agenda Items. (30 Minutes)
 - 3.B. Receive And Discuss A Presentation From The Galveston County Health District On The HEAL And ITT Community Challenge (Yarbrough - 15 Minutes)
 - 3.C. Receive And Discuss A Presentation From The Galveston Police Department On A New Crime Reporting System (V. Hale - 15 Minutes)

Documents:

[PRESS RELEASE_NIBRS_V3 \(002\).DOCX](#)

- 3.D. Beach Maintenance Permits/Beach Ad Hoc Committee Report And Update (Yarbrough - 30 Minutes)
- 3.E. Receive And Discuss An Update On Pelican Island Bridge (Yarbrough - 15 Minutes)
- 3.F. Receive And Discuss An Update On Sandpiper Cove (Hardcastle/Yarbrough - 15 Minutes)
- 3.G. Receive Briefing Related To The Status Of The Civilian Review Board (Legal - 5 Minutes)

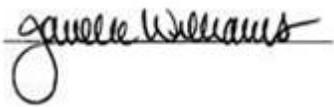
Documents:

[MEMORANDUM JANUARY STATUS OF CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD.DOCX](#)

- 3.H. Report Of City Council's Park Board Representative (Collins/Yarbrough - 10 Minutes)

4. ADJOURNMENT

I certify that the above Notice of Meeting was posted in a place convenient to the public in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code on January 17, 2020 at 12:00 P.M.



Janelle Williams, City Secretary

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA), PERSONS IN NEED OF A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS

PROCEEDING SHALL, WITHIN THREE (3) DAYS PRIOR TO ANY PROCEEDING, CONTACT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE, SUITE 201, 823 ROSENBERG, GALVESTON, TEXAS 77550 (409-797-3510).



Galveston Police Department

PRESS RELEASE

601 54th Street, Suite 200| Galveston Texas, 77551
Sergeant Xavier T. Hancock| 409.497.6568 Cell| xhancock@galvestontx.gov

The Galveston Police Department is transitioning to a new crime reporting system to improve the quality, accuracy and transparency of the department's crime data.

The transition to a new crime reporting system will not change how laws are enforced or our public safety operations, but how crimes are reported to state and federal agencies. When new crime data is released beginning in 2020 it will appear that there has been a dramatic increase in crime on the island year over year; however, this will not be the case. The change is in the reporting and the two systems of data collection are not comparable.

Crime data collection is important to law enforcement agencies. In the 1920s the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) recognized the need to create standardized methods for recording and comparing crime across all law enforcement jurisdictions. After assessing contemporary record keeping standards, the IACP developed a plan called Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR). The plan included standardized offense definitions for seven main offense classifications. In 1976, the State of Texas adopted the UCR as its official statewide crime reporting system with the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) leading the project.

The Galveston Police Department and numerous other agencies around the country have used the Uniformed Crime Reporting system for many years, but the system has limitations. One major limitation of UCR is the way UCR counts crimes. When multiple offenses occur in the same episode, only the most serious offense is counted. Offense seriousness is found in a well-defined UCR ranking system. Summarizing crime according to UCR hierarchical standards has significant impacts on the number of crimes reported to DPS. Taking an extreme example, one criminal episode may contain such heinous crimes as theft, robbery, and sexual assault. According to UCR reporting standards, the sexual assault would be the only offense appearing in the final report to DPS. The remaining offenses in this episode would remain un-counted.

In 2015, the Criminal Justice Information Services Division Advisory Policy Board (APB) approved the recommendation to move from the traditional Summary Reporting System and replace it with the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) by January 1, 2021. The UCR Program's transition from summary to incident-based data will establish NIBRS as the national standard for crime reporting.

To address the limitations of the UCR, the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) was developed to improve the overall quality of crime data collected by law enforcement. NIBRS captures details on each single crime incident—as well as on separate offenses within the same incident—including information on victims, known offenders, relationships between





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victims and offenders, arrestees, and property involved in crimes. Unlike data reported through the UCR, NIBRS goes much deeper because of its ability to provide circumstances and context for crimes like location, time of day, and whether the incident was cleared.

In October 2019 the Galveston Police Department began the transition from UCR to NIBRS. The change will not affect how our assets are deployed; however, the different reporting methodologies between UCR and NIBRS will reflect different numbers in our reports to DPS. Recall the previous example wherein only one offense was reported to DPS because of UCR. In that example, three offenses would be reported to DPS because of NIBRS reporting standards. Beginning January 1, 2020, we will fully implement NIBRS making crime comparisons to previous year problematic.

What the NIBRS transition means to the Galveston Police Department:

- More comprehensive data collection
- More transparent crime reporting
- More accessibility to crime data
- Crime data modernization

The Galveston Police Department will have a more precise knowledge of where crimes take place, what form it takes, and characteristics of victims and perpetrators so it can better define the resources it needs to fight crime. This transition will also allow the identification of common crime trends among similar jurisdictions allowing agencies to work together to develop proactive strategies for addressing issues.

What the NIBRS transition means to the citizens of Galveston:

- More accountability to the citizens of the status of public safety within the city
- More accountability to the citizens of the most efficient and effective use of city resources
- More transparency to the citizens with crime reporting

The transparency in crime reporting that NIBRS offers will allow the community and the citizens more seats at the table when voicing their needs, concerns and expectations to the city





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leaders. Accountability and service are the driving factors that facilitate the need for this transition.

Regardless of which administrative reporting system is used, the Galveston Police Department has always recorded all offenses reported to the police and used that information for crime prevention and asset deployment.

The Galveston Police Department employs an organizational model of problem-solving, analysis and accountability as an approach to crime reduction. Our model incorporates evidence-based practices and is highly data-driven. The public safety we produce is independent of UCR or NIBRS crime counts.

“As Texas and the Galveston Police Department continue to grow and improve the conversation about crime reporting standards will continue to evolve too, but throughout that time we will continue to address crime problems efficiently and effectively,” Galveston Police Chief Vernon Hale said



MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of City Council
FROM: Donald S. Glywasky, City Attorney
DATE: January 15, 2020
RE: Civilian Review Board status

1. I had advised Council that I would give a status report on the Civilian Review Board at the January meeting.
2. I have drafted a change to the Civilian Review Board section of the City Code to provide that an officer whose conduct is being scrutinized must give him consent to the release of any documents which are placed in the "g": file, which is made confidential under the civil service statute. The Chief is circulating that change to both the GMPA and the members of the Civilian Review Board.
3. I am continuing to check comparative cities but this far I have not found one that even has a civilian review board.
4. It is my hope to submit an Ordinance to Council in February to attain a resolution.