



League of United Latin American Citizens

Arizona LULAC and Maricopa County NAACP/Arizona NAACP Memorandum of Understanding to Establish Civilian Policing Accountability Review Boards For Every Local, and State Law Enforcement Agency in the State of Arizona

WHEREAS, 86 years ago, the founders of the League of Latin American Citizens, (LULAC) joined together to establish an organization that would become the largest, oldest and successful Hispanic civil rights and service organization in the United States, and

WHEREAS, Civilian Policing Accountability Review Boards would allow communities to have a more balance of power in law enforcement behavior in the neighborhood across the nation, and

WHEREAS, We must restore and give power to local communities over the local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies which are meant to "protect and serve". LULAC therefore strongly supports the establishment of civilian accountability review boards for every local, state, and even federal law enforcement agency, and

WHEREAS, An effective Civilian Policing Accountability Review Boards will be reflective of the racial and ethnic composition/make-up of the community. The Board and staff will broadly represent the community it serves, and

WHEREAS, Civilian Policing Accountability Review Boards are guided by Ten Principles For An Effective Civilian Police Review Board such as:

- 1. Independence.** The Power to conduct hearings, subpoena witnesses, and report finding and recommendations to the public;
- 2. Investigatory Power.** The authority to independently investigate incidents and issue findings on complaints.
- 3. Mandatory Police Cooperation.** Complete access to police witnesses and documents through legal mandate or subpoena power.

- 4. Adequate Funding.** Should not be a lower budget priority than police internal affairs systems.
- 5. Hearing.** Essential for solving credibility questions and enhancing public confidence in process.
- 6. Reflect Community Diversity.** Board and staff should broadly be representative of the community it serves.
- 7. Policy Recommendations.** Civilian oversight can spot problem policies and provide a forum for developing reforms.
- 8. Statistical Analysis.** Public statistical reports can detail trends in allegations, and early warning systems can identify officers who are subjects of unusually numerous complaints.
- 9. Separate Offices.** Should be housed away from police headquarters to main maintain independence and credibility with public.
- 10. Disciplinary Role.** Board findings should be considered in determining appropriate disciplinary action.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) supports the establishment of Civilian Policing Accountability Review Boards for every local and state law enforcement agency in the State of Arizona.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that LULAC calls for the establishment of Civilian Policing Accountability Review Boards in cooperation with the leadership of Maricopa County NAACP and Arizona NAACP for every local, state law enforcement agency in the state of Arizona.

Voted and approved at the 2015 National LULAC Convention - July 11, 2015.

Roger C. Rocha, Jr.
LULAC National President