

Comprehensive Evaluation of Sexual Assault Investigations and Processes

Council Resolution 20190131-077

Public Safety Commission

March 4, 2019

Purpose of presentation

Review components of the scope of work in response to the Council resolution and timeline

Get input from the Public Safety Commission and Commission on Women

Council Resolution 20190131-077

City Manager is directed to undertake a **comprehensive evaluation of how reported sexual assaults are investigated and processed**, including why a number of reported cases do not proceed to prosecution within the criminal justice system.

Resolution Scope of Work

Vendor Requirements

Components of evaluation

Components of written report

Vendor Requirements

Nationally recognized, non-governmental entity or multidisciplinary team

Knowledge and expertise in the **investigation and prosecution of adult sexual assault** in the United States

Demonstrated knowledge and expertise to provide a **comprehensive and multidisciplinary evaluation** of and comprehensive report;

Previous successful experience **evaluating similarly sized organizations and/or communities** on their handling of report sexual assaults; and

Commitment to engage with the public, governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.

Components of evaluation

- At least **200 APD cases** (>50% of cases) for each of the last seven years. Only include cases that involve adult victims.
- Cases examined should be **diverse** as to:
 - **Cross section of investigators** investigating cases
 - **Type of victim**
- Include cases that did and did not **move forward to prosecution**
- The vendor **may add to above criteria**

Components of evaluation

1. **Interviews** with survivors of a sexual assault, sworn officers and civilian staff, staff from other agencies, local subject matter experts, entities that work directly with survivors, and stakeholders
2. The degree to which APD is **adhering to state and federal law with regards to investigation and reporting**
3. Review policies and practices to ensure that these **do not promote bias** and but **do include the use of victim-centered practices**
4. Whether and **how APD is adhering to national best practices in investigations**

Components of evaluation

5. Whether the **record-keeping** in the APD Sex Crimes Unit consistent with national best practices.
6. A review of treatment given to victims in **cases involving drug and alcohol** in order to ascertain whether these cases and victims receive inappropriate differential treatment.
7. Policies and practices with respect to **stranger and non-stranger sexual assault**

Components of evaluation

8. The **accuracy of case clearance decisions** and long-term data regarding the ways in which cases are cleared
9. The **appropriateness of current staffing, resources, and training** provided and budgets regarding adult sexual assault cases in relation to caseload, staffing formulas and other units with the department
10. Documentation of policies regarding issuing **warrants and filing cases.**

Components of evaluation

- 11) Issues regarding current policies, including but not limited to:
 - a. Communication by the APD to the prosecutor's office and how the case was staffed by APD
 - b. Follow-up investigation/interviews to address any concerns or need for further evidence prosecutors may have about a case
 - c. Specialized training for investigators and their chain of command on sexual assault, victim interviewing techniques, interpersonal violence and trauma
 - d. Documentation of written and verbal communication with the District Attorney's Office

Components of written report

A written report shall:

Not be redacted except for redactions to maintain anonymity and privacy of individuals otherwise identified in the report.

Delivered and **presented by the vendor** to the Public Safety Commission and the Commission on Women.

Include findings of the information reviewed accompanied by corresponding data sets.

Components of written report

- Entire life-cycle of sexual assault cases to improve the process for survivors of sexual assaults
- The process of reporting and cooperating with a case more accessible and responsive to public needs.
- Opportunities to address issues or shortcomings and test ideas
- Internal policies, practices, training or the implementation of new training, and an implementation action plan
- Organizational staffing practices and policy

Components of written report

- Opportunities for better working conditions, facilities, tools and resources for staff
- The necessary frequency of case reviews and audits and the sharing of data and findings to the Council and the public
- The establishment of a collaborative community process to include the Commission on Women and Public Safety Commission and local subject matter experts and entities to provide policy recommendations

Timeline

Request for Information (RFI)

Released RFI	February 20, 2019
Closed RFI	February 27, 2019

Request for Qualifications (RFQS)

Release RFQ	April 2019
Close RFQ	May 2019
Complete Evaluation	Mid June 2019
Memo to Council	July 31, 2019
Council approval	August 8, 2019

Report completed Dependent upon negotiated contract

Comments /Questions