

# **Police Auditor Report**



**Las Cruces Police Department**  
**INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

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**TO: CITY MANAGER ROBERT GARZA**

**FROM: CHIEF RICHARD S. WILLIAMS**

**DATE: APRIL 4, 2011**

**SUBJECT: PERF PRESENTATION TO CITY COUNCIL**

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The City of Las Cruces Internal Audit Office contracted the Police Executive Research Forum PERF to perform auditor services for the Las Cruces Police Department. The initial assessment by PERF, which was released in January, 2011 focused on the following areas: PERF's review of three internal investigations completed by the Professional Standards Unit, review of selected internal policies, and a summary of community focus group sessions.

PERF's reviews of the three (3) internal investigations completed by the Professional Standards Unit were broken down into the three following areas: summary of incident, investigative case strengths, and opportunities for improvement. My presentation will highlight their findings and recommendations based on their review of each case. In addition, PERF was sent six (6) additional PSU investigative files and sixteen (16) External Investigation preliminary inquiries for review on January 27, 2011.

PERF has been provided copies of the following policies for review and recommendation: G.O. 117 Boards of Inquiry, G.O. 156 Officer Involved Shootings, G.O. 159 Early Intervention, G.O. 160 Complaint Investigation, G.O. 208 Pursuits, G.O. 255 Use of Force, and G.O. 300 Evidence and Property Control.

PERF facilitated a series of focus group meetings in Las Cruces to obtain information on the community's views and perspectives of the police department.

**PERF PRESENTATION TO CITY COUNCIL  
PAGE TWO**

Two groups represented various neighborhoods in Las Cruces, one was made up of community social service providers, and the other was faith based organizations. My presentation will highlight some of the community focus group comments and opportunities for improvement as identified by the focus groups.

In summary, the recommendations made by PERF regarding PSU investigations have already been addressed and implemented. As the Police Chief it is my responsibility to give this presentation to council and answer any questions they may have. I anticipate between 30 and 40 minutes to give the presentation plus a question and answer session will follow.

If you need any further information regarding this presentation please feel free to contact me.

RSW/rsw