

**CITY OF COLUMBIA  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT  
APRIL 17, 2012 – 9:00 A.M.  
CITY HALL – 1737 MAIN STREET  
COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM – 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

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The Columbia City Council Public Safety Committee conducted a Meeting on Tuesday, April 17, 2012 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Brian DeQuincey Newman (Chair) called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. The Honorable Belinda F. Gergel, and The Honorable Leona K. Plough (non-committee member) were present. The Honorable Sam Davis was absent.

**APPEARANCE OF THE PUBLIC**

*No one appeared at this time.*

**COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

1. Hospitality Zone Assessment / Hospitality Zone District Committee – Mr. Scott Linaberry, Transformation Team Member – *This item was deferred.*
2. North Columbia Security

Councilor Newman recognized Solicitor Dan Johnson and invited him to sit at the table with the committee members.

Mr. Randy Scott, Columbia Police Chief gave an update on the North Columbia area. He assured the committee that North Columbia is moving forward and described it to be a very prosperous area. Some improvements that have taken place were adding the Police Department's T3 vehicles and more officers on foot patrol in the business district areas. Staff has met with the community and has responded to issues concerning North Columbia's fear of crimes. He pointed out that the north region area has more police officers this year than they have had in previous years. He acknowledged that the police department will be graduating twelve (12) new officers from the Criminal Justice Academy this month that will help with the north region area and all the City of Columbia areas.

Mr. Tommy Burkett, Chairman of the North Columbia Business Association acknowledged that he has seen improvement over the last two weeks. He was very impressed with seeing the T3 vehicles riding through the hot spots in North Columbia. He said the officer that was riding the T3 stopped in front of his home, introduced himself and he saw the same officer three (3) times on the same street. He states that if this continues; he believes we will get a lot of bad residents out of the community.

3. Criminal Ordinance Review

Chief Randy Scott expressed the areas of concerns regarding repeat offenders. The Solicitor's Office and the Police Department are trying to find strategies in giving the community some form of assistance.

Solicitor Dan Johnson gave an overview of the Solicitor's Office and its connection with the Police Department regarding repeat offender nuisances. He expressed concerns in helping with residential ownership for home detention.

4. Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center Contract Review

Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager provided an update on the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center contract renewal.

There was a consensus of the group that Mr. Gantt would have Legal review the contract and bring the item back at the next Public Safety Committee Meeting for review and recommendations.

5. Police and Fire Chief Contracts – *This item was discussed in executive session. No action was taken.*

6. Promotion of the Police Chief

Mr. Ruben Santiago, Deputy Police Chief asked that council establish a new tradition in the city to signify its rightful place as the capital city Police Department by presenting the fourth-star insignia to Police Chief Randy Scott as a symbolic gesture of faith and confidence to keep our city and citizens safe. He asked that the three star rank be reserved for the interim chief position.

There was a consensus of the group to promote Chief Scott from a three-star emblem to a four-star emblem police chief. The ceremony will take place at an upcoming City Council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Submitted by:

Niki Daniels  
Office of the City Clerk