**Supervised Release Inquiry Policy Assessment Proposal**

**Objective:**

The objective of this community-based qualitative assessment is to gather feedback and insights from affected community members regarding Oakland Police Department DGO R-2 B-3, which addresses the protocol for inquiring about an individual's Supervised Release (probation, parole, mandatory supervision, and PRCS) status during interactions with law enforcement officers. The assessment aims to evaluate the perception and impact of this policy on the community, ensuring that OPD practices align with community values and expectations.

**Methodology:**

**Recruitment:** The Outreach Ad Hoc Committee will be collaborating with community-based organizations working with the reentry population to recruit appropriate assessment participants. The Committee intends to incentivize participation via $50 gift cards. The current target number is 50 participants for in-person focus groups or individual interviews.

**Focus Groups:** Organize focus groups consisting of affected community members including those who are or have recently been on supervised release. The focus groups will allow for open discussions, capturing nuanced perspectives on the policy's implications and potential areas for improvement. Areas of specific focus will be general community awareness of the policy and individual experiences to which this policy pertains.

**Surveys:** Conduct anonymous surveys accessible online via the Commission website and in person in conjunction with focus groups. The surveys will be designed to collect qualitative data on community members' perceptions and experiences related to interactions with law enforcement officers regarding Supervised Release status inquiries. Additionally, the survey will capture demographic, geographic, and chronological data to provide context for the qualitative information being gathered.

**Individual Interviews:** Conduct one-on-one interviews with community members who have experienced or witnessed interactions with law enforcement officers involving Supervised Release status inquiries. If possible, it may also be useful to interview a selection of patrol officers to assess their understanding of and implementation of this policy. This approach will provide deeper insights into individual experiences and emotional impacts.

**Topics for Assessment:**

**The assessment will focus on the following areas:**

**Awareness and Understanding:** Evaluate the level of awareness and understanding among community members about the existing policy on inquiring about Supervised Release status.

**Perceptions of Justice and Respect:** Explore how community members perceive the policy, particularly its implications on justice, respect, and individual rights during interactions with law enforcement.

**Impact on Community-Officer Relations:** Assess the impact of the policy on community-officer relations, trust, and cooperation.

**Occurrence and Justification of Inquiries:** Examine the frequency and justification of Supervised Release status inquiries during interactions between officers and community members.

**Immediate Threat Criteria:** Understand community perceptions regarding the criteria for determining an "Immediate Threat" that justifies inquiring about Supervised Release status at the beginning of an interaction.

**Framing of Subsequent Inquiries:** Evaluate how officers frame subsequent inquiries about probation, parole, mandatory supervision, and PRCS status, and whether they align with the respectful manner specified in the policy.

**Ethics and Anonymity:**

Ensure participant confidentiality and anonymity throughout the assessment process. Obtain informed consent from all participants and refrain from collecting any personally identifiable information.

**Timeline:**

**The assessment will be conducted over a period of two months, as follows:**

**Week 1-2:** Plan and design the assessment, including survey questionnaires and interview protocols.

**Week 3-4:** Conduct focus groups, interviews, and distribute surveys across the community.

**Week 5-6:** Analyze data collected from focus groups, interviews, and surveys.

**Week 7-8:** Compile the final qualitative assessment report, including key findings, recommendations, and proposed policy amendments.

**Expected Outcomes:**

The qualitative assessment will provide valuable insights into the community's perception of the current policy on inquiring about Supervised Release status. It will identify strengths and weaknesses in the policy, assess its impact on community members, and inform potential improvements to foster better community-police relations.

**Budget:**

The estimated budget for this assessment is $2,500 for the initial purchase of 50 incentive gift cards with a contingency for as many an additional 50 cards at $50 per card, and $500 for snacks and beverages at the focus groups.