



CITY of OAKLAND | POLICE COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oakland Police Commission's Staff Search Committee Recommends Top Candidates for Next Chief of Police

Oakland, CA - Oct 9, 2023 - The Oakland Police Commission's staff searches ad hoc committee is pleased to announce its recommendations for the top seven (7) candidates to advance to the next phase of the selection process of Oakland's next Chief of Police.

City Charter Section 604(b)(10) vests the responsibility of searching for a new Chief in the Commission and providing the Mayor with a list of at least three qualified candidates. City Administration has suggested extending the recruitment process and application deadline that had been approved by the full Commission. We do not endorse delaying this pivotal decision amidst surging crime rates and growing concerns in the community over the City's leadership decisions on public safety.

After a rigorous and extensive national search, the committee has identified these candidates as highly qualified for the position, and they are recommended to advance to the next stage of the recruitment process. The list has been shared with the Mayor, City Administration, and the full Commission. Among the top seven candidates is former Chief LeRonne Armstrong who also applied.

The committee wants to thank the nearly twenty (20) candidates who applied to be the next police chief of our beloved city.

The ad hoc committee (Chair Dr. Tyfahra Milele, Vice Chair David Jordan, Commissioner Rudy Howell), consisting of dedicated community leaders, has been meeting weekly to ensure the successful and efficient execution of this critical search. The committee hosted five public forums, a town hall meeting, and an online survey to gather input from community members. These efforts ensured the Commission could hear directly from over four hundred Oakland residents about the qualities they desire in their next Chief of Police, and we have taken their feedback seriously.

The Commission is committed to providing the residents of Oakland with a Chief of Police who can effectively address the unique needs and concerns of our community. This diverse pool of candidates demonstrated qualities that include a record of reform, community engagement, and decades of experience. The Committee also recommends that a public forum be held for the public to meet the finalists.

The Oakland Police Commission remains dedicated to transparency, community involvement, and selecting a Chief of Police who will serve the best interests of our diverse and vibrant community. The Commission looks forward to the continued engagement of Oakland residents as we move forward in this crucial process.

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