



**CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON**



**Bureau of Police**

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**Date:** 10-29-2015

**TO:** Dr. Dennis Rosenbaum and Dr. Amy Watson; Rosenbaum and Watson  
Compliance Officer/Community Liaison Team

**FROM:** Officer Paul Meyer  
Portland Police Bureau and member of the COAB

**RE:** Formal Complaint regarding Misconduct – Rochelle Silver

I would like to lodge a formal complaint regarding the misconduct of a member of the Community Oversight Advisory Board. The complaint is being filed against Rochelle Silver.

**Background:**

On September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015, during a DSUFSC meeting, I was asked by the Chair, Mr. Steenson, to provide “con” statements for the “pro/con” section for the 25 plus recommendations that were being made regarding Directive 1010.00 Use of Force. I was able to send Mr. Steenson the “con” statements, via email, on October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

On October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 I went onto the COCL-COAB website and saw that the recommendations regarding Directive 1010.00 were posted on the website with a link on the bottom of the page. As I read the recommendations I immediately noticed that the responses I provided had been edited. To that point in time, I had not received any notification that my “con” statements would be or had been edited. I was concerned to the point that I immediately sent an email to the Portland COCL Team stating the concerns and sending them an example.

I also forwarded the email to the Chicago COCL team the next day.

I also noticed that there was a new section included in the recommendations, “Response to the objection”. This section was not provided to the members during the September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 DSUFSC meeting when the recommendations were voted on

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The "response to the objection" section was added after the vote was made during the September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 DCUFSC meeting.

I then requested, through Amy Ruiz, all emails and attachments that were associated with the recommendations to Directive 1010.00.

There was another DCUFSC meeting on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and there was no discussion regarding the recommendations made for Directive 1010.00, the changes to the "con" statements or any discussion regarding the new added section "response to the objection".

At the full COAB / COCL Quarterly Report Town Hall meeting, October 22, 2015, I made a statement to all attending, to include USDOJ attorneys Jonas Geissler and Adrian Brown, the Chief of Police Lawrence P. O'Dea, Dr. Dennis Rosenbaum, Dr. Amy Watson, COAB Chair Kathleen Saadat, other members of the COAB and community members.

In the statement I discussed how my responses were edited without my consent or knowledge.

**DESCRIPTION OF EVENTS:**

During the full COAB meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, Rochelle Silver personally attacked me with comments and accusations that were offense, false, and inflammatory.

Ms. Silver violated the "Guidelines for Maintaining Common Ground" that were voted on and approved during the October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 full COAB meeting.

Below is a link to the video recording of the COAB meeting where the Guidelines were passed. At the 4:21 mark, Chair Kathleen Saadat presents the Guidelines and a vote is taken, and she declares it to have passed.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGL00yJxHFM>

Here is a link to the Guidelines as they are posted on the COCL-COAB website. Exhibit #1

<http://www.coclcoab.org/sites/default/files/Guidelines%20for%20Maintaining%20Common%20Ground.pdf>

Ms. Rochelle starts her personal accusations at the October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 meeting with the following statement;

“What I may be saying may be inappropriate, but I will go ahead and say it”.

She makes the personal accusation that I am “obstructionistic”.

She makes the accusation that I sit back when everyone is fully engaged, and then I “take a sniper shot”.

This is completely false. I have a video recording of the subcommittee meeting from September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 that was also submitted to the Portland COCL team. It can be seen that I am completely and fully engaged the entire 2 hours of the meeting.

She stated multiple times that I “take that shot”.

She makes the accusation that I was waiting to bring up the issue of the editing my statements until the full COAB meeting, knowing that there was limited time to discuss all of the recommendations.

She then states that my responses come in “really late” (2:36:55)

I then make the response to her that wouldn’t take longer to rewrite them. (referring to my responses)

She then states “They weren’t rewritten.” (2:37:23)

This statement is false. She stated earlier that she “read them over and over and over again. And it sounds like what you said.” (2:17:45) But she wouldn’t swear to it because they are not recorded.

However, these were in writing, thus they were recorded.

She states that “the whole process has been poisoned by this man.” And then points at me with her paddle.

### **Conclusion:**

#### **Misconduct:**

Wrong behavior; behavior or activity that is legally or morally wrong; mismanagement especially of governmental or military responsibilities; intentional wrong doing; deliberate violation of a law or standard especially by a government official. **(Merriam – Webster dictionary)**

City Attorney Judy Prosper, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015, informed the COAB members that they are city officials. She read the definition of what a city official is; “.....an appointee to a board”. (18:20)

Ms. Rochelle Silver deliberately violated the standard, which are the Guidelines, by making numerous accusatory statements, blaming me for numerous things from how I present issues, to being “obstructionistic”.

Ms. Silver raised her paddle to speak numerous times and each time violated the Guidelines.

This behavior was wrong and it was deliberate. Statements like the ones she made in a public forum do nothing but damage the process, the credibility and the legitimacy of this group.

What would happen if a Portland Police Officer acted the way she did? We are expected not to.

I believe that her actions and statements constitute gross misconduct.

**Paragraph 144 of the Settlement Agreement addresses the action that should be taken in the case of misconduct.**