

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
CITY OF NEW ORLEANS



SUSAN HUTSON
POLICE MONITOR

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For Further Information:
Deputy Monitor Ursula Price
uprice@nolaog.org
504-427-7124

NEW ORLEANS INDEPENDENT POLICE MONITOR HOSTS
BLOW THE WHISTLE: RESIDENTS AND OFFICERS RAISE VOICES TO END NOPD
RETALIATION

Today, the New Orleans Office of the Independent Police Monitor (OIPM) is releasing its report entitled “NOPD Retaliation Policy, Pattern and Practice”. This report describes a pattern and practice of retaliation and fears of retaliation felt by both officer and community members. Retaliation is a threat to community members’ and officers’ constitutionally protected right to seek redress for their grievances. It inhibits the reporting of misconduct and threatens the functionality of our public safety system.

This report is part of an effort to help NOPD assess the risk of retaliation inside its current accountability system and to help the NOPD write a comprehensive retaliation policy. The OIPM makes several recommendations on how NOPD can protect officers, community members, and the NOPD from harms caused by retaliatory practices.

On Monday, October 20, 2014, at 5:30 P.M., the OIPM will host a public forum entitled **Blow the Whistle: Residents & Officers Raise Voices to End NOPD Retaliation**. At this forum, which will be held in City Council Chambers, the OIPM will present the results of its preliminary recommendations on how best to investigate and stop retaliation by the NOPD. This forum is an opportunity for the New Orleans Police Department to hear, directly from civilians and officers, what retaliation feels like and what people want the NOPD to do to prevent future retaliation. Community feedback will be incorporated into the OIPM’s final policy recommendations.

Police Monitor Susan Hutson said, “Becoming a better police department means honestly assessing our system’s strengths and weaknesses. The OIPM will continue to bring the community and officers together to address public safety concerns. Together, we can make a better NOPD and a better community.”

The OIPM is an independent oversight agency for the New Orleans Police Department. The OIPM’s Mission is to improve police services, citizen trust in NOPD, and officer safety and working conditions. People organized and demanded that the city create our office, so we represent the people’s power.

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