

LOS ANGELES POLICE COMMISSION
REVIEW OF THE
GANG ENFORCEMENT DETAIL
WORK PRODUCT
PATTERN ASSESSMENT AUDIT



Conducted by

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

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February 4, 2005

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GANG ENFORCEMENT DETAIL WORK PRODUCT
PATTERN ASSESSMENT AUDIT**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I. BACKGROUND

Audit Division conducted the audit noted above pursuant to Consent Decree (CD) paragraph (¶) 131(a), which requires the Los Angeles Police Department (Department) to review the work of any individual officers whose work product the auditor has observed to contain indicia of untruthfulness, other forms of misconduct, or otherwise merits further review. The four individual officers selected for this audit were identified from the Gang Enforcement Detail Work Product, Third Quarter, Fiscal Year 2003/2004 Audit population. Two of the officers are assigned to Operations-South Bureau (OSB) and two to Operations-Central Bureau (OCB).

II. PURPOSE

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG), as required by CD ¶135, assessed the quality, completeness and findings of the audit submitted by the Department. The audit report was signed by the Chief of Police on September 17, 2004 and received by the OIG on October 27. The report was not received by the OIG within the one-week provision of CD ¶135.

Due to staffing resources, the OIG was unable to complete its review within the three-month period allotted by the Independent Monitor. The OIG recognizes that its review of this audit is non-compliant as it relates to timeliness, however, is submitting its findings with the intent to provide the Board of Police Commissioners with information necessary to facilitate management decisions and to further enhance the public accountability of the Department.

III. OVERVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENT'S AUDIT

Audit Division identified six arrest reports completed by the same two officers assigned to OCB that contained a potential pattern associated with the use of verbiage that appeared to contain canned or boilerplate language. In addition to the six arrest reports, Audit Division retrieved all arrest reports completed by these officers for a three-month period for a total of 14 additional arrest reports. In addition, Audit Division identified the work product of two officers assigned to OSB to contain elements of recurring patterns within the arrest reports relating to spontaneous statements, consent searches, discarded evidence, and Miranda waivers immediately followed by incriminating statements. In

addition to the 13 arrest reports identified by this audit, Audit Division retrieved all arrest reports completed by these officers for a three-month period for a total of 27 additional arrest reports. A total of 55¹ arrest reports were reviewed.

Audit Division did not identify any discernable patterns with the work product of these four officers.

IV. OIG FINDINGS

The OIG reviewed the 55 arrest reports analyzed by Audit Division. The OIG also queried the Complaint Investigations System (CIS) to determine if a complaint investigation was initiated and related to any of the arrests in question.

The OIG conducted an in-depth review of each arrest report and complaint investigation for the officers in question and did not identify any established patterns of inappropriate behavior by the officers. The OIG, as did Audit Division, found that the underlying actions of the four officers were appropriate, legal, and in conformance with Department policy.

V. POST-AUDIT MEETING WITH AUDIT DIVISION

The findings were discussed with Audit Division who concurred with the OIG's findings.

¹Five were excluded from the review because the arrests did not require a narrative or the officer's serial number was erroneously input into the Consolidated Crime Analysis Database (CCAD).