

Chief Matthew Murray's Office

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Telephone: (509) 575-6211



June 24, 2020

RE: Requested Yakima Valley Special Investigations Unit Information

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

In response to the U.S. Department of Justice final report on 21st Century Policing and Initiative I-940, Washington Administrative Code (WAC 139-12) incorporated independent investigations when law enforcement officials use deadly force. There are five fundamental principals designed to enhance public trust in the integrity of independent investigations: Independence, transparency, communication, credible process and credible investigators. These standards are necessary for the involved agency and the public in an effort to enhance accountability, increase public trust and improve legitimacy of policing.

The Yakima Valley Special Investigations Unit (YVSIU) was formed in response to I-940 and SHB 1064. The YVSIU is comprised of ten state and local law enforcement agencies in Yakima County. Each agency has agreed to staff the YVSIU with command staff personnel, supervisors, detectives and non-sworn crime scene investigators. The current configuration consists of three command staff members, ten supervisors, twelve investigators, five crime scene, non-sworn, investigators, and two non-law enforcement community representatives.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Matt Murray", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Matthew Murray
Chief of Police

"Make respect a part of every interaction."