

Recommendations

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Portland. Charges of police racism arose during the public inquest and was substantiated by the disproportionate number of Blacks who were subdued by the hold.

Page said analysis of race and the use of force deserved a separate committee. But in this committee's report suggesting a separate committee was not one of its recommendations.

John Mathis, conciliator for the U.S. Justice Department, said Harrington asked that the committee not examine race.

"The reason given is that it would be addressed in a different forum. I would have liked to examine the correlation between race and the use of force from an empirical perspective. But we did not have the time," Mathis added.

Harrington could have had another motive to avoid the issue of race and the use of force. She is among a group of defendants charged in a 15 million dollar lawsuit charging wrongful death and violation of civil rights in Stevenson's death.

Additional recommendations reiterated the need for more officers of color and cultural awareness training. Harrington said new officers could not be hired until 16 officers laid off were hired back.

"We have money in our budget for training — not equipment or personnel," Harrington said. "The City Council has to take on the responsibility to give the police the tools it needs."

The committee also suggested a new line of police armament such as the PR-24 baton, field testing the electric "stun gun," capture nets and stun grenades.

"In resolving those normally less than life-threatening daily encounters, the committee believes that the police should avail themselves of a greater range of less lethal weaponry than they now have available to them," noted the report.

The committee commended the bureau for its "Wellness Program," scheduled to be implemented in September. "Several studies conducted nationally indicate that officers who are physically fit tend to use less force than officers who are not."

While responding to a reporter's question that officers might feel more a part of the community if they lived in the city, Harrington said living in the city was not necessary. "I don't think you have to live in the area to be a part of the community. I haven't lived in the city for quite some time and Portland is my home," Harrington added. Currently, all new officers must live in the city.

Harrington plans to forward the committee recommendations to a police committee for review. In September, she will make a final determination on the status of the sleeper hold.

Oregon Folklife Festival

The musicians are not paid for their performances and are booked on a first-come, first-serve basis. Music and workshops are presented on two stages continuously each day from 12 noon to 6 p.m. The festival also features arts and crafts and food booths.

"The Oregon Folklife Festival strongly contrasts with many other summer festival events," says Cafazzo. "We are able to attract quality performers and yet offer the concert entirely free of charge. That makes it possible for everyone to share in the spirit of the magic of music — a tune that everyone young and old, rich and poor can dance to. It's a celebration for all of us who live in Oregon."

Folk, ethnic and bluegrass musicians from around the West will be in Corvallis Saturday, August 3, and Sunday, August 4, for the Sixth Annual Oregon Folklife Festival.

The festival, sponsored by music lovers in Corvallis in conjunction with the Corvallis Folklore Society, will be held in Avery Park. Admission and all events are free to the public except the Saturday evening square dance.

According to Festival Director, Tom Cafazzo, "the spirit of the festival is to share our love of music and community with each other. People from around Corvallis donate time, equipment and expertise to make the festival fun and rewarding for everyone who attends."

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