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What's on your list today?®

## LOCAL NEWS



Attorney General Loretta Lynch will put Portland's community policing strategies in focus during an upcoming visit.

### Community Policing Tour Attorney General Lynch plans Portland visit

(AP) - Attorney General Loretta Lynch plans to visit six cities, including Portland, in the coming months to highlight police departments she sees as role models for law enforcement.

The locations were chosen because they embody a particular trait of successful policing, such as effective use of data, strong community relationships or a commitment to officer safety, Lynch said Monday.

The first visit is planned for Thursday and Friday to Miami-Dade County in Florida, where Lynch is scheduled to recognize the Doral police department for its community policing strategies. She'll also host a youth town hall and a community policing discussion in Miami, among

other events.

The date of the Portland visit has not yet been finalized, but Lynch is scheduled to highlight the city's community policing efforts and crime reduction during her stop here.

"It really is our hope to highlight the areas where police and community members are sitting down together and figuring out, 'How do we all make this work?'" she said.

The visits represent the second phase of a community policing tour that Lynch, a former federal prosecutor in New York, began last year after being sworn in as the nation's top law enforcement official.

In that first phase, she visited cities where police forces are

working to overcome troubled relationships with their communities.

Now, the focus turns to departments that are seen as successful in implementing "pillars" of policing identified in a White House report last May. Each city on the tour represents a different pillar, which include building community trust, community policing, crime reduction and officer training and education, Lynch said.

The initiative is part of a national discussion on police use of force and effective law enforcement tactics, a topic that's taken on new urgency amid a series of high-profile police shootings of unarmed young black men in places including Ferguson, Mo.; Cleveland; and North Charleston, S.C.

### Embracing Jeff's Gains and Future

Self Enhancement, Inc., the social services organization and public charter school serving Portland's black community, will host a community-wide celebration honoring Jefferson High School for recently achieving an 80 percent graduation rate.

The celebration in the SEI auditorium, 3920 N. Kerby Ave., on Wednesday, Feb. 10 at 6 p.m., will feature a brief program to highlight the pivotal role a partnership between SEI, Jefferson High School, and the Cascade Campus of Portland Community College has had on lifting Jefferson's graduation rate in five years, from 55 percent to 80 percent.

Around 200 people including past alumni, current students and families, and members of the community at large are expected to attend.

Since Jefferson is the only predominantly African-American high school in the state, there will also be some discussion on the future of the school and how Portland's black community can rally around it to make sure the school stays accessible to African-American students.

Speakers will include Tony Hopson, SEI president and chief executive officer; Margaret Calvert, Jefferson High School principal; and other staff from SEI, Jefferson and PCC.