

ARIZONA CIVIL RIGHTS ADVISORY BOARD:
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HATE-BASED CRIMES AND ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS

Minutes of Public Meeting (Held via Zoom)

March 3, 2025

Subcommittee Members Present (by Zoom)

Vice Mayor Holli Ploog (Chairperson)
Dr. Heather M. Ross (Vice Chairperson)
Det. Nancy Spina
Det. Michael Hillman

Staff Members Present (by Zoom)

Nate Anbar (Executive Office Liaison)
Julie Blumenreich (ACRAB Counsel)
Leslie Ross (ACRAB Executive Director)

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Ploog called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm. The meeting took place via Zoom.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting, held on February 10, 2025, were put up for approval. The minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Introductory Remarks

Chairperson Ploog made brief introductory remarks.

IV. Topics for Discussion and Possible Action

a. Recap regarding Subcommittee deliverables

Chairperson Ploog briefly discussed the proposed survey questions and contact list.

b. Discussion regarding survey questions, recent revisions, and Attorney General's Office input.

Chairperson Ploog asked Executive Director Leslie Ross for input on current projects. Director Ross noted that Attorney General's Office staff had reviewed the proposed surveys. With respect to the law enforcement survey, staff recommended that the survey be replaced by a stakeholder meeting, so as to most efficiently gather information. This would be held virtually and allow the gathering and discussion of testimony on topics relevant to the Subcommittee. It would also allow law enforcement agencies to hear from one another and for polling to take place at the meeting itself.

Chairperson Ploog asked members for reactions and responses to Director Ross's proposal. Members discussed the need to ensure a large enough response and suggested holding multiple virtual events to provide invitees with flexibility. Members discussed which specific personnel law enforcement agencies might send to participate. Members also discussed existing data, such as FBI data compiled by the Arizona

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Department of Public Safety (DPS) and data published by the ADL. Member Spina noted that FBI/DPS data does not include non-criminal incidents or necessarily include misdemeanors, and that different agencies or personnel may have differing standards for what they classify as reportable. Director Ross noted that such nuances might best be understood through discussion as part of a stakeholder meeting. Chairperson Ploog asked if the existing data can be obtained from DPS by the Attorney General's Office. Staff noted that the FBI data is publicly available and provided the website link. Director Ross further stated that staff will review options for obtaining DPS data.

Vice Chairperson Ross indicated that she would prefer a survey, but also expressed support for stakeholder meetings as an alternative. Chairperson Ploog raised the question of how an invitation to participate in stakeholder meetings would be circulated. Member Spina noted that she may be able to circulate an invitation through the Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center (ACTIC). Member Hillman seconded this idea, noting that participating agencies tend to be in jurisdictions with larger Jewish populations. Members noted that ACTIC personnel may also be ideally suited to address the topics to be addressed in stakeholder meetings.

Members next discussed timing for stakeholder meetings and determined that these would be held on Tuesday, April 22 at 9 am, Wednesday, April 23 at 9 am, and Tuesday, May 6 at 3 pm. Director Ross noted that the Subcommittee would facilitate these meetings with support from Attorney General's Office staff. Law enforcement members of the subcommittee noted that they would take a leading role in facilitating conversations at these meetings. Member Spina stated that she would reach out to ACTIC to determine the contents of their membership list, as well as the feasibility of using it to send invitations.

Chairperson Ploog and Director Ross then referred members to the community survey for discussion of the most recent draft. Director Ross explained recent revisions, took feedback, and directed staff to circulate the revised questions to members.

c. Discussion of survey contact list.

Subcommittee Staff indicated that they are still working on the contact list and that they will circulate it when complete. The list will be sorted geographically for ease of review.

d. Discussion of current events potentially relevant to the subcommittee's purpose and anticipated deliverables

Vice Chairperson Ross noted that the ADL has a summit coming up in April. Subcommittee Staff noted that, as several members have indicated their intention to attend, a notice will be posted beforehand to comply with open meeting laws.

e. Scheduling of future meetings

Chairperson Ploog recommended maintaining the current meeting schedule, with the next meeting planned for Monday, April 7, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

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V. Staff Report

Subcommittee Staff noted that they will circulate the draft questions, dates/times proposed for the law enforcement events, and the contact list once complete.

VI. Call to the Public

No members of the public were in attendance.

VII. Adjournment

Chairperson Ploog called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:34 pm. The next meeting of the Subcommittee will be held on Monday, April 7 at 3:00 p.m.