



The League of Women Voters of Portland

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DATE: January 6, 2020

TO: Mayor Ted Wheeler

CC: Commissioners Eudaly, Fritz, and Hardesty
Chief Jami Resch

FROM: League of Women Voters of Portland
Debbie Kaye, president
Debbie Aiona, Action Committee chair

RE: **Oral testimony on Joint Terrorism Task Force Annual Report**

The May 2019 resolution establishing the parameters of cooperation between the Portland Police Bureau and the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force requires an annual report to be presented to City Council by the end of January covering the following:

The frequency with which the FBI's Special Agent in Charge requested the assignment of PPB CIU officers for an investigation; the number of cases that were referred to the PPB by the FBI; the number of cases that were referred to the FBI by the PPB; the nature of closed cases referred to the PPB by the FBI, including the demographics of persons investigated; and the disposition of those cases. (Resolution 37424, May 8, 2019)

The League of Women Voters of Portland is troubled by the prohibition on oral testimony on reports presented to Council. In the past, we found that when given the opportunity to comment, community members often provided valuable insights and raised important questions. We hesitate to encourage an inconsistent approach to this policy, but given the intense public interest in the Portland Police Bureau's relationship with the FBI, the League urges you to accept oral testimony when the Joint Terrorism Task Force annual report is presented to Council.

It would be helpful if you could post the report and the date for the presentation as soon as possible. Thank you for your consideration of our recommendation.

Finally, the League extends its sincere condolences to you on the passing of your friend and colleague, Nick Fish. He was a remarkable leader and policy maker. His death is a great loss to the city and its residents.