

News Release

Office of the Mayor | G.T. Bynum



Date: July 20, 2020

Release: #20-234

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City Selects Nationally Accredited 21st Century Policing Expert to Lead Outreach and Policy Assessment for Community Policing in Tulsa

Mayor G.T. Bynum announced today that CNA, a nationally accredited 21st Century Policing firm, will contract with the City of Tulsa to develop actionable implementation steps to advance community policing in Tulsa through community engagement and policy assessment. Work is expected to begin in fall 2020.

In March 2017, community members, law enforcement and city officials released the [Findings and Recommendations of the Tulsa Commission on Community Policing](#), which outlined 77 specific recommendations for the Tulsa Police Department (TPD) to help build trust and legitimacy, improve policy and oversight, reduce crime and provide specific initiatives to help with training, technology and officer wellness. Over the past three years, TPD has been implementing all recommendations except for the remaining recommendation for community policing evaluation and officer hiring-

In February 2019, Mayor Bynum proposed the creation of the Office of the Independent Monitor (OIM) to focus on three key areas remaining in the recommendations - oversight, community outreach and policy. In addition to its focus on oversight and outreach, Mayor Bynum's proposal also charged the OIM with issuing policy analysis and recommendations to the Tulsa Police Department in key areas, including community policing.

With an OIM not in place, Mayor Bynum proposed using a portion of the OIM funding originally allocated in the FY20 budget to continue the momentum for community policing by issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to have outside experts conduct community policing evaluation and planning. The City of Tulsa required respondents to utilize the community based participatory action research model, which actively engages community members and organizations who have a personalized knowledge of the needs, concerns, and strategies impacting them as co-researchers.

“When we developed our community policing recommendations in 2017, it was a starting point for empowering citizens and officers to work together in making our city safer,” Mayor G.T. Bynum said. “One of the values we’ve instilled at the City of Tulsa is continuous improvement. We recognize the need to both evaluate our progress as it relates to community policing and also to involve citizens and officers in developing the plan that will guide our strategies over the next several years. I am excited for us to begin that collaborative process.”

The City received four responses to the RFP from firms located throughout the country. CNA was selected following a thorough scoring and interview process, conducted by a group of

community leaders and city staff, due to their extensive experience engaging residents and law enforcement to implement 21st century policing best practices.

Based in Arlington, VA, CNA leads and guides numerous agencies nationwide in implementing 21st century policing best practices and has extensive community engagement experience evidenced by their work in Chicago, Albuquerque, and multiple other U.S. cities.

Hildy Saizow, CNA Project Director and Tulsa native, attended Booker T. Washington High School and said she is excited to be coming home to lead this critical effort.

“This is an important step forward, to ask for an assessment of community policing, and to do it as a partnership between objective researchers and Tulsa community members who know the issues best. We look forward to working in the city of Tulsa to support and strengthen police-community collaboration, which ultimately will improve public safety,” Saizow said.

About CNA

CNA is a nonprofit research and analysis organization dedicated to the safety and security of the nation. It operates the Institute for Public Research — which serves civilian government agencies — and the Center for Naval Analyses, the Department of the Navy's federally funded research and development center (FFRDC). CNA is dedicated to developing actionable solutions to complex problems of national importance. With nearly 700 scientists, analysts and professional staff, CNA takes a real-world approach to gathering data, working side-by-side with operators and decision-makers around the world.

Within IPR, CNA's Center for Justice Research and Innovation (JRI) is committed to working with police and community-based agencies on the assessment, implementation, evaluation, and sustainment of organizational and system-wide improvements. JRI delivers high quality and objective assessments, building on our tested and proven work over the past 75 years of CNA's history.

CNA's approach is data-driven, customizable to a local agency's needs, and collaborative, combining subject matter experts with experienced analysts who work directly with practitioners to identify, analyze, and solve problems related to specific organizational, operational, and topical issues. For more information on CNA's criminal justice work, visit:

<https://www.cna.org/centers/ipr/jri/>.



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